PSYCHOLOGY, B.A. (LIBERAL ARTS)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park, World Campus

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, a minimum of 123 credits is required:

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0-6 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 0-6 credits of 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 world language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, 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. 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 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 the major.

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.

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 following courses are required for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology:

### Code | Title | Credits |
--- | --- | --- |
PSYCH 100 | Introductory Psychology | 3 |
PSYCH 105 | Psychology as a Science and Profession | 3 |
PSYCH 301W | Basic Research Methods in Psychology | 4 |
PSYCH 490 | Senior Seminar in Psychology | 3 |

**Prescribed Courses:** Require a grade of C or better

**Additional Courses:** Require a grade of C or better

Select 6 credits of GQ courses

PSYCH 200 | Elementary Statistics in Psychology | 4 |

or STAT 200 | Elementary Statistics | 4 |

Select 12 credits of 200-level PSYCH courses

At least 3 credits must be from each group a, b, and c:

- **a.**
  - PSYCH 253 | Introduction to Psychology of Perception |
  - PSYCH 256 | Introduction to Cognitive Psychology |
  - PSYCH 260 | Neurological Bases of Human Behavior |

- **b.**
  - PSYCH 212 | Introduction to Developmental Psychology |
  - PSYCH 221 | Introduction to Social Psychology |
  - PSYCH 231 | Introduction to the Psychology of Gender |
  - PSYCH 238 | Introduction to Personality Psychology |

- **c.**
  - PSYCH 243 | Introduction to Well-being and Positive Psychology |
  - PSYCH 269 | Evolutionary Psychology |
  - PSYCH 270 | Introduction to Abnormal Psychology |
  - PSYCH 281 | Introduction to Industrial-Organizational Psychology |

Select 12 credits of PSYCH courses at the 400 level

### Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

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

### Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

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

### Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

### Exploration

- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 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 (https://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.

B.A. Degree Requirements

World Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one world language in addition to English. This proficiency must be demonstrated by either examination or course work. See the Placement Policy for Penn State World Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, World Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; world language credits in this category must be in a second world language in addition to English or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language). Credits must be selected from the list of approved courses.

World Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the University Cultural Diversity (US/IL) requirement.