Psychology (BA/BS)

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From cognitive and developmental psychology to practices in clinical psychology and psychopathology, the UO's Department of Psychology immerses you in the study of the human mind and behavior. All students collaborate on research as part of their academic sequence and many gain additional research experience in department labs. You will learn strong critical thinking skills and how to evaluate and convey evidence. Develop your skills in real-world settings with student-run peer programs, internships at local clinics, shelters, hospitals, and justice centers.

We are a community of scientists including faculty and postdoctoral scholars engaged in cutting-edge research. The psychology major will expose you to basic concepts, theories, findings, and ethical issues in multiple areas: social, personality and psychopathology, developmental, cognitive and experimental, and biological and physiological psychology.

Upon completing their training, UO psychology majors should have a broad knowledge of psychology, including basic statistical techniques and ethical issues, and be skilled at reading, evaluating, and communicating about the primary scientific literature in psychology.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Identify major theories, research findings, and methodological approaches in a variety of key content areas including, for example, cognition, neuroscience, development, social behavior, personality, and psychopathology and mental health; and apply research findings to human behavior in everyday life.
- Find relevant articles in the primary psychological literature on a given topic, identify key research questions and hypotheses in scientific articles, and critically evaluate the research design and the quality of evidence presented.
- Choose appropriate basic statistical analysis techniques for a specific research question and set of data, complete basic data analyses, and summarize the results in an APA-style report.
- Communicate clearly and effectively about psychological topics, including methodological and ethical issues in psychology, based on an understanding of both the strengths and limitations of empirical evidence.

To satisfy major requirements students take a total of 68 credits. Of those credits, 56 credits in psychology courses are required, 48 of which must be upper-division, and 16 of which must be taken in residence at the University of Oregon. Mind and Brain (PSY 201 (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/archive/2023-2024/search/?P=PSY%20201)) and Mind and Society (PSY 202 (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/archive/2023-2024/search/?P=PSY%20202)) must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of mid-C or better. All other required courses must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better, although elective psychology courses may be taken pass/no pass. A minimum grade point average of 2.00 in psychology coursework is required.

Psychology Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Introductory Prerequisite Courses		
WR 121Z	Composition I	4
WR 122Z	Composition II (WR 123 recommended)	4
or WR 123	College Composition III	
PSY 201	Mind and Brain	4
PSY 202	Mind and Society	4
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4
Methods Foundations Courses		
PSY 301	Scientific Thinking in Psychology	4
PSY 302	Statistical Methods in Psychology	4
PSY 303	Research Methods in Psychology: [Topic]	4
300-Level Core Courses		**12**
Select three of the following, one of which must be PSY 304 or PSY 305:		
PSY 304	Biopsychology	
PSY 305	Cognition	
PSY 306	Social Psychology	
PSY 307	Personality	
PSY 308	Developmental Psychology	
PSY 309	Psychopathology [1]	
400-Level Specialty Courses		**12**
Select three of the following:		
PSY 420	Psychology and Law	
PSY 433	Learning and Memory	
PSY 436	Human Performance	
PSY 438	Perception	
PSY 445	Brain Mechanisms of Behavior	
PSY 449	Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSY 450	Hormones and Behavior	
PSY 457	Group Dynamics	
PSY 458	Decision-Making	
PSY 459	Cultural Psychology	
PSY 468	Motivation and Emotion	
PSY 472	Psychology of Trauma	
PSY 473	Intimate Relationships	
PSY 475	Cognitive Development	
PSY 476		
PSY 478	Social Development	
PSY 479	Infancy	
PSY 480	Development and Psychopathology	
Upper-Division Elective Courses [2]		**12**
Total Credits		**68**

1 or OXEU 388: PSY: Psychopathology

2 Students must take 12 upper-division psychology elective credits, 8 of which must be actual content courses. A maximum of 4 credits in Research: [Topic] (PSY 401) or Practicum: [Topic] (PSY 406) may be applied to the upper-division credits. Practicum credits must be earned at a practicum site approved by the head undergraduate faculty advisor.

Honors Curriculum

Students with excellent records who plan to pursue a career in psychology may consider applying to the departmental honors program upon completion of PSY 303. The honors program centers on an independent research project, which the student develops and carries out under the supervision of a departmental committee. Information about admission criteria and how to apply is available online (https://psychology.uoregon.edu/undergraduates/academics/honors-program/).

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
First-Year Interest Group or elective course		4	
First-Year Interest Group or arts and letters group-satisfying curse		4	
PSY 202	Mind and Society	4	
First term of first-year second-language sequence		4	
Begin taking your second language in your first or second year			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
PSY 201	Mind and Brain	4	
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
Arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
Second term of first-year second-language sequence		4	
Meet with a psychology advisor to discuss your academic goals			
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Social science group-satisfying course (or PSY 202)		4	
WR 123	College Composition III	4	
Science group-satisfying course (or STAT 243Z)		4	
Third term of first-year second-language sequence		4	
Plan your summer experience			
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
PSY 301	Scientific Thinking in Psychology	4	
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4	
Arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
First term of second-year second-language sequence		4	
Consider studying abroad			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
PSY 302	Statistical Methods in Psychology	4	
Arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
Social science group-satisfying course		4	
Second term of second-year second-language sequence		4	
Consider doing an internship for the major			
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
PSY 303	Research Methods in Psychology: [Topic]	4	
Science group-satisfying course		4	
Multicultural course		4	
Third term of second-year second-language sequence		4	
Talk to a psychology advisor about your career plans			
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
Choose from PSY 306-309		4	
PSY 304 or PSY 305	Biopsychology or Cognition	4	
PSY 401 or PSY 409	Research: [Topic] or Terminal Project	1-4	
Elective course		4	
If you are considering graduate school, take 300-level CORE courses in your intended field of study, take the GRE, look up possible schools			
	Credits	**13-16**	
Winter			
Choose from PSY 304-309		4	
Science group-satisfying course		4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Social science group-satisfying course		4	
PSY 400-level core course or multicultural course		4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**45-48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
PSY 400-level core course		4	
Upper-division elective with PSY subject code		4	
Elective courses		8	
Meet with an advisor early to make a graduation plan			
Apply to graduate schools or look for work after graduation			
	Credits	**16**	

Winter		
PSY 400-level core course		4
Upper-division elective course with PSY subject code		4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
PSY 400-level core course		4
Upper-division elective course with PSY subject code		4
Elective courses		8
Apply to graduate on DuckWeb the term you complete all requirements		
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**48**

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
First-Year Interest Group or elective course		4	
First-Year Interest Group or arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
PSY 202	Mind and Society	4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
PSY 201	Mind and Brain	4	
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
Arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
Elective course		4	
Meet with a psychology advisor to discuss your academic goals.			
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Social science group-satisfying course (or PSY 202)		4	
WR 123	College Composition III	4	
Science group-satisfying course or STAT 243Z		4	
Elective course		4	
Plan your summer experience			
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
PSY 301	Scientific Thinking in Psychology	4	
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4	
Arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
Elective course		4	
Consider studying abroad			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
PSY 302	Statistical Methods in Psychology	4	
Arts and letters group-satisfying course		4	
Social science Group-satisfying course		4	
Mathematics course		4	
Consider doing an internship for the major			
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
PSY 303	Research Methods in Psychology: [Topic]	4	
Science group-satisfying course		4	
Multicultural course		4	
Mathematics course		4	
Talk to a psychology advisor about your career plans			
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
Choose from PSY 306-309		4	
PSY 304 or PSY 305	Biopsychology or Cognition	4	
PSY 401 or PSY 409	Research: [Topic] or Terminal Project	1-4	
Elective course		4	
Begin working in a research lab or doing an internship			
If you are considering graduate school, take 300-level CORE courses in your intended field of study, take the GRE, and look up possible schools			
	Credits	**13-16**	
Winter			
Choose from PSY 304-309		4	
Science group-satisfying course		4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
Social science group-satisfying course		4	
PSY 400-level core course or multicultural course		4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**45-48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
PSY 400-level core course		4	
PSY 300-400 level elective		4	
Elective courses		8	
Meet with an advisor early to make a graduation plan			
Apply to graduate schools or look for work after graduation			
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
PSY 400-level core course		4	

Upper-division elective course with PSY subject code	4
Elective courses	8
Credits	**16**
Spring	
PSY 400-level core course	4
Upper-division elective course with PSY subject code	4
Elective courses	8
Apply to graduate on DuckWeb the term you complete all requirements	
Credits	**16**
Total Credits	**48**