

# SAMPLE Four-Year Plan

## B.S. Psychology

### FALL 2023 Requirements

The curriculum in the psychology major is flexible and allows students to progress through their requirements in many ways. This sample four-year plan illustrates only one of the many possible pathways a new student could take to complete a degree in four years. This is not an official or prescriptive document and it does not show the only way that a psychology degree can be completed in four years. Current students should refer to their individual Academic Advising Report in WINS for specific graduation requirements. Courses in bold indicate major-based coursework that is completed in the first year.

#### First Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
English 101 Intro to College Writing and Reading	3	English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
<b>Psychology 211 Introductory Psychology</b>	3	<b>Math 139 Quant Reasoning or 142 College Algebra</b>	3-4
<b>Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society</b>	3	<b>Psychology Elective course</b>	3
U.S. Racial/Ethnic Diversity course	3	Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3
General Education elective	3	General Education elective	3
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1		
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15-16</b>

**Notes:** The math and English courses you will take during your first year will depend on exam scores. This four-year plan reflects the math and English courses most common for students in this major. All students are encouraged to provide test scores prior to attending Warhawks SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration). Students who are considering graduate school or who are interested in a minor or double major in the natural sciences (biology, chemistry, physics) should select Math 142. Psychology 211 is Introductory Psychology, a course that is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses. It should not be confused with Psychology 101, which is a one-credit introduction to the psychology major. Students are advised to take Psychology 101 as a sophomore or rising junior.

**Opportunities:** The Get Psyched learning experience is a great option for first-year students interested in the psychology major.

#### Second Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Psych 215 Basic Statistical Methods	3	Psych 216 Research Methods	5
Psychology 300-Level course	3	Psych 101 Introduction to the Psychology Major	1
University Requirement Lab Science (GL) course	4-5	University Requirement GN/GQ course	3
Gened CORE 140 Global or 120 Historical Perspectives	3	Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3
PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1	Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>14-15</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

**Notes:** Psychology 300-level courses should be chosen in consultation with a psychology advisor. All majors must complete at least one 300-level course in each of these four areas: Biological Processes; Cognition and Learning; Personality, Development, and Social; Adjustment and Disorders. Students with strong interest in a career in the human services areas of psychology are encouraged to enroll in Psychology 327 Introduction to Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychology (an option in the Adjustment and Disorders area). The numbering of the 300-level course options does not reflect a recommended sequence through those courses. That is, students may take any 300-level course as their first 300-level course.

**Opportunities:** Consider joining Psych Club, an extracurricular organization open to anyone interested in psychology. Also, explore options for minors and certificates. Certificates document expertise and skills in particular areas. Psychology majors may be especially interested in certificates in Applied Research, Corporate Social Responsibility, Diversity Leadership, Interdisciplinary Ethics, or Professional Writing and Publishing.



University of Wisconsin  
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## Psychology Department Contact Information

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<http://www.uww.edu/cls/departments/psychology>

### Third Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Psychology 300-Level course	3	Psychology 300-Level course	3
Psychology 300-Level course	3	Psychology Elective	3
Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3	BS Requirement Lab Science course	4-5
BS Requirement Math/Stats/CompSci course	3	Minor course	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16-17</b>

**Notes:** Students who intend to apply to graduate programs in psychology should be aware that graduate school applications are usually due at the end of the fall semester of the senior year. Therefore, relevant experiences and coursework undertaken in the fourth year, especially spring semester of the fourth year, do not usually appear on graduate school applications. This means that it is important to start these experiences in the junior year or earlier.

**Opportunities:** Students who intend to apply to graduate programs in psychology are strongly encouraged to consider undergraduate research opportunities. The junior year is an optimal time to connect with faculty research mentors and begin an undergraduate research project. Students can receive course credit for undergraduate research by enrolling in Psychology 498 Independent Study, 498R Undergraduate Research, and/or 499 Senior Thesis. Students with a strong interest in a career in the human services areas of psychology are encouraged to enroll in Psychology 487 Field Training. Instructor consent is required to enroll.

### Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Psychology 400-Level course	3	Psychology 400-Level course	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
Minor course	3	Electives to total 120 (if needed)	6-9
Elective course	3		
Elective course	3		
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12-15</b>

**Notes:** Students who intend to apply to graduate programs in psychology are strongly encouraged to complete a senior thesis or other capstone project. Also, applications are due in late fall and early winter so you should be lining up those letters of recommendations by the start of this year.

**Opportunities:** Take advantage of the services in the Career and Leadership Development Office when exploring your post-college options. Students interested in entering the workforce should seek extracurricular development opportunities, such as internships in government or the private sector, volunteer opportunities, and other résumé-building activities. LSINDP 399: Career Information in Letters and Sciences is a 1-credit course that focuses on career and graduate school opportunities; identifying skills, strengths, and work values; creating effective job search materials; developing a networking strategy; and planning to a successful post-graduation transition.

**Planning for Graduation:** Students are encouraged to apply for graduation one full semester prior to their intended graduation date. Information about commencement is on the Registrar's Office website (<http://www.uww.edu/registrar/graduation>) and the application for graduation is available to students in the WINS Student Information System.

*Curriculum effective date: Spring 2021*



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