

Psychology Major Requirements

The Psychology Department offers two major degree programs: a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and a Bachelor of Science (B.S.). Each of these requires 39 hours of coursework within the Department of Psychology. In addition, the B.S. requires 12 hours of additional coursework outside of the department (see back of this form).

| Course Requirement | Term/Year | Hours |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| PSY 1 – Introductory Psychology | | |
| PSY 11 – Statistics | | |
| PSY 13 – Research Methods | | |

Notes:

Students must pass PSY 11 and PSY 13 (or equivalent) with a “C” grade (not C-) or better to major in psychology and to take any upper level courses for which PSY 11 and PSY 13 are prerequisites.

Students complete 16 hours of upper-division coursework in psychology. These hours exclude all non-capstone independent studies, research seminars, and internships.

One of the following courses with labs:

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| PSY 120/121 – Conditioning & Learning | | |
| PSY 123 – Biological Basis of Behavior | | |
| PSY 125 – Cognitive Psychology | | |
| PSY 126 – Comparative Psychology | | |
| PSY 130 – Experimental Social Psych | | |
| PSY 133 – Psychological Assessment | | |

At least one course must be completed in each of the following four areas. A theme may be filled by a lab course.

| Theme A. Sensation, Perception, & Biopsychology | Term | Hrs | Theme B. Learning, Cognition, & Memory | Term | Hrs |
|---|------|-----|--|------|-----|
| PSY 24 – Animal Behavior | | | PSY 25 – Cognitive Processes | | |
| PSY 28 – Drugs and Behavior | | | PSY 60 – Principles of Behavior | | |
| PSY 122 – Sensation & Perception | | | PSY 120/121 – Conditioning & Learning | | |
| PSY 123 – Biological Basis of Behavior | | | PSY 125 – Cognitive Psychology | | |
| PSY 124 – Health Psychology | | | PSY 126 – Comparative Psychology | | |
| PSY 127 – Behavior Genetics | | | PSY 129 – Primate Cognition | | |
| PSY 128 – Hormones & Behavior | | | PSY 162 – Applied Behavior Analysis | | |

| Theme C. Clinical, Personality, & Assessment | Term | Hrs | Theme D. Developmental, Social, & Organizational | Term | Hrs |
|--|------|-----|--|------|-----|
| PSY 50 – Psychology of Creativity | | | PSY 30 – Social Psychology | | |
| PSY 70 – Intro to Counseling Techniques | | | PSY 42 – Child and Adolescent Psych | | |
| PSY 76 – Abnormal Psychology | | | PSY 44 – Adult Development and Aging | | |
| PSY 81 – Human Sexuality | | | PSY 85 – Organizational Psychology | | |
| PSY 132 – Theories of Personality | | | PSY 130 – Experimental Social Psych | | |
| PSY 133 – Psychological Assessment | | | PSY 135 – Psychology of Prejudice | | |
| PSY 137 – Psychology of Gender | | | PSY 138 – Multicultural Psychology | | |
| PSY 172 – Trauma & Recovery | | | PSY 142 – Behavioral Analysis of Child Development | | |
| PSY 176 – Advanced Psychopathology | | | PSY 148 – Psych of Dev. Disabilities | | |
| PSY 177 – Fund. Of Clinical Psych | | | PSY 183 – Industrial Psychology | | |
| PSY 179 – Understanding Suicide | | | | | |

| Psych Electives | Capstone in Psych | Total Hours: | /39 |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Psych courses not listed above may count as electives. These include PSY 12, PSY 111, and PSY 95/195 special topic classes. | PSY 145 – Applied Professional Ethics | Upper-division Hours: | /16 |
| | PSY 151 – History and Systems | Cumulative GPA: | |
| | PSY 190C/191C PSY 192C | Students must obtain a minimum GPA of 2.0 (computed across all PSY courses) to graduate with a B.A. or a B.S. in Psychology | |

B.S. Non-Psychology Course Requirement

An additional 12 hours of coursework must be successfully completed in natural science courses outside of the Department of Psychology. These courses include Astronomy, BCMB, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Mathematics (20 or above), Physics, select HSCI courses, and NSCI courses not cross-listed with Psychology.

Note: 8 of the 12 hours must be from courses that include a laboratory component.

| Course | Term/Year | Hours |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|
| | | |
| Total Hours | | /12 |

Capstone Options:

Students should work closely with their faculty advisors to find an appropriate psychology capstone experience to fulfill the requirements of the Drake Curriculum (To be counted as a capstone, the experience must be the equivalent of 3 credit hours, and cannot be taken as pass/fail) No experience should be considered “approved” until the student has consulted the faculty advisor.

Note: occasionally, faculty may offer a senior seminar on a topic of current interest in psychology. Active participation in discussion and substantial written work will be required of seminar students.

| Capstone Courses | Research Experience (PSY 190C, PSY 191C) | Internship (PSY 192C) | Group Projects |
|---|--|---|--|
| Courses designated as senior capstone experiences (History and Systems of Psychology – Psy 151, and Applied Professional Ethics in Psychology – Psy 145) may complete the capstone requirement. | A student may, with faculty guidance, complete and independent scholarly project. This project may be empirical or theoretical in nature, and must result in a scholarly product at the end. | A student may work in a setting relevant to his/her interests in psychology a minimum of 10 hours a week for at least one semester. The internship experience must result in a scholarly product at the end. (Prerequisite: 2.8 GPA) | Under faculty guidance, small groups of students may work together on an original project, perhaps in the context of research seminar course. All members must contribute equally. |

Important Notes

1. Of the 39 credit hours in psychology required for the major, 18 credit hours that do not include independent study, research seminars, or internships must be taken at Drake. A minimum of 9 of these must be upper-division psychology credit hours.
2. Students may take both STAT 71 and STAT 72 or BIO 140 as substitutes for PSY 11. These students will need to take additional credit hours in psychology to reach the 39 hours of Psychology coursework needed for the major.
3. Students who are interested in graduate school in psychology are encouraged to take History and Systems (PSY 151), Independent Study (PSY 90/91 or PSY 190/191) and participate in a Research Seminar (PSY 198). These courses will count towards the Arts and Sciences degree. Additional courses strongly recommended for majors with GPAs of 3.00 and above who are interested in graduate study: Advanced Statistics (PSY 111) and two laboratory courses: one human, one animal.
4. Independent Study/Internship: A maximum of 6 credit hours of independent study and/or internship may be counted toward the 39 hours required for the major.
5. Travel Study Seminar (PSY 194) and Topical Seminar (PSY 95 and PSY 195 courses count toward the Psychology major.
6. Students are encouraged to take courses in the Arts and Sciences that will improve their verbal, quantitative, and critical reasoning skills.