In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/semester-classification.cfm).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major/)

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, a minimum of 124 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>14-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0-4 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 0-4 credits of General Education GQ courses.

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

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).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 301W</td>
<td>Basic Research Methods in Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 200</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics in Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STAT 200</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 18 credits of the following, with a minimum of 3 credits from each of the following six categories:</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learning and Cognition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 256</td>
<td>Introduction to Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 261</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology of Learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 268</td>
<td>Animal Minds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 426</td>
<td>Language and Thought</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 427</td>
<td>L1 Acquisition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 452</td>
<td>Learning and Memory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 456</td>
<td>Advanced Cognitive Psychology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 457</td>
<td>Psychology of Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 458</td>
<td>Visual Cognition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 459</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 461</td>
<td>Social and Personality Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 221</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 231</td>
<td>Introduction to the Psychology of Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 232</td>
<td>Cross-Cultural Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 238</td>
<td>Introduction to Personality Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 419</td>
<td>Psychology and a Sustainable World</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 420</td>
<td>Advanced Social Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 421</td>
<td>Self and Social Judgment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 423</td>
<td>Social Psychology of Interpersonal/Intergroup Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 424</td>
<td>Applied Social Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 432</td>
<td>Multicultural Psychology in America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 438</td>
<td>Personality Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 479</td>
<td>The Psychology of Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Biological Bases of Behavior**
- PSYCH 253 Introduction to Psychology of Perception
- PSYCH 260 Neurological Bases of Human Behavior
- PSYCH 269 Evolutionary Psychology
- PSYCH 441 Health Psychology
- PSYCH 460 Comparative Psychology
- PSYCH 462 Physiological Psychology
- PSYCH 464 Behavior Genetics
- PSYCH 475 Psychology of Fear and Stress
- PSYCH 478 Clinical Neuropsychology

**Developmental Psychology**
- PSYCH 212 Introduction to Developmental Psychology
- PSYCH 410 Child Development
- PSYCH 412 Adolescence
- PSYCH 413 Cognitive Development
- PSYCH 414 Social and Personality Development
- PSYCH 415 Topics in Developmental Psychology
- PSYCH 416/HDFS 445 Development Throughout Adulthood

**Psychological Intervention in Childhood**
- PSYCH 474 Psychological Intervention in Childhood

**Applied and Clinical Psychology**
- PSYCH 243 Introduction to Well-being and Positive Psychology
- PSYCH 244 Introduction to the Psychology of Human Factors Engineering
- PSYCH 270 Introduction to Abnormal Psychology
- PSYCH 281 Introduction to Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- PSYCH 370 Psychology of the Differently-Abled
- PSYCH 404 Principles of Measurement
- PSYCH 408 Program Evaluation
- PSYCH 443 Treatment and Education in Developmental Disabilities

**Engineering Psychology**
- PSYCH 444 Engineering Psychology
- PSYCH 445 Forensic Psychology
- PSYCH 470 Abnormal Psychology
- PSYCH 471 Psychology of Adjustment and Social Relationships
- PSYCH 473 Behavior Modification

**Capstone Experience**
- PSYCH 439 History and Systems of Psychology
- PSYCH 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology
- PSYCH 493 Senior Thesis
- PSYCH 494 Research Projects
- PSYCH 495 Internship
- PSYCH 496 Independent Studies

Select 12 credits of additional Psychology courses from any offered for a total of 30 credits of Psychology courses beyond PSYCH 100 and PSYCH 301W.

### 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.
Program Learning Objectives

- **Knowledge Base in Psychology:** Students should demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings to discuss how psychological principles apply to behavioral problems. Students completing Foundation courses should demonstrate breadth of their knowledge and application of psychological ideas to simple problems; students completing a baccalaureate degree should show depth in their knowledge and application of psychological concepts and frameworks to problems of greater complexity.
  - Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology
  - Develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains
  - Describe applications of psychology
- **Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking:** The skills in this domain involve the development of scientific reasoning and problem solving, including effective research methods. Students completing Foundation courses should learn basic skills and concepts in interpreting behavior, studying research, and applying research design principles to drawing conclusions about psychological phenomena; students completing a baccalaureate degree should focus on theory use as well as designing and executing research plans.
  - Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena
  - Demonstrate psychology information literacy
  - Engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving
  - Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research
  - Incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry
- **Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World:** The skills in this domain involve the development of ethically and socially responsible behaviors for professional and personal settings in a landscape that involves increasing diversity. Students completing Foundation courses should become familiar with the formal regulations that govern professional ethics in psychology and begin to embrace the values that will contribute to positive outcomes in work settings and in building a society responsive to multicultural and global concerns. Students completing a baccalaureate degree should have more direct opportunities to demonstrate adherence to professional values that will help them optimize their contributions and work effectively, even with those who don't share their heritage and traditions. This domain also promotes the adoption of personal and professional values that can strengthen community relationships and contributions.
  - Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice
  - Build and enhance interpersonal relationships
  - Adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels
- **Communication:** Students should demonstrate competence in writing, oral, and interpersonal communication skills. Students completing Foundation courses should write a cogent scientific argument, present information using a scientific approach, engage in discussion of psychological concepts, explain the ideas of others, and express their own ideas with clarity. Students completing a baccalaureate degree should produce a research study or other psychological project; explain scientific results, and present information to a professional audience. They should also develop flexible interpersonal approaches that optimize information exchange and relationship development.
  - Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes
  - Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes
  - Interact effectively with others
- **Professional Development:** The emphasis in this goal is on application of psychology-specific content and skills, effective self-reflection, project-management skills, teamwork skills, and career preparation. Foundation outcomes concentrate on the development of work habits and ethics to succeed in academic settings. The skills...
in this goal at the Baccalaureate level refer to abilities that sharpen student readiness for post-baccalaureate employment, graduate school, or professional school. These skills can be developed and refined both in traditional academic settings and extracurricular involvement. In addition, career professionals can be enlisted to support occupational planning and pursuit. This emerging emphasis should not be construed as obligating psychology programs to obtain employment for their graduates, but instead encourages programs to optimize the competitiveness of their graduates for securing places in the workforce.

- Apply psychological content and skills to career goals
- Exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation
- Refine project-management skills
- Enhance teamwork capacity
- Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation

**Academic Advising**

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

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Cory Scherer
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Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2022-23 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (*Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin*).

Psychology, B.A. at Altoona Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

### First Year

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYCH 200-Level Category Selection</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30H‡</td>
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<td>CAS 100‡</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSU 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>General Education Course (GQ)‡</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>B.A. Requirement Course (World Language Level 2 recommended)</td>
<td>3 or 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.A. Requirement (World Language Level 1 recommended)</td>
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<td>16-17</td>
<td>15-16</td>
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### Second Year

<table>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 200-Level Category Selection</td>
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<td>PSYCH 200-level Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>STAT 200‡</td>
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<td>PSYCH 301W</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 200-level Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYCH 200-Level Category Selection</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PSYCH 400-level Course</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>B.A. Requirement Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 202A‡</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective (if needed)</td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>15-18</td>
<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Total Credits 123-129

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/
undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/courcelists/ba-other-cultures/).

**Career Paths**

Graduates of our program enter the workforce or pursue additional education in a variety of programs, including both Master’s and PhD programs in experimental, counseling, school, and clinical psychology.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM (http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/psychology/handbook/)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/psychology/handbook/)

**Professional Resources**

- American Psychology Association (https://www.apa.org/)
- Association for Psychological Science (https://www.psychologicalscience.org/)
- Psi Chi (https://www.psichi.org/)

**Contact**

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http://newkensington.psu.edu/bs-degree-information (http://newkensington.psu.edu/bs-degree-information/)

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http://worthingtonscranon.psu.edu/psychology

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https://york.psu.edu/academics/baccalaureate/psychology