



# Psychology Major

[www.Psychology.Pitt.edu/Undergraduate](http://www.Psychology.Pitt.edu/Undergraduate)

Revised: 05/2023

The undergraduate psychology major introduces students to a breadth of psychological topics, including the biological, social, and environmental influences on human behavior. As a department in the natural sciences, it also focuses on developing strong research and analytical skills. The department encourages students to complement their coursework with experiential learning opportunities, such as research and internships, to prepare themselves for a variety of career and graduate school paths.

## Required courses for the Psychology major

The psychology major requires the completion of 33 to 34 credits in psychology, four credits in statistics, and nine to 10 credits of co-requirements distributed as follows.

### Foundation courses

PSY 0010 Introduction to Psychology  
STAT 0200 Basic Applied Statistics **or**  
STAT 1000 Applied Statistical Methods **or**  
STAT 1100 Statistics & Probability for Business Management  
PSY 0036 Research Methods Lecture  
PSY 0037 Research Methods Lab

**Note:** The required STAT course should be taken as early as possible because the content is important to many other PSY courses. The STAT course must be taken prior to taking PSY 0036 because it is a prerequisite.

### Core courses

#### Four of the following

PSY 0105 Introduction to Social Psychology  
PSY 0205 Psychopathology  
PSY 0310 Developmental Psychology  
PSY 0422 Cognitive Psychology  
PSY 0505 Introduction to Biopsychology **or** NROSCI 1000  
Introduction to Neuroscience

### Upper-level courses

#### Two 1000-level courses, not to include any of the following

PSY 1900 Supervised Field Placement  
PSY 1902 Directed Reading  
PSY 1903 Directed Research  
PSY 1907 Directed Individual Research  
PSY 1950 Psychology Senior Seminar  
PSY 1970 Undergraduate Teaching Experience  
PSY 1973 Honors Directed Research  
PSY 1975 Honors Thesis

### Elective course

Any 3-credit PSY course that is not being used to fulfill another major requirement with the following exceptions.

- The elective course cannot overlap with any other PSY course used to fulfill another PSY requirement.
- Experiential learning courses – PSY 1900, PSY 1902, PSY 1903, and PSY 1907 may be used to fulfill this requirement if enrolled in three credits. PSY 0011, PSY 1950, PSY 1970, PSY 1973, and PSY 1975 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

### Laboratory methods course; choose one

PSY 0423 Cognitive Psychology Lab  
PSY 1025 Tests and Measurements \*  
PSY 1059 Topics in Advanced Research Methods \*\*  
PSY 1064 Advanced Directed Research  
PSY 1112 Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality: Research Writing Practicum  
PSY 1145 Social Research Advanced Lab  
PSY 1213 Psychopathology Advanced Lab  
PSY 1305 Experimental Child Psychology  
PSY 1471 Mapping Brain Connectivity  
PSY 1472 Neuropsychology Brain Injury  
PSY 1975 Honors Thesis  
\* Offered infrequently                      \*\* Topics vary

### Co-requirement courses

Students must take one approved course listed later in this document in each of the following areas: mathematics; biological science; social science. Co-requirement courses may be taken S/NC or be passed with a D- or better.

### Grade requirements

All foundation, core, upper level, PSY elective, PSY lab, and statistics courses used to fulfill the major requirements must be completed with a grade of C or better. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

### Satisfactory/No Credit option

All PSY and STAT courses used to fulfill requirements for the major must be taken for a letter grade.

## Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete at least one W-course in the major. PSY 0037 Research Methods Lab meets this requirement.

## Declaring the major

To declare the psychology major, students must have completed PSY 0010 and the required statistics course with a C or better and be enrolled in PSY 0036.

## Honors major requirements

Honors in psychology is granted if in addition to fulfilling all requirements for the major, the student:

- maintains a GPA of 3.5 or above in PSY courses;
- maintains an overall GPA of 3.25 or above;
- completes three credits in both PSY 1973 and PSY 1975; and
- successfully completes an honors research project, thesis, and oral defense.

Students planning to pursue the honors major should select a faculty advisor early in their junior year. PSY 1903 Directed Research should be taken prior to pursuing the honors major. Students planning to complete an honors project must meet with the director of psychology advising before registering.

New major orientation: New majors must complete an online orientation prior to scheduling an appointment with their assigned psychology advisors. Students will receive an e-mail with instructions and dates approximately the fourth week of each fall and spring term.

## Advising

Psychology Advising Office  
[PsyAdvis@Pitt.edu](mailto:PsyAdvis@Pitt.edu)  
SENSQ 3117  
412-624-4540

## Checklist for the Psychology major

### Foundation courses

- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0010
- \_\_\_\_\_ STAT 0200 or STAT 1000 or STAT 1100
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0036
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0037

### Core courses; choose four of the following

- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0105
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0205
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0310
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0422
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0505 or NROSCI 1000

### Upper-level elective courses

- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1\_\_\_\_\_ (1000-level course)
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1\_\_\_\_\_ (1000-level course)

### Psychology elective course

- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY \_\_\_\_\_ (see options at the top of this sheet)

## Laboratory course; choose one of the following

- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 0423 Cognitive Psychology Lab
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1025 Tests and Measurements
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1059 Topics in Advanced Research Methods
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1064 Advanced Directed Research
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1112 Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1145 Social Research Advanced Lab
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1213 Psychopathology Advanced Lab
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1305 Experimental Child Psychology
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1322 Observational Methods for Developmental Science
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1471 Mapping Brain Connectivity
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1472 Neuropsychology Brain Injury
- \_\_\_\_\_ PSY 1975 Honors Thesis

## Co-requirement courses

Students must take a minimum of one course in each of the following areas.

## Mathematics; choose one of the following

- \_\_\_\_\_ CS 0007 Introduction to Computer Programming
- \_\_\_\_\_ CS 0008 Introduction to Programming with Python
- \_\_\_\_\_ CS 0011 Introduction to Computing for Scientists
- \_\_\_\_\_ CS 0012 Introduction to Computing for the Humanities
- \_\_\_\_\_ CS 0401 Intermediate Programming Using Java
- \_\_\_\_\_ MATH 0125 and MATH 0126 Calculus for Business 1 and 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ MATH 0120 Business Calculus
- \_\_\_\_\_ MATH 0220 Analytical Geometry and Calculus 1
- \_\_\_\_\_ MATH 0400 Finite Mathematics
- \_\_\_\_\_ STAT 1201 Nonparametric Statistics

- **Note:** Any student who wants to take an entry level MATH course (0120, 0200, 0220, 0032, or 0400), and who has not taken the prerequisite course for credit at the University of Pittsburgh must take the placement assessment ([www.Mathematics.Pitt.edu/MathPlacement](http://www.Mathematics.Pitt.edu/MathPlacement)).

## Biological Science; choose one of the following

- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0620 Biocultural Anthropology
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0630 Forensic Anthropology
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0680 Physical Anthropology
- \_\_\_\_\_ BIOSC 0150 Foundations of Biology 1
- \_\_\_\_\_ BIOSC 0160 Foundations of Biology 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ BIOSC 0805 The Human Body
- \_\_\_\_\_ BIOSC 0815 Genes and Diseases
- \_\_\_\_\_ NROSCI 0081 Drugs and Behavior

## Social Science; choose one of the following

- \_\_\_\_\_ AFRCNA 1309 Women of African & the African Diaspora
- \_\_\_\_\_ AFRCNA 1522 Sex and Racism
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0538 The Archaeologist Looks at Death
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0582 Introduction to Archaeology
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0768 Human Sexuality in Cross Culture
- \_\_\_\_\_ ANTH 0780 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0310 Rhetorical Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0320 Mass Communication Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1110 Theories of Interpersonal Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ ECON 0100 Introduction to Microeconomic Theory
- \_\_\_\_\_ ECON 0110 Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory
- \_\_\_\_\_ ECON 0800 Introduction to Economics

\_\_\_\_\_ GSWS 0100 Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and  
Women's Studies  
\_\_\_\_\_ GSWS 0200 Sex, Race, & Popular Culture  
\_\_\_\_\_ LING 0080 Aspects of Language  
\_\_\_\_\_ LING 1000 Introduction to Linguistics  
\_\_\_\_\_ PS 0200 American Political Process  
\_\_\_\_\_ PS 0300 Comparative Politics  
\_\_\_\_\_ PS 0500 World Politics  
\_\_\_\_\_ PS 0600 Political Theory  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0005 Societies  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0010 Introduction to Sociology  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0150 Social Theory  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0230 Social Research Methods

\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0317 Global Society  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0411 Deception and Betrayal  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0432 Wealth and Power  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0438 Sociology of the Family  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0444 Urban Sociology  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0446 Sociology of Gender  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0460 Minority Groups  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0471 Deviance and Social Control  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 0475 Sociology of Aging  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 1365 Race, Gender and Development  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 1413 Marriage  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 1448 Working Women  
\_\_\_\_\_ SOC 1450 Health and Illness