

PSYCHOLOGY

Overview of the Psychology Major and Minor Requirements

A student can complete either a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Psychology at Denison University. The primary difference between the two majors is the completion of additional science courses outside of the Psychology Department when pursuing a B.S. degree in psychology (see details below for a more complete overview of the B.S. degree). A student should discuss with a faculty member of the Psychology Department whether the B.A. or B.S. degree is more appropriate for their situation and future plans. A student can also complete a minor in psychology to accompany their major in another program or department.

Requirements for the B.A. degree in Psychology

The B.A. degree in Psychology requires the completion of ten (10) courses in psychology. Required courses for the B.A. include the following:

Code	Title
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology
PSYC 200	Research Methods and Statistics
Two Psychology Elective Courses (see details below)	
One Psychology Seminar Course (either PSYC 300 or PSYC 301)	
PSYC 410	History and Systems of Psychology
One 200 level Topical/Research Course Combination (counts as two separate courses)	
One 300 level Topical/Research Course Combination (counts as two separate courses)	
PSYC 401	Assessment Exam (does not count as a course)

Requirements for the B.S. degree in Psychology

The B.S. degree in Psychology requires the completion of eleven (11) courses in psychology and four (4) cognate courses from the Natural Science Division departments outside of psychology. Required courses for the B.S. include the following:

Code	Title
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology
PSYC 200	Research Methods and Statistics
One Psychology Seminar Course (either PSYC 300 or PSYC 301)	
PSYC 370	Advanced Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences
PSYC 410	History and Systems of Psychology
One 200 level Topical/Research Course Combination (counts as two separate courses)	
Two 300 level Topical/Research Course Combinations (each count as two separate courses)	
PSYC 401	Assessment Exam

Four Cognate Courses in the Natural Sciences Division (not in Psychology). This requirement may be fulfilled by taking two courses from two different departments or by taking all four courses from a single department. Each of the four courses must be courses that meet the requirements for the major in the respective department. Courses offered by disciplines without a major (e.g., Astronomy or Neuroscience) do not meet this cognate requirement. Courses from Environmental Studies and other Departments/Programs outside the Natural Sciences Division do not meet this cognate requirement.

Requirements for the Minor in Psychology

A minor in psychology requires the completion of seven (7) courses in psychology. Required courses for the minor include the following:

Code	Title
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology
PSYC 200	Research Methods and Statistics
Three Psychology Elective Courses (see details below)	
One 200 level Topical/Research Course Combination (counts as two separate courses)	

Students are strongly encouraged to select a Psychology Department faculty member as their primary or secondary advisor when they declare a major or minor in psychology.

The flexibility of the requirements for the psychology majors and minor means that it is the responsibility of the student to select a course of study most compatible with their future goals. We encourage students to study a broad range of topics in psychology.

Students contemplating graduate school are strongly encouraged to become involved in research activities in the department (e.g., Directed Study, Independent Study, Senior Research, Research Assistant, Denison Summer Science Scholars). Students interested in the intersection of biology and behavior may be attracted to the Neuroscience Concentration. Students interested in the application of psychology to organizations and businesses may be drawn to the Organizational Studies (OS) Program. All students are encouraged to work closely with their advisors in developing an appropriate set of career steps and program of courses in the major.

Overview of the Psychology Courses Offerings

PSYC 100 - Introduction to Psychology

This course provides an overview of the topics and perspectives in contemporary psychology and an introduction to the methods of psychological science.

PSYC 100 fulfills the lab science general education requirement (the Y GE).

PSYC 100 is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses offered.

Refer to information below regarding Advanced Placement (A.P.) and transfer credit for PSYC 100.

PSYC 200 - Research Methods and Statistics

This course focuses on the primary research methods and data analysis procedures used by psychologists. Completion of Citi Program's Research Ethics & Compliance training is a requirement of the course.

PSYC 200 fulfills the quantitative reasoning general education requirement (the Q GE).

PSYC 200 is a prerequisite for the 200-level research courses.

Psychology Elective Courses

Elective courses provide an opportunity to study specific topics and perspectives in psychology.

Psychology electives include topical courses numbered between 206 to 299, 305 to 399, and topical courses numbered above 401. For reference, many of the topical courses are listed below in the 200- and 300-level combination course options. Other topical courses that can be taken as a psychology elective include (but are not limited to):

Code	Title
PSYC 206 or PSYC 306	200-level Special Topics courses 300-level Special Topics courses
PSYC 224	Psychology of Music
PSYC 280	Psychology of Diversity
PSYC 284	Self Regulation
PSYC 305	Psychopharmacology
PSYC 315	Development of Children with Special Needs

The following courses do NOT count toward the elective courses required for the major:

Code	Title
PSYC 202	Field Experience in Psychology
PSYC 361 or PSYC 362	Directed Study Directed Study
PSYC 363 or PSYC 364	Independent Study Independent Study
PSYC 451 or PSYC 452	Senior Research in Psychology Advanced Senior Research in Psychology

Psychology Seminar Courses (PSYC 300 - Seminars)

Psychology seminars allow for a “deep dive” into a specific topic in psychology.

PSYC 300 – Seminars or PSYC 301 – Seminar: Psychology of Women fulfill the psychology seminar requirement.

PSYC 300 is open to students who have junior or senior status and have completed a 200-level research course combination.

PSYC 401 - Assessment Exam

A zero-credit course used to track each Psychology major’s completion of the required departmental assessment exam during their senior year. The exam provides an opportunity for students to receive feedback on their mastery of psychology content knowledge.

PSYC 410 - History and Systems of Psychology

This course offers an overview of the ideas and approaches that have informed psychological study since its inception and explores their relationship to contemporary issues.

Junior or senior status is required to enroll in this course.

Topical/Research Course Combinations

The topical/research course combinations allow students to study a particular area or approach in psychology while simultaneously conducting related research.

Research courses must be taken concurrently with their accompanying topical courses. The first topical/research course combination must be at the 200-level; the second topical/research course combination must be at the 300-level.

200-level Topical/Research Course Combinations

PSYC 200 and successful completion of Citi Program’s Research Ethics & Compliance training are prerequisites for all 200-Level Topical/Research Course Combinations.

All 200-level research courses fulfill a writing requirement (a W GE).

200-level Topical/Research Course Combination options:

Code	Title
PSYC 210 & PSYC 211	Development in Infancy and Childhood and Research in Development in Infancy and Childhood
PSYC 220 & PSYC 221	Social Psychology and Research in Social Psychology
PSYC 230 & PSYC 231	Research in Organizational Psychology and Research in Organizational Psychology
PSYC 240 & PSYC 241	Theories of Personality and Research in Personality Psychology
PSYC 245 & PSYC 246	Adolescence and Research in Adolescence
PSYC 250 & PSYC 251	Abnormal Psychology and Research in Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 265 & PSYC 266	Cultural Psychology and Research in Cultural Psychology
PSYC 270 & PSYC 271	Health Psychology and Research in Health Psychology
PSYC 290 & PSYC 291	Psychology of Thinking and Research in Psyc of Thinking
PSYC 207	200-level Special Topics Research Course (– Special Topics Research Course may be offered in combination with a 200-level topical course that does not have a preassigned research course.)

300-level Topical/Research Course Combinations

Successful completion of a 200-level research course is a prerequisite for all 300-level topical/research course combinations.

300-level Topical/Research Course Combination options:

Code	Title
PSYC 310 & PSYC 311	Research in Psychology of Learning and Research in Psychology of Learning
PSYC 330 & PSYC 331	Cognitive Psychology and Research in Cognitive Psychology
PSYC 340 & PSYC 341	Sensation and Perception and Research in Sensation and Perception
PSYC 350 & PSYC 351	Biological Psychology and Research in Biological Psychology
PSYC 355 & PSYC 356	Clinical Psychology and Research in Clinical Psychology
PSYC 380 & PSYC 381	Nonverbal Behavior in Human Interactions and Research Nonverbal Behavior in Human Interactions
PSYC 385 & PSYC 386	Adult Development and Aging and Research in Adult Development and Aging

Important Policies Regarding Psychology Courses

Advanced Placement (A.P.) Credit and PSYC 100 - Introduction to Psychology

Students who earn a 4 or 5 on the A.P. Psychology exam will receive credit toward graduation (it will appear on your transcript as PSYC 096 credit), but this credit does not count towards the psychology major or minor at Denison. Psychology majors/minors (including those with an A.P. Psychology exam score of 4 or 5) must still complete PSYC 100 - Introduction to Psychology at Denison or an equivalent Introductory Psychology course that includes a rigorous laboratory.

Transfer Credit for an Introductory Psychology Course

Students may waive the PSYC 100 - Introduction to Psychology requirement with approved PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology credit. The student must submit a request for this transfer credit following the successful completion of an introductory psychology course taken at another college or university. However, it is important to note the following:

- PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology does not fulfill a Y (Science) GE.
- PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology does not count toward the courses for the psychology major or minor. Thus, students with PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology credit will need to complete one additional psychology elective course to meet the required number of courses for the B.A. degree or minor in psychology. A psychology minor with PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology credit would need to complete four psychology electives, and a student completing a B.A. degree in psychology would need to complete three electives.
- If a student with PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology credit elects to take PSYC 100 - Introduction to Psychology at Denison, the PSYC 199 credit will be forfeited.

- Students with PSYC 199 - Introductory Topics in Psychology credit may begin their study of psychology at Denison with PSYC 200 - Research Methods and Statistics or a psychology elective course.

Study Abroad and the Psychology Major and Minor

Denison University works to make study abroad possible for all students. The Psychology Department encourages students to study abroad during their junior year. You will be able to transfer back one psychology elective course from your study abroad experience.

- For a transfer course to count toward this requirement for the major or minor, the transfer course must be equivalent to 3-4 credit hours in a psychology course at Denison, and must have been reviewed and approved, in advance, by the Psychology Department Chair. To request review of a potential transfer course, please submit to the Psychology Department Chair the Off-Campus Study transfer credit form along with a complete and current syllabus from the transfer course. Transfer and Off-Campus Study courses cannot be approved without a syllabus reviewed by the department chair.
- Additional Psychology courses taken from an Off-Campus Study program will not count toward the Psychology major or minor but may be eligible for credits toward graduation at Denison.
- Some Denison students studying abroad conduct independent research or internships as part of their study abroad experience. We encourage students to visit the Off-Campus Study office to explore options. Students who conduct human subjects research while abroad must follow the policies described on the University IRB website in myDenison at Campus Resources => Provost => Institutional Review Board (IRB) - for Research involving Human Participants, and then scroll down to "Off-Campus Study & Human Subjects Research."

General Information for Students Transferring from other Universities and Colleges:

The Psychology Department strives to help transfer students settle in and succeed at Denison. We attempt to provide a fair assessment of psychology courses taken at other institutions in order to facilitate the transition of transfer students to Denison. Because of some unique qualities of the psychology curriculum at Denison, e.g. offering Introduction to Psychology as a lab science and the topical/research course combinations, we are not able to guarantee that all psychology courses taken at another college or university will fulfill course requirements for the Psychology major or minor at Denison. The transfer credit decisions are made on a course-by-course basis by the Psychology Department at Denison.