

MAJOR DESCRIPTION & FLOWCHART

AS OF DECEMBER, 2022

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PSYCHOLOGY

Description

The Psychology major aims to develop students capable of understanding the complex issues that individuals and communities face and the behavioral solutions that we can use to improve society. With a focus on the scientific understanding of the human mind and behavior, Psychology is critical for a broad-based education that can complement other fields such as the arts, computing, economics, education, healthcare, and business management. The Psychology major will equip graduates with an in-depth understanding of mental functions, emotions, behaviors and the complex interplay between biological and the environmental factors. Students in Psychology are equipped for a variety of career paths, such as human and social services, marketing and consumer research, education and human resources. Additionally, students will be prepared for graduate study in the discipline or in related fields, such as counseling psychology, educational psychology, occupational psychology and social work.

Learning Outcomes

Students who have completed the Psychology Major will have achieved the following Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to apply psychological principles to behavioral phenomena through effective written and oral communication of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings in Psychology. (Assessment data: term papers, presentations, written exams)
2. Students will be able to interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research. (Assessment data: RM&S projects, Capstone)
3. Students will be able to incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry when appropriate. (Assessment data: term papers, presentations, written exams)
4. Students will be able to apply ethical standards to evaluate and engage in psychological science and practice. (Assessment data: RM&S IRB proposals, Capstone IRB)
5. Students will be able to apply effective self-reflection, project-management skills leadership and teamwork skills to optimize their competitiveness for securing places in a graduate school, professional school, or in the workforce. (Assessment data: teamwork evaluations, graduate school placements, internship placements, employment statistics)

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Learning Outcomes derived from:

(1) American Psychological Association learning outcomes: <https://www.apa.org/ed/precollege/about/learning-goals.pdf>

(2) the Learning outcomes for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Psychology at University of Illinois: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/learning-outcomes/>

Degree Requirements

A Bachelor of Arts in Psychology is awarded following the successful completion of:

- **5 Core courses (20 credits) and 8 Exploratory courses (32 credits), of which up to two Exploratory courses (8 credits) can be counted towards the major**
- Fulbright Seminar (4 credits, optional)
- **02 Foundation compulsory courses (8 credits)* (100-level)**
 - Introduction to Psychology (4 credits)
 - Research Methods and Statistics (4 credits)
- **06 compulsory courses in psychology (24 credits) (200-level)**
- **03 elective courses in psychology (12 credits) (300-level)**

Notes:

** These two courses are considered part of the Exploratory Courses that should be taken in the first two years.*

Sample Student Journey

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Core courses Exploratory Courses *Introduction to Psychology	Core courses Exploratory Courses Research Methods 200-level Courses *Personality Psychology *Social Psychology *Developmental Psychology	Fulbright Seminars 200- level Course 300-level Courses Elective	300-level Course Electives Capstone I Capstone II

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Mapping of Learning outcomes

	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5
Foundation	I	I	I	I	I
Intermediate	R	R	R	R	
Advanced	M		M		R
PELP Seminar					M
Capstone		M		M	

Note: I = Introduction, R = Reinforced, M = Mastery

Foundation Courses

Introduction to Psychology:

This introductory course offers students an overview of the history, current status, and promise of scientific and applied psychology. Students are expected to master a considerable body of information about the principles of psychology and its methodologies, contributors, and terminology. This course is designed to be the prerequisite for higher level psychology courses. It also serves all students (major and non-major) for whom this knowledge is a general contribution to a liberal arts education.

Research Methods and Statistics:

This course introduces students to basic research methods and data analysis in social and behavioral sciences. This course should be completed by the second year.

200-level Psychology Courses

Intermediate courses are grouped into two main content areas: social/developmental psychology and counseling psychology. Students are required to take six (06) 200-level intermediate courses and three (3) 300-level advanced courses.

Sample Social / Developmental Psychology Courses:

- Developmental Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Personality Psychology

Sample Counseling Psychology Courses:

- Introduction to Psychological Disorders, Diagnosis, & Treatment
- Counseling Psychology

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Other 200-level Psychology courses

Psychology students can choose any elective psychology courses (please check prerequisite requirements for the courses).

Sample Electives

- The Art and Science of Living Well
- Organizational Psychology
- Educational Psychology
- Language, Culture, and Thought (cross-listed with Social Studies)
- Human-Computer Interactions (cross-listed with Computer Science)

300-level Psychology Courses

- Psychology of Gender
- Vocational Psychology
- Cross Cultural Leadership & Management
- Applied Social Psychology
- Cognitive Behavior Therapy

Psychology Capstone

Eligible third-year students can apply by the end of their third (3rd) year to do a capstone project during their final 4th year of study.

Capstone I: Project Proposal

Capstone II: Project Completion

Psychology Capstone Application Eligibility and Approval Criteria:

- Major GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Strong and well-thought-out capstone application
- Approval subject to faculty-student matching and faculty availability

Requirements for Declaring Psychology Minor

- Foundation courses (Introductory Psychology; Research Methods and Statistics)
- 03 200-level courses
- 01 300-level course

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FOUNDATION COURSES (100-credit)

- Introduction to Psychology
- Research Methods and Statistics

These two courses are considered part of the Exploratory Courses that should be taken in the first two years.

Foundation Courses
(2 required)

INTERMEDIATE COURSES (200-Level)

*Sample Social /Developmental Psychology Courses**

- Developmental Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Personality Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology

**It is strongly recommended that students take these courses.*

Sample Counseling Psychology Courses

- Introduction to Psychological Disorders, Diagnosis, & Treatment
- Counseling Psychology
- Substance Use & Addiction

Other Sample 200-level Courses

- The Art and Science of Living Well
- Organizational Psychology
- Educational Psychology
- Organizational Psychology
- Human-Computer Interactions (cross-listed with Computer Science)
- Social Inquiry (cross-listed with Social Studies)

Intermediate Courses
(6 required)

ADVANCED COURSES (300-Level)

Sample Advanced Courses

- Applied Social Psychology
- Psychology of Gender
- Vocational Psychology
- Cognitive Behavior Therapy
- Health Psychology
- Cross Cultural Leadership & Management

Advanced Courses
(2 required)

Capstone I & II (required for Honors)
OR
300-level & Psychology Courses
(2 required)

PSYCHOLOGY MINOR (6 courses)

- Foundation courses (2 required)
- Psychology courses - at least one in the 300-level (4 required)