

Psychology

Psychology is the study of the cognitive, biological, emotional, and social processes related to human and animal behavior. The undergraduate program provides students with a broad overview of the major areas in the field of psychology. Students take courses in cognition and performance, clinical and health psychology, human development, psychobiology and behavioral neuroscience, research methods and statistics, and social psychology.

Pursuing Psychology at Ohio State

Students considering a major in psychology should follow a college preparatory curriculum in high school. Courses which provide excellent preparation include English composition, mathematics, and the biological and physical sciences.

All Ohio State freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus. The primary criteria for admission are the completion of the applicant's high school college preparatory program, performance in that program as indicated by class rank and/or grade-point average, and performance on either the ACT or SAT. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in psychology within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Students may choose to pursue either a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in psychology. Students majoring in psychology work closely with their advisors to select course work in psychology appropriate to their interests and goals.

Psychology Requirements

Prerequisite courses:

- General Psychology
- Quantitative methods course:
(Introduction to the Practice of Statistics for the B.A. or Introduction to Statistical Analysis or Introduction to Data Analysis in Psychology for the B.S.)

Required major courses:

Students are required to take 48 credit hours of upper level (300 or above) psychology courses. They must complete Psychology 300, Research in Psychology, and one core course from each of five areas:

- Cognition/attention/performance
- Clinical/counseling psychology
- Developmental psychology
- Psychobiology/behavioral neuroscience
- Social psychology

In addition, students must take at least two advanced courses (500-level or above) from two of the five areas. Students

completing a B.S. degree also must take Psychology 321, Quantitative and Statistical Methods in Psychology, and an advanced research course (Psychology 500, 510, or 520).

Our nationally and internationally recognized psychology faculty:

- have received numerous research and teaching awards.
- provide exceptional classroom and laboratory experiences for undergraduates.
- provide superb career advice and critical letters of recommendation for graduate school or that all important first job.

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Students may augment their course work with research and internship experiences. Psychology faculty and graduate students offer over 50 research opportunities for interested students (see undergrad.psy.ohio-state.edu/html/699.htm). Students receive credit for research experience through Psychology 699, Undergraduate Research. Students also may participate in community-based internship experiences at settings such as Suicide Prevention Services, Franklin County Community-Based Correctional Facility, Franklin County Children's Services, or the Ohio Rehabilitative Services Commission. Students completing internships can receive credit through Psychology 489, Internship in Psychology. Six hours of research and internship credit combined may be applied toward the major.

There are four undergraduate student organizations that help students connect to the faculty, other students, the community and the content material. Psi Chi is the national psychology honors society and has been in existence at Ohio State for over 25 years. Students may also participate in the Psychology Club, the Minority Psychology Student Association, or the Neuroscience Psychobiology Student Association, which all host academic, social and service activities.

For students interested in incorporating a study abroad experience into their education, the Department of Psychology offers annually the Psychology London Study Abroad Program. Students and faculty travel to London for 10 days and visit such sites as Freud's home and museum, Darwin's home and museum, and Cambridge University.

Honors & Scholars Program

The Department of Psychology is committed to offering Honors students unique and challenging opportunities. There are over 13 psychology honors courses at both introductory and advanced

For more information, check these web sites:

Psychology: www.psy.ohio-state.edu
Psychology Undergraduate Advising:
undergrad.psy.ohio-state.edu

Ohio State: www.osu.edu
Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu
First Year Experience Program: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample *

This is a sample list of classes a student will take to pursue a degree in psychology. Since university students need more than a specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in psychology. Consult the departmental web site, www.psy.ohio-state.edu, for details on psychology coursework.

Freshman Year:	
General Psychology	5
College Algebra	5
Statistics 145 or Psych 320	5
Research in Psychology	4
First-Year English Composition	5
Foreign Language 102 and 103	10
History I	5
Minor/Elective	5
SBS Survey	1
Freshman Seminar	1
Total hours	46

Sophomore Year:	
Abnormal Psychotherapy	5
Social Psychology	5
Psychology of Childhood	4
Stereotyping and Prejudice	4
Individual Studies	2
Foreign Language 104	5
Natural Science	10
Literature	5
History II	5
Minor/Elective	5
Total hours	50

Junior Year:	
Introduction to Psychobiology	4
Learning, Memory and Cognition	4
Adolescence	5
Individual Studies	3
Internship in Psychology	4
Visual/Performing Arts	5
Natural Science	10
Social Science	5
Minor/Electives	10
Total hours	50

Senior Year:	
Psychology of Judgment & Decision Making	5
Counseling Psychology	4
Experimental Psychology	5
Drugs and Behavior	4
Individual Studies	3
Culture and Ideas	5
Issues of the Contemporary World	5
Social Science	5
Minor/Electives	10
Total hours	46

*This is a sample of courses a student might select for a psychology major from the many psychology courses offered.

levels. Honors students are encouraged to participate in research activities, through specialized course work or through participation in faculty research projects. Students also may choose to design and implement their own research project via the Senior Honors Thesis track. Every spring quarter, the Psychology Undergraduate Research Colloquium allows students to observe and present research in a poster presentation format.

Many Psychology majors also are involved in Ohio State's Scholars Programs. Students in the Health Sciences Scholars, Mount Leadership Society, and Tomorrow's Teachers Scholars Programs often choose Psychology as a major.

Numerous undergraduate distinctions:

- featured department for the Presidential Salute to Undergraduate Excellence in 2002.
- over the past 34 years, 603 students have graduated with honors, 322 students with distinction, and 157 have won research scholarships.
- offers numerous independent research and internship opportunities to our undergraduate students, in addition to regular course work in the biological, cognitive, emotional, and social processes underlying human and animal behavior.

Career Prospects in Psychology

A strong liberal arts education with a bachelor's degree in psychology will prepare students for entry into many career fields and graduate/professional programs. The following are some of the fields that graduates with bachelor's degrees in psychology have entered: administration and management, business and industry, casework, child care, employment interviewing, gerontology, health services, marketing and public relations, personnel, probation and parole, psychiatric assistant, research or laboratory assistant, sales, teaching, and technical writing. Students with bachelor's degrees in psychology have entered various graduate and professional programs including law, medicine, business, counseling, social work, school psychology, education, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

Students interested in research or applied positions in psychology will need to consider graduate school. Students who earn advanced degrees in psychology will have many diverse career opportunities depending upon the area of graduate study. Some of the graduate programs include: clinical, child clinical, cognitive, community, comparative, counseling, developmental, educational, environmental, experimental, forensic, gerontology, health, industrial/organizational, neuropsychology/psychobiology, psychometrics, quantitative, rehabilitation, and social psychology.

Most psychologists are found in academic settings, independent practice, hospitals and clinics or other human services settings, and in business or in government.

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