Twin Cities Campus

Developmental Psychology B.A.

Institute of Child Development

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2020
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 37 to 38
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Developmental psychology (formerly child psychology) focuses on behavioral development from the prenatal period to maturity. Students complete coursework in topic areas including social development, cognitive development, language development, emotional and behavioral disorders, biological development, and research methods. The Institute of Child Development offers a bachelor of arts, a bachelor of science, and a minor in developmental psychology through the College of Liberal Arts (CLA). Majors may not receive a second major or second baccalaureate degree in psychology.

Students pursuing the BA are required to meet the second language requirement as determined by CLA along with the upper-division outside the major designator requirement.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

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

Admission Requirements

Students must complete 1 courses before admission to the program.

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

Required prerequisites

Introduction to Child Psychology

This requirement may be in progress in order to declare the major.
Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 4 credit(s) from the following:

- 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.

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 developmental psychology BA is CPSY.

Students may earn no more than one undergraduate degree in developmental psychology: a BA, a BS, or a minor. Students may combine the BA in developmental psychology with the minor in psychology. CPSY majors may not also earn a second major or baccalaureate degree in psychology.

At least 12 upper division credits in the major must be taken at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities campus.

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

Statistics Course

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling 3 - 4 credit(s) from the following:

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

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Information current as of March 28, 2024

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)

Research Methods
Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 4 credit(s) from the following:
•CPSY 3308W - Introduction to Research Methods in Child Psychology [WI] (4.0 cr)

Social Development
CPSY 4331 - Social and Personality Development (3.0 cr)
or CPSY 4336 - Development and Interpersonal Relationships (3.0 cr)

Cognitive Development
CPSY 4341 - Perceptual Development (3.0 cr)
or CPSY 4343 - Cognitive Development (3.0 cr)
or CPSY 4345 - Language Development and Communication (3.0 cr)

Biological Development
Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:
•CPSY 4329 - Biological Foundations of Development (3.0 cr)

Developmental Contexts and Applications
CPSY 1334 - Global Issues on Children and Youth in Society [CIV] (3.0 cr)
or CPSY 3601 - Introduction to Child Life Theory and Practice (3.0 cr)
or CPSY 4311 - Behavioral and Emotional Problems of Children (3.0 cr)
or CPSY 4313W - Disabilities and Development [WI] (4.0 cr)

Experiential Courses
At least two credits must be taken from the courses listed below.
CPSY 3896 - Internship in Child Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
or CPSY 4994 - Directed Research in Developmental Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

Major Electives
At least 9 credits of major electives (1-5xxx level CPSY courses). No single course may count as both Core and Elective.

*Cannot be from CPSY 1904/1905 (Freshman Seminars)
*No more than 3 elective credits combined can be counted from CPSY 3896 and CPSY 4994.
Take 3 or more course(s) totaling 9 or more credit(s) from the following:
•CPSY 1301 - Nature-Based Learning in Early Childhood (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 1334 - Global Issues on Children and Youth in Society [CIV] (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 2310 *{Inactive}*(1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•CPSY 3601 - Introduction to Child Life Theory and Practice (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 3896 - Internship in Child Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•CPSY 4302 - Infant Development (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4303 - Adolescent Psychology (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4310 - Special Topics in Developmental Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•CPSY 4311 - Behavioral and Emotional Problems of Children (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4313W - Disabilities and Development [WI] (4.0 cr)
•CPSY 4329 - Biological Foundations of Development (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4331 - Social and Personality Development (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4336 - Development and Interpersonal Relationships (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4341 - Perceptual Development (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4343 - Cognitive Development (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4345 - Language Development and Communication (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 4994 - Directed Research in Developmental Psychology (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•CPSY 5241 - Field Experience in Early Childhood Education (3.0 cr)
•CPSY 5251W - Social and Philosophical Foundations of Early Childhood Education [WI] (3.0 cr)

Capstone in Developmental Psychology
The purpose of the Capstone is to bring together important themes and concepts that students have learned about throughout their undergraduate experience. Students will use that knowledge to find and coherently summarize the intersection of a topic of their choosing with a key developmental topic focused on in this course.

Capstone
Students who double major within CLA and choose to complete the capstone requirement in their other major may waive the Developmental Psychology capstone, but they do need to replace the 3 credits with another CPSY elective course. Double majors whose second major is outside of CLA are required to complete the Developmental Psychology capstone.

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Non-Honors Sequence

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:

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

or **Honors Sequence**

Honors students seeking to complete the honors thesis in developmental psychology should follow this sequence. Students should take CPSY 3360H in the fall of their junior year. Students must take at least 3 credits of CPSY 4994V, but it is typically taken twice for 2 credits each time, in the fall and spring of a student's senior year.

Take 2 or more course(s) totaling 4 - 6 credit(s) from the following:

•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)

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