BA in Psychology

Major Program Requirements
To graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in the College of Arts and Science, a student must complete all degree, college, and university graduation requirements, including university general education (http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/ generaleducationrequirements) as well as all degree and college or school requirements. Students are reminded to check the Undergraduate Catalog for course descriptions and prerequisite information.

Major Core Requirements
- The psychology major requires 30 credit hours.
- All courses that count toward the psychology major requirements must be completed with a grade of C or better. Grades of C- or below will not be accepted. This includes STAT 1200 or its equivalent (a required course for all psychology majors).
- Students must complete MATH 1100 before STAT 1200 and PSYCH 3010, before PSYCH 3020, before the capstone labs. We make no exceptions to the research methods sequence requirements.
- Students must complete at least two psychology courses numbered 4000 or above. The Psychology capstone lab will meet one of these 4000-level courses.
- Students must complete at least one psychology course numbered 3000 or above that is designated Writing Intensive. The psychology capstone lab will meet the WI requirement if completed during the fall or spring semesters. Capstones are not WI in the summer sessions.
- No more than 43 psychology credits may count toward the required 120 credits to graduate. Students enrolled in the two-semester Honors Capstone only may use up to 49 psychology credits toward graduation.
- Students may use no more than 12 hours of Special Problems Courses, Special Readings Courses, or Internship Courses (PSYCH 2950, PSYCH 4940, PSYCH 4950 & PSYCH 4960) toward graduation. Within the 12 hours, no more than 9 hours may be Special Problems Courses. (i.e., psychology research credit hours). A student may complete either 6 hours of PSYCH 2950 and 3 hours of PSYCH 4950, or they may complete 3 hours of PSYCH 2950 and 6 hours of PSYCH 4950.
- Psych majors may have up to a total of 6 hours of PSYCH 4940.

Required courses
- PSYCH 1000 General Psychology
- STAT 1200 Introductory Statistical Reasoning

Research Methods sequence
- PSYCH 3010 Research Methods in Psychology I
- PSYCH 3020 Research Methods in Psychology II
- Capstone course (psychology lab course)

Distribution Areas
Psychology majors are required to take one course from four of the five distribution areas. This ensures that students will have exposure to a wide range of psychological theory and research. In addition, students choose two additional Psychology courses to receive further education according to their interests. Although the distribution areas are presented below as distinct areas of study, a great deal of overlap exists among them. Students should understand the ways in which the various areas complement one another and gain the ability to integrate information learned in the different areas.

Learning/Cognition
This distribution area studies the mechanisms of the mind and how they are altered by experience. Courses in this distribution area include:
- PSYCH 2110 Learning, Memory, and Cognition
- PSYCH 3110 Theories of Learning
- PSYCH 3140 Cognitive Psychology
- PSYCH 3150 Human Memory
- PSYCH 3160 Perception and Thought

Biological/Neuroscience
This distribution area studies the biological basis of the behavior of humans and other animals. Courses in this distribution area include:
- PSYCH 2210 Mind, Brain, and Behavior
- PSYCH 2220 Drugs and Behavior
- PSYCH 2810 Human Sexuality
- PSYCH 3830 Health Psychology
- PSYCH 4210 Physiological Psychology
- PSYCH 4240 Cognitive Neuroscience

Note: A student may not receive credit for PSYCH 2210 if it is completed after PSYCH 4210.

Social/Personality
This distribution area employs scientific methods to understand the nature and causes of individuals’ thoughts, feelings and behavior in social situations. Courses in this distribution area include:
- PSYCH 2310 Social Psychology
- PSYCH 2320 Introduction to Personality
- PSYCH 2330 Consumer Psychology
- PSYCH 3350 Positive Psychology
- PSYCH 3360 Automatic Social Judgments
- PSYCH 3370 The Science of Mindfulness (Psych 3010 prerequisite)
- PSYCH 4815 Cross-Cultural Psychology

Note: Due to overlap in content, a student may not receive credit for both PSYCH 3350 AND ESC_PS 4200.

Developmental
This distribution area studies the cultural and biological influences on age-related changes in cognition, emotion and social behavior that take place throughout an individual’s lifespan. Courses in this distribution area include:
- PSYCH 2410 Developmental Psychology
- PSYCH 3420 Cognitive Development in Childhood
- PSYCH 3430 Social Development in Childhood
- PSYCH 4440 Sex Differences

Note: Due to the overlap in course content, a student may receive credit for only one of the following three courses: PSYCH 2410, H_D_FS 3420 or ESC_PS 2500.
Clinical/Abnormal
This distribution area focuses on scientific study of the causes of mental disorders as well as methods for assessing and alleviating mental health problems and related types of maladjustment. It also is concerned with the study of mental health and wellness, including strategies for preventing the development of mental disorders. Courses in this area include:

- PSYCH 2510: Survey of Abnormal Psychology (3)
- PSYCH 2830: Human-Companion Animal Interaction (3)
- PSYCH 3510: Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)
- PSYCH 4520: Behavior Genetics (Prerequisite of Psych 3010 and Stat 1200 with a C or better) (3)
- PSYCH 4530: Emotional Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence (3)
- PSYCH 4540: Schizophrenia (3)
- PSYCH 4540: Pediatric Neuropsychology (3)

Psychology Electives (2000-level) 6 credit hours
Students must complete two psychology elective courses numbered 2000 or above, excluding Special Problems/Readings (i.e., PSYCH 2950, PSYCH 4950, PSYCH 4960), Internship PSYCH 4940, and Capstone Labs.

Semester Plan
Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student’s actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available. Psychology majors are required to earn a C or higher (no C- or below) in all Psychology courses and STAT 1200.

First Year
Fall | CR Spring | CR
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PSYCH 1000 | 3 Psych Social/Personality Course | 3
ENGLISH 1000 | 3 MATH 1100 | 3
Behavioral Science Course | 3 Social Science Course | 3
AGH: Social Science Course | 3 Humanities (2000+ Arts and Science approved) | 3
Humanities Course | 3 1000+ elective | 3
| 15 | 15 |

Second Year
Fall | CR Spring | CR
--- | --- | ---
Psych Developmental Course | 3 Psych Clinical/Abnormal Course | 3
Foreign Language 1 | 5 Foreign Language 2 | 5
Biological/Physical Science Course | 3 Psych 2000+ elective | 3
1000+ elective | 3 1000+ elective | 3
1000+ elective | 1 1000+ elective | 1
| 15 | 15 |

Third Year
Fall | CR Spring | CR
--- | --- | ---
PSYCH 3010 | 3 PSYCH 3020 | 3

Fourth Year
Fall | CR Spring | CR
--- | --- | ---
Psych Capstone (Writing Intensive) | 3 Psych 4000+ elective | 3
Behavioral Science Course (2000+ Arts and Science approved) | 3 Humanities Course | 3
Humanities Course | 3 3000+ elective | 3
3000+ elective | 3 3000+ elective | 3
3000+ elective | 3 3000+ elective | 3
| 15 | 15 |

Total Credits: 120

^ Course meets degree program requirements
* Course meets University general education and/or campus graduation requirements
+ Course meets College of Arts and Science foundation (Basic Skills)