***Twin Cities Campus***

# Psychology B.A.

*Psychology*

**College of Liberal Arts**

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2021
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 36
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

For millennia, our survival as human beings has depended on our ability to understand and predict others behaviors. Today, personal and professional success continues to depend on understanding and predicting human experiences and behavior. Psychology is the scientific study of these experiences and behaviors. Given humans imposing complexity, psychologists employ a range of perspectives, including evolutionary, biological, social, organizational, institutional, and sociocultural. In turn, these perspectives influence psychologists levels of explanation, from genetics to brain physiology, personality, individual differences, social interactions and group memberships, the institutions that we inhabit, and the cultures in which we spend our lives. Like all liberal arts disciplines, psychology addresses human experience, but what makes psychology unique as a scientific discipline are the concepts that psychologists use to make sense of people and the methods that they use to learn more about them.

Our baccalaureate programs provide students with a strong general background in all areas of psychology and with the ability to think and reason critically in a wide variety of settings. All psychology students complete three critical courses essential to achieve those goals: PSY 1001 (Introduction to Psychology) provides a broad overview of what psychologists know about human behavior; PSY 3001W (Introduction to Research Methods) focuses on the skills necessary to generate new knowledge; and PSY 3801 (Introduction to Psychological Measurement and Data Analysis) addresses the skills necessary to test hypotheses using statistical methods. Students will complete additional courses focused on their individual interests, and even if they never plan to become psychological scientists, students will develop the skills needed throughout their lives to be sophisticated evaluators of psychological information and to navigate the complexities of human behavior.

The B.A. degree emphasizes outside coursework in the social sciences, arts, and humanities, including sociology, economics, political science, anthropology, history, philosophy, and literature, given the perspectives and levels of explanation that inform these disciplines. Like psychology, these disciplines focus on the thoughts, feelings, and motivations that make us human, including those that arise from our personalities, relationships, and the larger social forces that shape our experiences. For example, art historians may look to visual portrayals of women over time to understand their lives; sociologists may focus on religion, crime, and race and ethnicity, all phenomena of interest to psychologists; political scientists may focus on citizens political attitudes and activities; and business-related specialties like personnel selection, marketing, and leadership often rest on psychological principles. A B.A. degree in psychology provides valuable preparation for a variety of careers and graduate and professional academic programs, including psychology, law, management, human resources, and education. A professional career as a psychologist requires training beyond the baccalaureate degree.

## Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

## Admission Requirements

Prospective majors are strongly encouraged to complete PSY 3801 (or a Department of Psychology approved equivalent) prior to formally declaring the major. To declare a major, students first complete the online Declaration Module (https://cla.umn.edu/psychology/undergraduate/majors-minors/declare-your-major) and then schedule an appointment with a Psychology Advisor (psyadvis@umn.edu).

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

## General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the liberal education requirements.Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

## Program Requirements

Students are required to take 4 semester(s) of any second language.

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CLA BA degrees require 18 upper-division (3xxx-level or higher) credits outside the major designator. These credits must be taken in designators different from the major designator and cannot include courses that are cross-listed with the major designator. The major designator for the Psychology BA is PSY.

At least 16 upper-division credits in the major must be taken at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus.

Students may earn no more than one undergraduate degree in psychology: a BA or a BS or a minor. Students may combine the psychology BA with the developmental psychology minor, but not with the developmental psychology BA or BS.

All incoming CLA freshmen must complete the First-Year Experience course sequence.

All students must complete a capstone in at least one CLA major. The requirements for double majors completing the capstone in a different CLA major will be clearly stated. Students must also complete all major requirements in both majors to allow the additional capstone to be waived. Student completing an addition degree must complete the capstone in each degree area.

**Major Courses**

Take 36 or more total credits including: Foundation Courses, Distribution Area Courses, Senior Project and any Electives needed to reach the minimum 36 credits in Psychology coursework. 3 Foundation Courses, 5 Distribution Area Courses, and Capstone are all required.

**Foundation Courses**

Take 3 of the following courses.

PSY 1001 - Introduction to Psychology [SOCS] (4.0 cr)
*or* PSY 1001H - Honors Introduction to Psychology [SOCS] (4.0 cr)
PSY 3801 - Introduction to Psychological Measurement and Data Analysis [MATH] (4.0 cr)
*or* PSY 3801H - Honors Introduction to Psychological Measurement and Data Analysis [MATH] (4.0 cr)
PSY 3001W - Introduction to Research Methods [WI] (4.0 cr)
*or* PSY 3001V - Honors Introduction to Research Methods [WI] (4.0 cr)

**Distribution Area Courses**

Students are required to take at least five courses from the Distribution Area Courses. Students should take additional Psychology courses from the Distribution Areas lists or the list of "Additional Elective Options" to reach the 36 credit minimum for the major.

Take 5 or more course(s) from the following:

**Distribution Area A: Cognitive and Brain Sciences**

Take 2 or more course(s) from the following:

- PSY 3011 - Introduction to Learning and Behavior (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3031 - Introduction to Sensation and Perception (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3051 - Introduction to Cognitive Psychology (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3061 - Introduction to Biological Psychology (3.0 cr)
- PSY 4021 - Creativity Sciences: Minds, Brains, and Innovation (3.0 cr)
- PSY 4032 - Psychology of Music (3.0 cr)
- PSY 4036 - Perceptual Issues in Visual Impairment (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5014 - Psychology of Human Learning and Memory (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5015 - Cognition, Computation, and Brain (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5018H - Mathematical Models of Human Behavior (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5031W - Perception [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5036W - Computational Vision [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5037 - Psychology of Hearing (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5038W - Introduction to Neural Networks [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5052 - Psychology of Attention (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5054 - Psychology of Language (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5062 - Cognitive Neuropsychology (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5063 - Introduction to Functional MRI (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5064 - Brain and Emotion (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5065 - Functional Imaging: Hands-on Training (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5066 - Neuroscience, Philosophy and Ethics (3.0 cr)

**•Distibution Area B: Clinical, Personality, and Social**

Take 2 or more course(s) from the following:

- CPSY 3301 - Introduction to Developmental Psychology [SOCS] (4.0 cr)
- CPSY 4303 - Adolescent Psychology (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3101 - Introduction to Personality (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3201 - Introduction to Social Psychology (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3206 - Introduction to Health Psychology (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3301 - Introduction to Cultural Psychology (3.0 cr)

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•PSY 3604 - Introduction to Psychopathology (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3617 - Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3633 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•PSY 3666 - Human Sexuality (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5101H - Honors: Personality: Current Theory and Research (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5202 - Attitudes and Social Behavior (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5204 - Psychology of Interpersonal Relationships (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5205 - Applied Social Psychology (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5206 - Social Psychology and Health Behavior (3.0 cr)
•PSY 4207 - Personality and Social Behavior (3.0 cr)
*or* PSY 5207 - Personality and Social Behavior (3.0 cr)

**•Distribution Area C: Individual Differences, Quantitative, and Applied**

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:
•PSY 3121 - History and Systems of Psychology (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3511 - Introduction to Counseling Psychology (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3711 - Psychology in the Workplace (3.0 cr)
•PSY 4501 - Psychology of Women and Gender (3.0 cr)
•PSY 4521 - Psychology of Stress and Trauma (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5136 - Human Abilities (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5137 - Introduction to Behavioral Genetics (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5138 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•PSY 5501 - Self, Society and Health - What's Work Got To Do With It? (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5701 - Employee Selection and Staffing (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5703 - Psychology of Organizational Training and Development (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5708 - Organizational Psychology (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5862 - Psychological Measurement: Theory and Methods (3.0 cr)
•PSY 5865 - Advanced Measurement: Theory and Application (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3135 - Introduction to Individual Differences (3.0 cr)
*or* PSY 5135 - Psychology of Individual Differences (3.0 cr)

• **Additional Elective Options**

Students may count up to 6 combined credits of PSY 3960/4960/5960, 3993, 4993/5993, 3996 and 4996H; OR up to 9 combined credits of PSY 4993/5993 toward this sub-requirement.

Take at most 6 credit(s) from the following:
•PSY 3960 - Undergraduate Seminar in Psychology (1.0 - 5.0 cr)
•PSY 3896 - Internship in Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•PSY 3993 - Directed Study (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•PSY 3996 - Undergraduate Fieldwork and Internship in Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•PSY 4960 - Seminar in Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•PSY 4993 - Directed Research: Special Areas of Psychology and Related Sciences (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•PSY 4996H - Honors Internship/Externship (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•PSY 5960 - Topics in Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•PSY 5993 - Research Laboratory in Psychology (3.0 cr)

*or* Take at most 9 credit(s) from the following:
•PSY 4993 - Directed Research: Special Areas of Psychology and Related Sciences (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•PSY 5993 - Research Laboratory in Psychology (3.0 cr)

**Capstone**

Students demonstrate analytic skills and an understanding of the modes of inquiry common to psychology. The course synthesizes knowledge gained over the program of study.

Students who double major and choose to complete the capstone requirement in their other major may waive the Psychology BA capstone, but they do need to replace the 3 credits with additional electives from the major.

**General Sequence**

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:
•PSY 3901W - Capstone in Psychology - Research Laboratory [WI] (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3902W - Capstone in Psychology - Individual Interests [WI] (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3903W - Capstone in Psychology - Community Engagement [WI] (3.0 cr)

*or* **Honors Sequence**

Students who fulfill the Capstone requirement with PSY 4902V must take PSY 4994V as a prerequisite. PSY 4994V is typically taken in the Spring semester of Junior year. Students should plan this sequence with Psychology Advising and Psychology Honors faculty. Students must enroll in PSY 4902V for a minimum of 3, but no more than 6 credits.

Take exactly 2 course(s) totaling 7 - 10 credit(s) from the following:
•PSY 4994V - Honors Research Practicum [WI] (4.0 cr)
•PSY 5994 - Directed Research: Psy Honors Thesis (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

**Upper Division Writing Intensive within the major**

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Students are required to take one upper division writing intensive course within the major. If that requirement has not been satisfied within the core major requirements, students must choose one course from the following list. Some of these courses may also fulfill other major requirements.

Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:

- PSY 3001W - Introduction to Research Methods [WI] (4.0 cr)
- PSY 3001V - Honors Introduction to Research Methods [WI] (4.0 cr)
- PSY 3901W - Capstone in Psychology - Research Laboratory [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3902W - Capstone in Psychology - Individual Interests [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 3903W - Capstone in Psychology - Community Engagement [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5994 - Directed Research: Psy Honors Thesis (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
- PSY 5031W - Perception [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5036W - Computational Vision [WI] (3.0 cr)
- PSY 5038W - Introduction to Neural Networks [WI] (3.0 cr)

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