

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, B.S.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Abington

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Psychological and Social Sciences, a minimum of 121 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	15-17
Requirements for the Major	67-68

7-8 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3-4 credits of GN courses; 4 credits of GQ courses.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- **Arts (GA):** 6 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 6 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 6 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- **Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses:** 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
ANTH 45N	Cultural Diversity: A Global Perspective	3
MATH 110	Techniques of Calculus I	4
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYCH 200	Elementary Statistics in Psychology	4
SOC 471	Qualitative Research Methods in Sociology	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
BBH 301W	Values and Ethics in Biobehavioral Health Research and Practice	3
or HDFS 301	Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions	
BIOL 141 & BIOL 142	Introduction to Human Physiology and Physiology Laboratory	4

or BIOL 110	Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity	
CAS 352	Organizational Communication	3
or CAS 455	Gender Roles in Communication	
HDFS 129	Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies	3
or PSYCH 212	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	
PSYCH 301W	Basic Research Methods in Psychology	3-4
or HDFS 312W	Empirical Inquiry in Human Development	
SOC 1	Introductory Sociology	3
or SOC 5	Social Problems	
Select 3 credits of the following:		3
ANTH 495	Internship	
HDFS 495C	Professional Practicum in Human Services	
PSYCH 495	Internship	
SOC 495	Internship	
Select 7 credits of the following:		7
ANTH 494	Research Project	
HDFS 494	Research Project	
PSYCH 494	Research Projects	
SOC 494	Research Project	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas ¹		
<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 6-15 credits of the following HDFS and PSYCH courses:		6-15
HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	
HDFS 239	Adolescent Development	
HDFS 249N	Adult Development and Aging	
HDFS 250	Sexual Identity over the Life Span	
HDFS 315	Family Development	
HDFS 432	Developmental Problems in Childhood and Adolescence	
HDFS 433	Developmental Transition to Adulthood	
HDFS 445	Development Throughout Adulthood	
HDFS 468		
PSYCH 221	Introduction to Social Psychology	
PSYCH 281	Introduction to Industrial-Organizational Psychology	
PSYCH 407	Advanced Research Methods in Psychology	
PSYCH 412	Adolescence	
PSYCH 415	Topics in Developmental Psychology	
PSYCH 416	Development Throughout Adulthood	
PSYCH 420	Advanced Social Psychology	
PSYCH 422	Human Sexuality	
PSYCH 423	Social Psychology of Interpersonal/Intergroup Relationships	
PSYCH 424	Applied Social Psychology	
PSYCH 426	Language and Thought	
PSYCH 438	Personality Theory	
PSYCH 441	Health Psychology	
PSYCH 470	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYCH 478	Clinical Neuropsychology	
PSYCH 479	The Psychology of Gender	
PSYCH 481	Introduction to Clinical Psychology	
PSYCH 484	Work Attitudes and Motivation	

PSYCH 485	Leadership in Work Settings	
PSYCH 496B	**SPECIAL TOPICS**	
PSYCH 497	Special Topics	
Select 6-15 credits of the following SOC and ANTH courses:		6-15
ANTH 2N	World Archaeology	
ANTH 11	North American Archaeology	
ANTH 22	Humans as Primates	
ANTH 40	Biocultural Evolution	
ANTH 146	Indigenous North America	
ANTH 197	Special Topics	
ANTH 199	Foreign Studies	
ANTH 216N	Sex and Evolution	
ANTH 321W	Intellectual Background of Archaeology	
ANTH 380	Anthropology Museum Studies	
ANTH 395	Internship	
ANTH 448	Ethnography of the United States	
SOC 3	Introductory Social Psychology	
SOC 30	Sociology of the Family	
SOC 35	Sociology of Aging	
SOC 103	Racism and Sexism	
SOC 109	Sociological Perspectives	
SOC 110	Sociology of Gender	
SOC 309	Sociology of Health	
SOC 403	Advanced Social Psychology	
SOC 405	Sociological Theory	
SOC 406	Sociology of Deviance	
SOC 409	Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America	
SOC 416	Sociology of Education	
SOC 429	Social Stratification	
SOC 430	Family in Cross-Cultural Perspective	
SOC 455	Work and Occupations	
SOC 456	Gender, Occupations, and Professions	
SOC 471	Qualitative Research Methods in Sociology	
SOC 497	Special Topics	
Select 0-9 credits of the following other social sciences courses:		0-9
BBH 302	Diversity and Health	
BBH 315	Gender and Biobehavioral Health	
CAS 352	Organizational Communication	
CAS 415	Rhetoric of Film and Television	
CAS 455	Gender Roles in Communication	
CNED 404	Group Procedures in Guidance and Counseling	
COMM 100N	The Mass Media and Society	
COMM 120		
COMM 411	Cultural Aspects of the Mass Media	
EDPSY 14	Learning and Instruction	
WMNST 471	The Psychology of Gender	

¹ At least 12 credits must be at the 400 level.