PSYCHOLOGY, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Psychology minor is designed to provide undergraduate students with a broad overview of topics and domains within psychology, knowledge and skills related to research methods in psychology, and deeper knowledge of research, theory, and application in one or two specific content domains. Students completing this minor will find a flexible selection of coursework in psychology. The content domains from which students may select courses include biological, clinical, cognitive, developmental, industrial-organizational, and social psychology. Students may choose courses that emphasize theory or application of psychological principles. A number of these courses examine the application of psychological research to societal issues.

The required research methods course, Basic Research Methods in Psychology (PSYCH 301), carries a statistics prerequisite that can be met by either Elementary Statistics in Psychology (PSYCH 200) or Elementary Statistics (STAT 200). Elementary Statistics (STAT 200) does not count toward the minimum 18 credits required for the minor. Students minoring in Psychology at University Park are encouraged to consult the Psychology Advising Center early in the process of planning their minor.

The Psychology minor may be appropriate for students pursuing graduate training or professional careers in fields such as health, business, education, and human services, as well as in psychology.

What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of thought, behavior, and experience. Many people associate psychology with psychological therapy and the practice of clinical psychology. There are also many other important areas of scientific psychology, such as cognitive, developmental, industrial/organizational, and social psychology. What these subfields of psychology have in common is the use of the scientific method to understand human behavior and apply that understanding to the development of theory and practice. Psychologists are increasingly making use of neuroscience methods and theories to understand psychological phenomena. As a profession, psychology is related to fields such as health, education, marketing, human resources, social work, and more. The principles of psychology are relevant to almost all areas of human endeavor, and the career paths of psychology students reflect this wealth of possibilities.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to better understand people’s thoughts, feelings, and behavior.
- You want to learn about how the brain works, how it malfunctions, and how it recovers.
- You are interested in child development, mental health, personality, social interactions, organizations, and neuroscience.
- You want a career as a psychologist, counselor, social worker, or other human services professional.
- You want a broad understanding of human behavior to help you pursue a career in any of many fields.

Program Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
<td>18</td>
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Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 301</td>
<td>Basic Research Methods in Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

Additional Courses

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<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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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 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising
814-865-2545
http://starfish.psu.edu
http://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors

Abington

Michael Bernstein
Associate Professor of Psychology
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7479
mjb70@psu.edu

Altoona

Brad Pinter
Associate Professor of Psychology, Department Chair
Smith Building C128A
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5507
tbp1@psu.edu

Beaver
Kevin Bennett
Assistant Teaching Professor of Psychology
100 University Drive
Monaca, PA 15061
724-773-3904
klb48@psu.edu

Berks
Erin Johnson
Program Coordinator, Assistant Professor
Franco 153
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6143
eem139@psu.edu

Brandywine
Joshua Marquit
Assistant Teaching Professor of Psychology
25 Yearsley Mill Road
Media, PA 19063
610-892-1409
jdm53@psu.edu

Greater Allegheny
Advising Office
Academic Affairs
101 Frable Building
4000 University Drive
McKeesport, PA 15132
412-675-9140
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu

Harrisburg
Cobi Michael, Ph.D.
Program Coordinator
Olmsted Building, W311
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6036
ckm292@psu.edu

Schuylkill
Ron Kelly
Administration of Justice and Sociology Minor Program Coordinator
A-124 200 University Drive
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-6075
rap179@psu.edu

Scranton
Renae McNair
Assistant Teaching Professor
Dawson 203
Dunmore, PA 18512
570-963-2715
trw115@psu.edu

Shenango
Billie Jean Horvath

Academic Adviser
147 Shenango Avenue
201 D Sharon Hall
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2860
bjr153@psu.edu

World Campus
Undergraduate Academic Advising
301 Outreach Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-3283
advising@outreach.psu.edu

Contact
University Park
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
125 Moore Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-1811
ugpsychupwc@psu.edu

http://psych.la.psu.edu/

Abington
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7479
mjb70@psu.edu

http://abington.psu.edu/psychological-and-social-sciences

Altoona
DIVISION OF EDUCATION, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Smither Building C128A
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5507
tbp1@psu.edu

http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/psychology/request-information

Beaver
100 University Drive
Monaca, PA 15061
724-773-3904
klb48@psu.edu

http://beaver.psu.edu/psychology-minor

Berks
DIVISION OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Franco Building
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6143
eem139@psu.edu
Brandywine
25 Yearsley Mill Road
Media, PA 19063
610-892-1409
jdm53@psu.edu
http://brandywine.psu.edu/psychology-minor

Greater Allegheny
101 Frable Building
4000 University Drive
McKeesport, PA 15132
412-675-9140
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu
http://greaterallegheny.psu.edu/minors

Harrisburg
SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION
Olmsted Building, W311
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6034
rka12@psu.edu

Schuylkill
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
A-124 200 University Drive
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-6075
rap179@psu.edu
http://www.schuylkill.psu.edu/programs

Scranton
Dawson 203
Dunmore, PA 18512
570-963-2715
trw115@psu.edu

Shenango
DIVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
147 Shenango Avenue
201 Sharon Hall
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2860
bjr153@psu.edu
http://shenango.psu.edu/dus

World Campus
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
125 Moore Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-1811
ugpsychupwc@psu.edu
https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/psychology-minor/overview