

Student Curriculum Planner—Psychology

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Degrees Awarded: B.A. or B.S. in Psychology

Major Programs: We offer both a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. The B.A. program prepares students for graduate study at the master's level and higher, and offers more flexibility for students who wish to combine their interest in psychology with studies in another other area (e.g., pre-med, pre-law, business, education). The B.S. program emphasizes the rigor of scientific research in psychology, and is best suited for students who plan to pursue a doctoral degree in psychology or a related field. An advanced degree (master's or doctorate) is required in order to become a psychologist.

Requirements for all psychology majors (both B.A. and B.S.): PSYC 100C; PSYC 200 and 201 (with grades of C or higher); MATH 100C or higher; 6 credits (2 courses) in natural sciences; and 6 credits (2 courses) in philosophy. The math, natural science, and philosophy courses above may also be used to fulfill portions of the College Core requirements. We strongly recommend that math be taken during the freshman year. *New requirement (effective for students who follow the requirements in the 2007-2008 SJFC Undergraduate Bulletin):* Practicum for Psychology Majors (PSYC 290) – 1 credit course.

Additional requirements for the B.A. degree: Either PSYC 204 or an additional 300 or 400-level PSYC course; two Group A perspectives courses (from either PSYC 227C or 231C, 235C, and 236); two Group B perspectives courses (from PSYC 280, 281, and 282); one psychology laboratory course (from PSYC 327, 335, 381, and 382); one psychology capstone course (PSYC 401 or 415); and 9 additional credits (three courses) of PSYC electives

Additional requirements for the B.S. degree: PSYC 204; five perspectives courses (one from PSYC 227C, 231C, or 235C; plus PSYC 236, 280, 281, and 282); two psychology laboratory courses (one from PSYC 327 or 335; and one from PSYC 381 or 382); three psychology capstone courses (PSYC 401, 415, and either PSYC 407 or 408); and 15 additional credits (five courses) of PSYC electives.

Important Notes:

- The B.A. degree must be combined with a minor or second major (not required for the B.S. degree).
- For the B.A. degree, the capstone course (PSYC 401 or 415) must be completed at Fisher. Thus, if transfer credit is granted for either PSYC 401 or 415, the other must be taken at Fisher as the capstone.
- Entry into the laboratory courses (327, 335, 381 or 382) requires a grade of C or better in 200, and 201, as well as in the corresponding perspectives course (227, 235, 281 or 282).
- Only one development course (PSYC 227C or 231C) may be applied towards the major requirements.

Planning Tips:

- We recommend that students who plan to pursue doctoral studies in psychology complete a **laboratory course in one of the natural sciences** as part of their major and/or College Core requirements.
- Qualified students should consider the **Honors Program in Psychology** to give them greater depth and research experience in their study of psychology.
- Students should consider **Independent Research** (PSYC 496) during their senior year to enhance their research experience.
- Students should also consider **Field Experience** (PSYC 490) in their junior and/or senior year to better understand the practices of psychology in the community.