

PSYCHOLOGY, B.S. (ALTOONA)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Altoona

Degree Requirements

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

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	14-18
Requirements for the Major	65

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.

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 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYCH 301W	Basic Research Methods in Psychology	4
Additional Courses ¹		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PSYCH 200	Elementary Statistics in Psychology	4
or STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	
Select 18 credits of the following, with a minimum of 3 credits from each of the following six categories:		18
<i>Learning and Cognition</i>		
PSYCH 256	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology	
PSYCH 261	Introduction to Psychology of Learning	
PSYCH 268	Animal Minds	
PSYCH 426	Language and Thought	
PSYCH 427	Language Acquisition	
PSYCH 452	Learning and Memory	
PSYCH 456	Advanced Cognitive Psychology	
PSYCH 457	Psychology of Language	
PSYCH 458	Visual Cognition	
PSYCH 459		
PSYCH 461	Advanced Conditioning and Learning	
<i>Social and Personality Psychology</i>		
PSYCH 221	Introduction to Social Psychology	

PSYCH 231	Introduction to the Psychology of Gender
PSYCH 232	Cross-Cultural Psychology
PSYCH 238	Introduction to Personality Psychology
PSYCH 419	Psychology and a Sustainable World
PSYCH 420	Advanced Social Psychology
PSYCH 421	Self and Social Judgment
PSYCH 423	Social Psychology of Interpersonal/Intergroup Relationships
PSYCH 424	Applied Social Psychology
PSYCH 432	Multicultural Psychology in America
PSYCH 438	Personality Theory
PSYCH 479	The Psychology of Gender
<i>Biological Bases of Behavior</i>	
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
<i>Developmental Psychology</i>	
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
PSYCH 474	Psychological Intervention in Childhood
<i>Applied and Clinical Psychology</i>	
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
PSYCH 444	Engineering Psychology
PSYCH 445	Forensic Psychology
PSYCH 470	Abnormal Psychology
PSYCH 471	Psychology of Adjustment and Social Relationships
PSYCH 473	Behavior Modification
PSYCH 476	Child Psychopathology
PSYCH 477	Mental Health Practicum with Children
PSYCH 481	Introduction to Clinical Psychology

PSYCH 482	Selection and Assessment in Organizations	
PSYCH 484	Work Attitudes and Motivation	
PSYCH 485	Leadership in Work Settings	
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		12
Requirements for the Option		
Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better		
Select an option		24

¹ Must select at least 15 credits at the 400-level.

**Requirements for the Option
Science Option (24 credits)**

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Beaver, Berks, Brandywine, Fayette, Greater Allegheny, Hazleton, Lehigh Valley, Mont Alto, New Kensington, Schuylkill, Scranton, York

Code	Title	Credits
Additional Courses		
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 15 credits of the following:		15
ANTH 21	Introductory Biological Anthropology	
ANTH 22	Humans as Primates	
BBH 101	Introduction to Biobehavioral Health	
Any BIOL course		
Any CHEM course		
Any MICRB course		
Any PHYS course		
Supporting Courses		
Supporting Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 6 credits in natural sciences/quantification from department list		6
Select 3 credits in social and behavioral sciences from department list		3

Business Option (24 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Beaver, Berks, Brandywine, Fayette, Greater Allegheny, Hazleton, Lehigh Valley, Mont Alto, New Kensington, Schuylkill, Scranton, York

Code	Title	Credits
Additional Courses		
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 15 credits of the following:		15
Any ACCTG course		
BA 100	Introduction to Business	
BA 241 & BA 242	Legal Environment of Business and Social and Ethical Environment of Business	

or BA 243	Social, Legal, and Ethical Environment of Business	
Any ECON course		
Any FIN course		
Any HPA course		
Any IB course		
Any MGMT course		
Any MKTG course		
Any SCM course except SCM 200		
Supporting Courses		
<i>Supporting Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 6 credits in natural sciences/quantification from department list ¹		6
Select 3 credits in social and behavioral sciences from department list		3

¹ MATH 22 or MATH 110 recommended.

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 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/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.