

# Psychology, BA

## Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in psychology requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 47-48 s.h. of work for the major, with at least 35 s.h. in psychology courses. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Transfer credits must be approved by the department, and transfer students must complete at least 18 s.h. of psychology courses at the University of Iowa.

In planning coursework, students should be guided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences maximum hours rule: students earning a BA may apply a maximum of 56 s.h. earned in one department to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation, whether or not the coursework is accepted toward requirements for the major; students who earn more than 56 s.h. from one department may use the additional semester hours to satisfy requirements for the major (if the department accepts them), and the grades they earn become part of their grade-point average, but they cannot apply the additional semester hours to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation.

The major for the BA is designed for students who wish to gain considerable knowledge in psychology but do not necessarily plan a professional career in the discipline. It is appropriate for students preparing for careers in law, business, counseling, social work, or secondary school teaching (see the section titled "Teacher Licensure"). It can be combined with a second major more easily than the Bachelor of Science program.

The choice of a degree program should be dictated by a student's personal career goals. BA students interested in pursuing graduate study in psychology or other social sciences may enrich their program by taking courses in mathematics, statistics, research methods, and the natural sciences.

BA and BS students complete the same psychology core and psychology electives. The BA also requires an additional statistics or computer science course plus a second concentration area.

Students are advised to take PSY:1001 Elementary Psychology as the first course in the major; however, if a student must take PSY:1001 for the first time after completing another psychology course with a higher number, the student may do so.

Students must take PSY:1005 Orientation to the Psychology Major: Foundations for Academic and Career Success within one of the next two semesters after they declare the psychology major.

The BA with a major in psychology requires the following courses or their equivalents.

Requirements	Hours
Psychology Core	7
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## Psychology Core

All students complete the following coursework for the psychology core.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
PSY:1001	Elementary Psychology	3
PSY:1005	Orientation to the Psychology Major: Foundations for Academic and Career Success	1
PSY:2811	Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology I	3

## Lower-Level Psychology Requirements

Students take these courses after completing PSY:1001 Elementary Psychology.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
PSY:2301	Introduction to Clinical Psychology	3
PSY:2401	Introduction to Developmental Science	3
PSY:2501	Introduction to Social Psychology	3
PSY:2601	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology	3
PSY:2701	Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience	4
PSY:2812	Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology II	3

## Upper-Level Psychology Electives

Students take three advanced psychology courses (total of 9 s.h.) after satisfactorily completing the psychology core and other specified prerequisites. Psychology courses (prefix PSY) numbered 3000 or above may be used to fulfill this requirement, except those in the following list.

Course #	Title	Hours
PSY:3994	Research Practicum in Psychology	arr.
PSY:3995	Advanced Research Practicum	1-3
PSY:3996	External Practicum in Psychology	1-3
PSY:3997	Teaching/Advising Practicum in Psychology	1-3
PSY:3998	Individual Readings and Projects	1-3
PSY:3999/ BIOL:3999	Independent Research in Neuroscience	2-3
PSY:4020	Laboratory in Psychology	4
PSY:4025	Laboratory in Cognitive Neuroscience	4
PSY:4035	Laboratory in Computational Neuroscience	4
PSY:4090	Psychology Seminar	3
PSY:4990	Honors Thesis Research	1-3

PSY:4995/ Honors Research in arr.  
 BIOL:4995 Neuroscience

## Additional Requirements

### Cognate Requirement

Students complete one of the following math, statistics, or computer science courses.

Course #	Title	Hours
<b>Statistics</b>		
BIOS:4120	Introduction to Biostatistics	3
STAT:1020/ PSQF:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
STAT:1030	Statistics for Business	4
STAT:3510/ IGPI:3510	Biostatistics	3
STAT:4143/ PSQF:4143	Introduction to Statistical Methods	3
<b>Computer Science</b>		
CS:1020	Principles of Computing	3
CS:1110	Introduction to Computer Science	3
CS:1210	Computer Science I: Fundamentals	4
<b>Mathematics</b>		
MATH:1860	Calculus II	4
MATH:2700	Introduction to Linear Algebra	4

### Second Concentration Area

Students complete 9 s.h. of graded coursework in a single department other than the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. Courses used to fulfill this requirement must be taken at the University of Iowa and may not be used to fulfill GE CLAS Core requirements. A second major or a minor may be used to fulfill the requirement.

### Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.