

The Psychology Major – Sample Course of Study

The Psychology major acquires a broad knowledge of the principles of human behavior and mental processes. The study of psychology has wide applicability to the solving of human problems at both the personal and societal levels. The major is designed to provide students with both a solid and well-rounded academic foundation in psychology as well as opportunities to explore complementary academic interests.

Psychology majors complete either a cognate or a minor, unless seeking a second major. A 12 credit hour cognate, consisting of courses above the prerequisite level, may be drawn from one or more disciplines outside the major depending on individual interests and consent of departmental advisor. A minor allows the student to develop basic preparation in a second field of study through completion of a structured sequence of coursework. Credit hour requirements vary by minor; all require at least 18 credit hours.

Core Psychology courses (i.e., PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) are in high demand. Although most of these courses are offered at least once a year, only a subset is taught in any given semester. Psychology majors are strongly encouraged to take the courses when they are available.

This sample course of study is intended to serve as an example. In practice, variations in the sequencing of courses are common.

Sample Course of Study for B.A. in Psychology	
Fall Freshman Year (15-16 credits)	Spring Freshman Year (16 credits)
Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 101) English 101 & 101L Foreign Language 109 1 st Numerical / Analytical, Must Be Math (usually MATH 101) Speech (COMM 140, 201, or 230)	1 st Psychology elective (above 203) English 102 Foreign Language 110 History (from HIST 101, 102, 111, 112, 115, or 116) 1 st Natural Science with Lab
Fall Sophomore Year (16 credits)	Spring Sophomore Year (15-16 credits)
1 st Core Psych. Course (PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) 2 nd Psychology elective (above 203) Psych. Statistics Lab (PSYC 201; this is a 1 credit hour course) Elementary Statistics STAT 201 (counts as 2 nd Numerical /Analytical) Fine Arts (ARTH, ARTS, MUSC, THEA) 1 st Liberal Arts Elective (e.g., ANTH, GEOG, SOCY, POLI, COMM)	Research Methods (PSYC 200) 2 nd Core Psych. Course (PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) 2 nd Liberal Arts Elective (e.g., ANTH, GEOG, SOCY, POLI, COMM) 2 nd Natural Science, Lab Optional Global Citizenship & Multicultural Understanding Studies Requirement (e.g., ANTH 102, GEOG 121)
Fall Junior Year (15 credits)	Spring Junior Year (15 credits)
3 rd Core Psych. Course (PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) 4 th Core Psych. Course (PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) 1 st Minor Course/Cognate 2 nd Minor Course/Cognate General Elective	Psychology Laboratory PSYC 203 5 th Core Psych. Course (PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) 6 th Core Psych. Course (PSYC 302, 311, 321, 331, 341, 361) 3 rd Minor Course/Cognate General Elective
Fall Senior Year (15 credits)	Spring Senior Year (12 credits)
1 st Psychology elective (400 level) 4 th Minor Course/Cognate 5 th Minor Course/Elective General Elective General Elective	2 nd Psychology elective (400 level) 6 th Minor Course/Elective General Elective General Elective
Total Credits: 120	

For more information about Psychology, please contact Dr. Charles L. Spirrisson, Chair of the Department of Social Sciences (spirrisson@uscb.edu; 843-208-8342).