



Twin Cities Campus

Child Psychology B.A.

Institute of Child Development

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2017
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 37 to 40
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Child psychology focuses on behavioral development from the prenatal period to maturity in the areas of cognition, ethology, genetics, language, learning, perception, and social behavior. The Institute of Child Development, housed in the College of Education and Human Development, offers a bachelor of arts, a bachelor of science, and a minor in child psychology through the College of Liberal Arts (CLA). All undergraduate child psychology courses are considered CLA courses and count toward the CLA graduation requirements. Majors may not receive a second major or baccalaureate degree in psychology nor apply psychology, educational psychology, or child and adolescent psychiatry credits to the minimum 18 upper-level credits required outside the major. These credits fall neither inside nor outside the major.

The bachelor of arts program places a stronger emphasis on the applied aspects of child psychology. Emphasizing a more applied approach to Child Psychology, the BA requires field study participation (or directed research experience), allowing students to gain practical experience in the field of child psychology. Students have the opportunity to take a course in social work, youth studies, early childhood education, public health, or cultural anthropology. With a combination of intensive training in developmental psychology and a field study experience, the program prepares students for careers and additional training in such areas as early childhood education, counseling, and human service programs. Students are required to meet the second language requirement as determined by CLA.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

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

Admission Requirements

Students must complete 2 courses before admission to the program.

An introduction to psychology course must be completed before admission into the major. Students may formally declare the major with CPSY 2301 in progress.

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the [Office of Admissions website](#).

Required prerequisites

Preparatory Courses

Introduction to Psychology

[PSY 1001](#) - Introduction to Psychology [SOCS] (4.0 cr)

Introduction to Child Psychology

[CPSY 2301](#) - Introduction to Developmental Psychology [SOCS] (4.0 cr)

or [CPSY 3301](#) - Introduction to Developmental Psychology [SOCS] (4.0 cr)

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.

Students may earn no more than one undergraduate degree in child psychology: a BA, a BS, or a minor. Students may combine the BA in child psychology with the minor in psychology.

CLA BA degrees require 4 semesters or the equivalent of a second language.

CLA degrees require students to complete 48 credits of upper division coursework taken at the 3xxx, 4xxx, or 5xxx level. For a BA at



least 18 of the 48 upper division credits must be outside of the major. For some specific majors, there are exceptions to this requirement.

This program requires 18 upper division credits outside the major. See your advisor for a list of courses that can or cannot be used to meet this requirement.

All incoming CLA freshmen must complete the appropriate first year experience course sequence.

Foundational Courses

Take two courses for a total of 7 to 8 credits.

[CPSY 3308W](#) - Introduction to Research Methods in Child Psychology [WI] (4.0 cr)

[EPSY 3264](#) - Basic and Applied Statistics [MATH] (3.0 cr)

or [SOC 3811](#) - Social Statistics [MATH] (4.0 cr)

or [STAT 3011](#) - Introduction to Statistical Analysis [MATH] (4.0 cr)

or [PSY 3801](#) - Introduction to Psychological Measurement and Data Analysis [MATH] (4.0 cr)

Core Courses

Take a minimum of six courses and 18 credits.

[CPSY 4331](#) - Social and Personality Development (3.0 cr)

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

• [ANTH 3003](#) - Cultural Anthropology (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 5241](#) - Field Experience in Early Childhood Education (3.0 cr)

• [EPSY 3301](#) - Introduction to Educational Psychology [SOCS] (3.0 cr)

• [FSOS 3102](#) - Family Systems and Diversity [SOCS, DSJ] (3.0 cr)

• [FSOS 3426](#) - Alcohol and Drugs: Families and Culture (3.0 cr)

• [PSY 3511](#) - Introduction to Counseling Psychology (3.0 cr)

• [PUBH 3004](#) ~~{Inactive}~~ (4.0 cr)

• [SW 1001](#) ~~{Inactive}~~ (3.0 cr)

• [SW 3701](#) - Introduction to Child Maltreatment: Intervention and Prevention (3.0 cr)

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

• [CPSY 1334](#) - Global Issues on Children and Youth in Society [CIV] (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4302](#) - Infant Development (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4303](#) - Adolescent Psychology (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4336](#) - Development and Interpersonal Relationships (3.0 cr)

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

• [CPSY 4311](#) - Behavioral and Emotional Problems of Children (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4313W](#) - Disabilities and Development [WI] (4.0 cr)

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

• [CPSY 4341](#) - Perceptual Development (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4343](#) - Cognitive Development (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4345](#) - Language Development and Communication (3.0 cr)

Field Study or Directed Research

Take a minimum of 2 credits.

[CPSY 4996](#) ~~{Inactive}~~ (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

or [CPSY 4994](#) - Directed Research in Developmental Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

Senior Project

Non-Honors Sequence

[CPSY 4347W](#) - Child Psychology Capstone [WI] (3.0 cr)

or Honors Sequence

Honors students seeking to fulfill the honors thesis need to take CPSY 3360H in the fall of their junior year. CPSY 4994V should be taken for 2 credits, and it is typically taken in both fall and spring of a student's senior year.

[CPSY 3360H](#) - Child Psychology Honors Seminar (2.0 cr)

[CPSY 4994V](#) ~~{Inactive}~~ [WI] (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

Upper Division Writing Intensive within the Major

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:

• [CPSY 3308W](#) - Introduction to Research Methods in Child Psychology [WI] (4.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4313W](#) - Disabilities and Development [WI] (4.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4347W](#) - Child Psychology Capstone [WI] (3.0 cr)

• [CPSY 4994V](#) ~~{Inactive}~~ [WI] (1.0 - 6.0 cr)