

Department of Psychology
College of Education
and Human Services

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Effective for students beginning Psychology Major Summer Sem. 2007 thru Spring Sem. 2008

Admission Requirements For This Major

1. Students are admitted to the Department of Psychology as Pre-Psychology Majors by meeting the Utah State University admission requirements for new freshmen or transfer students.

2. To be a Psychology Major, a student must make written application to the Department of Psychology, **after** completing the following prerequisites:

a. Completion of at least 40 semester credits with a USU cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher;

b. Completion of at least 18 semester credits of the University Studies requirements with a GPA of 2.75 or higher;

c. Completion of PSY 1010, 1100, 1400, 1410, 2800, and 2950 with a GPA of 3.0 or higher; and

d. Psychology Competency Pretest, which must be taken and reported to the Psychology Undergraduate Advising Office, Education 475.

The Program

Psychology is a field of study that provides students with a greater understanding of behavior—their own behavior, that of other people, and that of other living things. Whether students wish to use their degree to gain entrance directly into the job market, or whether they plan to continue with graduate study, the Department of Psychology is committed to providing a program geared to the needs and career goals of the individual student.

The requirements for this major, along with University and University Studies requirements, are summarized in this program sheet. Students are encouraged to use this sheet as a guide in developing their program of study and to contact and visit with their advisor on a regular basis about progress toward the completion of their degrees.

Career Opportunities

In addition to preparing students for graduate study in psychology and other areas, an undergraduate psychology degree can lead directly to employment. Employment opportunities for a student with a bachelor's degree in psychology are diverse. Although the department does not offer specific formal areas of concentration at the bachelor's level, other than the approved teaching major, the Psychology advising office will assist students in taking combinations of courses which might lead naturally to different employment opportunities. These areas include:

- applied behavior analysis
- educational applications
- general science
- human services
- organizational behavior
- personal development

Psychology graduates at the bachelor's level have been successfully employed as teachers, aides in psychological or psychiatric therapy units, industrial testing specialists, social service coordinators, child abuse case workers, public relations specialists, welfare case workers, psychologist's assistants, behavior measurement recorders, rehabilitation case workers, mental hospital program coordinators, foster care workers, child day-care center workers, science writers, ward attendants, job performance evaluators, job analysts, personnel selectors, personnel placement and recruitment officers, consultants, consumer behavior analysts, management trainees, interviewers, data collectors and analysts, organizational developers, laboratory research assistants, and many more.

To practice as a licensed psychologist in the USA, a doctorate degree and state licensing are required. Such psychologists typically work in private practice, university settings, clinics, and hospitals and in various other professional settings and have had four to five years training beyond the bachelor's degree level.

More information on career alternatives and assistance in selecting electives appropriate to a student's career goals may be obtained from the Psychology undergraduate advisor in Education 475.

Graduate School Preparation

The major in Psychology has been designed so that students take classes that will help them compete in applying for graduate school. Students planning to attend graduate school need to become actively involved with faculty research, form an association with Psi Chi, and enroll in independent research and readings courses. Students should also take a course covering the use of statistical software (e.g., SPSS), offered through FCHD or Sociology. Furthermore, it is recommended that students take at least one upper-division course in statistics from Psychology, FCHD, or Sociology.

Skill Tracks for Undergraduate Majors in Psychology

The following skill tracks can be completed as part of a student's major in Psychology. A skill track represents a cluster of courses that help provide more comprehensive knowledge and practical skill in particular areas. After admission as a major in Psychology, students may apply for admission to a skill track. Completing a skill track requires careful planning, so that skill track courses and other required and elective courses for the major are fulfilled. Enrollment in a skill track is entirely optional for majors.

Behavior Analysis Skill Track. The following cluster of courses will provide psychology majors with a basic foundation in experimental and applied behavior analysis: PSY 1400, 1410, 3400, 3720, 4910, 5720; SPED 5010, 5050; BIOL 3010; and PHIL 4320 or 4900.

Interpersonal Relationships Skill Track. The following cluster of courses will assist psychology majors in systematically developing a broad range of interpersonal relationship skills, such as listening, assertiveness, negotiation, conflict resolution, and anger management: PSY 1210, 3210, 3510, 4210, 4510, 5200; and MHR 3710.

Human Service Case Worker Skill Track. In addition to the major, students can complete supplemental coursework within the Department of Psychology to qualify for employment in Utah as a Human Service Case Worker.

Degrees and Programs Offered Through This Department

Psychology: Bachelor of Science (BS), Bachelor of Arts (BA), Master of Science (MS), Educational Specialist (EdS), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Academic Advisement

All students should contact their academic advisor for assistance with course selection, program planning, and meeting graduation requirements. If they do not know who their advisor is, students should contact their department, college, or the Office of University Advising.

Graduation Requirements: BS* Degree in Psychology

*A BA degree requires foreign language training. For further information, see the *General Catalog*.

Minimum University Requirements**

Total credits	120
Grade point average (most majors require higher GPA)	2.00 GPA
Credits of C- or better	100
Credits of upper-division courses (#3000 or above)	40
USU credits	30
(20 of which must be upper division, including 10 required by major)	
Completion of approved major program of study	See department
Credits in minor (if required by department)	12
Credits in American Institutions (ECON 1500; HIST 1700, 2700, or 2710; POLS 1100; or USU 1300)	3
University Studies requirements	See below

**Colleges and departments may require more credits or a higher GPA. See requirements on this sheet.

University Studies Requirements for Psychology Major

Note: Approved University Studies courses and requirements are listed in the back section of each semester's *Schedule of Classes*.

General Education Requirements (27 credits)

Competency Requirements (9 credits)

Communications Literacy (CL1 and CL2) (6 credits)

ENGL 1010 (CL1) (3 credits) or satisfactory AP, CLEP, IBO, ACT, or SAT score

AND

ENGL 2010 (CL2) (3 credits) or satisfactory IBO score

Quantitative Literacy (QL) (3 credits)

STAT 1040 (required for Psychology Major)

Computer and Information Literacy (0 credits)

Passing grade on six computer and information literacy related examinations.

Breadth Requirements (18 credits)

Select at least one approved course from each of the following six categories: **American Institutions (BAI)**, **Creative Arts (BCA)**, **Humanities (BHU)**, **Life Sciences (BLS)**, **Physical Sciences (BPS)**, and **Social Sciences (BSS)**. At least two of the six breadth courses must be University Studies courses with a **USU prefix** (excluding USU 1000, 1010, 1100, 3330, 4900, and 6900). (CLEP or AP credit may be used.) PSY 1010 fulfills the Social Sciences requirement for students in both the Psychology Major and the Psychology Teaching Major.

Depth Education Requirements

Communications Intensive (CI) (2 courses)

PSY 3500, 4510, and 5200 can meet this requirement for students in the Psychology major. SCED 3210 and 4200 meet this requirement for students in the Psychology Teaching Major.

Quantitative Intensive (QI) (1 course)

PSY 2800 meets this requirement for students in both the Psychology Major and the Psychology Teaching Major.

Depth Course Requirements (4 credits minimum)

Complete at least 2 credits in approved 3000-level or above courses from each of the following two categories: **Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA)** and **Life and Physical Sciences (DSC)**.

Psychology Major (46 credits minimum with 3.0 GPA)

Requirements for a major in Psychology consist of a broad preparation of 24 credits of specified coursework, plus a minimum of 19 credits of approved Psychology elective courses, and 3 credits of an apprenticeship, which allows for integration of coursework knowledge (theory) through application, for a total of 46 credits. At least 20 Psychology credits must be upper-division, 12 of which must be taken at USU. A minor in another field of study is required. **Note:** Most psychology courses list PSY 1010 as a prerequisite. Many of these psychology courses *also* have additional prerequisites, as listed in the University *General Catalog*. A course from the Primary Electives list may count as fulfilling the Secondary Elective requirement *if and only if* it has not been counted as a Primary Elective requirement. Students must receive a grade of C- or better in all psychology courses (USU and transfer) in order to have them counted toward the major.

A. Required Courses (24 credits)

Credits

- PSY 1010 (BSS)** General Psychology (F,Sp,Su) 3
- PSY 1100** Developmental Psychology:
Infancy and Childhood (F,Sp) 3
- PSY 1400** Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles (F,Sp,Su) 3
- PSY 1410** Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles Lab (F,Sp,Su) 1
- PSY 2800 (QI)** Psychological Statistics (F,Sp) 3
- PSY 2950** Orientation to Psychology as a Career
and Profession (F,Sp,Su) 2
- PSY 3500 (CI)** Scientific Thinking and Methods
in Psychology (F,Sp) 3
- PSY 5100** History and Systems of Psychology (Sp) 3
- PSY 5330** Psychometrics (F) 3

B. Primary Elective Courses (16 credits)

Select 3 credits from the following:

- PSY 3510** Social Psychology (F,Su) 3
- PSY 4210** Personality Theory (Sp) 3

Select 3 credits from the following:

- PSY 3450** Perception and Psychophysics (F) 3
- PSY 3460** Physiological Psychology (Sp) 3

Select 4 credits from the following:

- PSY 3400** Analysis of Behavior: Advanced (F,Sp) 4
- PSY 4420** Cognitive Psychology (Sp) (3 cr) **and**
- PSY 4430** Cognitive Psychology Laboratory (Sp) (1 cr) 4

Select 6 credits from the following:

- PSY 3110** Health Psychology (Sp) 3
- PSY 3120** Abuse, Neglect, and the Psychological
Dimensions of Intimate Violence (F,Su) 3
- PSY 3210** Abnormal Psychology (F,Sp) 3
- PSY 5200 (CI)** Introduction to Interviewing and Counseling (F) 3
- Drugs and Behavior course (number and approval pending) 3

C. Secondary Elective Courses (3 credits minimum)

Select at least 3 credits from the following. (A course from the Primary Electives list may count as fulfilling the Secondary Elective requirement *if and only if* it has not been counted as a Primary Elective requirement.)

Credits

- PSY 1210** Psychology of Human Adjustment (F,Sp) 3
- PSY 2100** Developmental Psychology: Adolescence (Sp) 3
- PSY 3660** Educational Psychology for Teachers (F,Sp) 2
- PSY 3720** Behavior Modification (Sp) 3
- PSY 4230** Psychology of Gender (Sp) 3
- PSY 4240** Multicultural Psychology (F) 3
- PSY 4510 (CI)** Effective Social Skills Interventions (Sp) 3
- PSY 4960 (CI)** Advanced Undergraduate Apprenticeship (F) 3
- PSY/PEP 4000** Mental Aspects of Sports Performance
(F,Sp,Su) (3 cr) **or**
- PSY/PEP 5050** Psychological Aspects of Sports
Performance (Sp) (3 cr) 3
- PSY/COMD 4790** Psychological Principles and Individuals
who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Sp) 3
- SPED 1010 (BSS)** Disability in the American Experience 3

D. Required Apprenticeship Course (3 credits)

- PSY 4950 (CI)** Undergraduate Apprenticeship (F,Sp,Su) 3

Psychology Teaching Major (43 credits minimum with 3.0 GPA)

Requirements for a Teaching Major in Psychology broadly consist of 27 credits of specified psychology coursework and 16 credits of elective psychology coursework, for a total of 43 credits in psychology. Only 16 of these 43 psychology credits may be taken in lower-division courses. The remaining 27 credits must be received in 3000- or 4000-level psychology courses. At least 12 of the upper-division credits must have been earned in courses completed at USU. A minor in another field of study is also required. Prospective teachers must complete 35 credits of the Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) in the Department of Secondary Education. Required GPA for psychology courses is 3.0. **Note:** Most psychology courses list PSY 1010 as a prerequisite. Many of these psychology courses *also* have additional prerequisites as listed in the University *General Catalog*. Students must receive a grade of C- or better in all psychology courses (USU and transfer) in order to have them counted toward the major.

A. Required Courses (27 credits)	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1010 (BSS) General Psychology (F,Sp,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1100 Developmental Psychology: Infancy and Childhood (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1400 Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles (F,Sp,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1410 Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles Lab (F,Sp,Su)	1
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 2100 Developmental Psychology: Adolescence (Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 2800 (QI) Psychological Statistics (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3500 (CI) Scientific Thinking and Methods in Psychology (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3660 Educational Psychology for Teachers (F,Sp)	2
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 5100 History and Systems of Psychology (Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 5330 Psychometrics (F)	3

B. Elective Courses (16 credits)
Select 3 credits from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3510 Social Psychology (F,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 4210 Personality Theory (Sp)	3

Select 3 credits from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3450 Perception and Psychophysics (F)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3460 Physiological Psychology (Sp)	3

Select 4 credits from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3400 Analysis of Behavior: Advanced (F,Sp)	4
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 4420 Cognitive Psychology (Sp) (3 cr) and	
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 4430 Cognitive Psychology Laboratory (Sp) (1 cr)	4

Select 6 credits from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3110 Health Psychology (Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3120 Abuse, Neglect, and the Psychological Dimensions of Intimate Violence (F,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3210 Abnormal Psychology (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 5200 (CI) Introduction to Interviewing and Counseling (F)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Drugs and Behavior course (number and approval pending)	3

C. Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) (35 credits)

Admission to Secondary Education must be completed approximately one semester before the following courses may be taken.

Level 1 (15-week courses) (11 credits)

Students at **Level 1** must complete the following courses:

<input type="checkbox"/> INST 3500 Technology Tools for Secondary Teachers (F,Sp,Su)	1
<input type="checkbox"/> SCED 3100 Motivation and Classroom Management (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> SCED 3210 (CI) Educational and Multicultural Foundations (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Methods Course (major or minor) ¹	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Experience I Course (major or minor) ¹	1

Level 2 (15-week courses) (12 credits)

Students at **Level 2** must complete the following courses:

<input type="checkbox"/> SPED 4000 Education of Exceptional Individuals (may be taken anytime) (F,Sp,Su)	2
<input type="checkbox"/> SCED 4200 (CI) Reading, Writing, and Technology (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> SCED 4210 Cognition and Evaluation of Student Learning (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Methods Course (major or minor) ¹	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Experience II Course (major or minor) ¹	1

Level 3 (includes 13 weeks of student teaching and 2 weeks of Student Teaching Seminar) (12 credits)	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> SCED 5500 Student Teaching Seminar (2 weeks) (F,Sp)	2
<input type="checkbox"/> SCED 5630 Student Teaching in Secondary Schools (13 weeks, full-time) (F,Sp)	10

¹Students must complete a methods course and a clinical experience course for each of their teaching subjects. Students should check with the department offering their other teaching subject for methods and clinical experience course numbers in that subject. Students electing Psychology at Level 1 should register for SCED 3500 (methods course) and SCED 3300 (clinical course). Students electing Psychology at Level 2 should register for SCED 3500 (methods course) and SCED 4300 (clinical course).

The following minor requirements apply to students with a major in another area.

Psychology Minor (18 credits minimum with 3.0 GPA)

Students must receive a grade of C- or better in all psychology courses (USU and transfer) in order to have them counted toward the major.

A. Required Courses (10 credits)	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1010 (BSS) General Psychology (F,Sp,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1100 Developmental Psychology: Infancy and Childhood (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1400 Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles (F,Sp,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1410 Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles Lab (F,Sp,Su)	1

B. Electives (8 credits)
Choose course(s) from required or primary elective courses listed for the Psychology Major to total 18 credits.

Psychology Teaching Minor (18 credits minimum with 3.0 GPA)

Students must receive a grade of C- or better in all psychology courses (USU and transfer) in order to have them counted toward the minor.

A. Required Courses (15 credits)	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1010 (BSS) General Psychology (F,Sp,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1100 Developmental Psychology: Infancy and Childhood (F,Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1400 Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles (F,Sp,Su)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 1410 Analysis of Behavior: Basic Principles Lab (F,Sp,Su)	1
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 2100 Developmental Psychology: Adolescence (Sp)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 3660 Educational Psychology for Teachers (F,Sp)	2

B. Electives (3 credits minimum)
Choose course(s) from required or primary elective courses listed for the Psychology Major to total 18 credits.

Note: The Psychology Teaching Minor also requires the completion of the Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) (35 credits). See section C under Psychology Teaching Major.

GPA and Grade Requirements

A USU total grade point average of 2.75 or higher is required for graduation with a major in Psychology. All Psychology courses used for graduation, major or minor, Utah State University or transfer, must average 3.0 or higher.

No Psychology courses numbered above 3000 may be taken until a student has been admitted as a Psychology Major, or has completed at least 45 semester credits with a 2.75 GPA.

No Psychology courses numbered 4000 or higher may be taken until a student has been admitted as a Psychology Major or has completed at least 60 semester credits with a GPA of 2.75 or higher.

Requirement Changes

Graduation requirements shown on this sheet are subject to change. Students should check with their departments concerning possible changes.

Materials for Persons with Disabilities

This requirement sheet is available in large print, audio, and braille format upon request to the USU Disability Resource Center.

For information contact

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