

Psychology, B.A.

DEPARTMENT

Department of Psychology

Constance Jones, Chair
Science II Building, Room 312
559.278.2691
www.fresnostate.edu/csm/psych

PREB in Pre-Psychology
MN in Psychology, Minor
BA in Psychology, B.A.
MA in Psychology, M.A.
MA in Psychology - Applied Behavior Analysis Option, M.A.
EDS in Psychology, Ed.S.
Courses Offered

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior -- including human thought, emotion, and action -- and the application of scientific knowledge to the solution of real-world problems. It includes a wide variety of topics, including perception, learning, memory, thinking, emotion, personality, social interaction, development, and abnormal behavior. Psychologists recognize that understanding behavior in all its complexity requires studying it from multiple perspectives. A thorough understanding of memory, for example, requires knowledge ranging from the neural structures and processes that underlie it to the social and cultural forces that influence it.

Students majoring in psychology take core courses in general psychology, statistics, and research methodology, along with additional courses in each of the primary areas of the discipline. There are also numerous opportunities for students to supplement their coursework with hands-on experience in faculty research labs and in the field under faculty supervision. Advanced and well-qualified students can participate in our senior honors program. These students design, conduct, and present an original research project as a senior thesis.

Psychology majors learn to think critically, write and speak clearly, identify and solve problems, and work effectively both individually and in groups. As a result, the study of psychology provides excellent preparation for graduate study and careers in a variety of fields.

REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements Psychology Major

1. Major requirements (43-52 units)

- A. Core Courses (all required): PSYCH 10, 42, 63, 144 (14 units)
- B. Basic Knowledge and Skills (select 1): PSYCH 36, 60T, 66, 145 (1-5 units)
- C. Basic Applications (select 1): PSYCH 136, 162, 169, 175, 176 (3-4 units)
- D. Advanced Applications (select 1): PSYCH 143, 149, 171S, 172, 177, 178S, 179 (4 units)
- E. Advanced Content (select 2): PSYCH 154, 155, 156 (8 units)
- F. Advanced Processes (select 2): PSYCH 121, 122, 124, 125, 128 (8 units)
- G. Integration: PSYCH 182 (4 units)
- H. Advanced Topics (select 1): PSYCH 120T, 123, 127, 140T, 150T, 151, 152, 157, 160T, 163, 170T, 180T, 184A, 184B (1-5 units)
- I. Psychology Electives (see Advising Note 5)

2. General Education requirements (49 units)

3. Other requirements (6 units)

Upper-division writing and Multicultural and International (MI)

4. Sufficient elective units to meet required total units (varies)

(See Degree Requirements); may be used toward a double major or minor.

5. Total units (120)*

* G.E. and MI courses can be double-counted with major requirements. The writing requirement may be met by taking the upper-division writing exam. This total indicates that 3 units of PSYCH 10 in G.E. Breadth D3 may be applied to the psychology major. In addition, G.E. certified courses that are equivalent to PSYCH 10 and PSYCH 42 taken at another CSU campus or a public California community or junior college may be applied to the major. Courses that meet both major and G.E. requirements require adjustment of elective hours to reach the 120 unit total requirement. Consult the department advising office for additional details and guidance on electives.

Advising Notes

1. Students desiring to major in psychology must do the following before being permitted to enroll in restricted, 100-level psychology courses (courses with prerequisites):
 - a. formally apply to the major, at which time they will be placed in a pre-psychology major category, and
 - b. complete PSYCH 10, 42, 63, and 144 (or their equivalents) with grades of C or better and have earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0.
2. Students may apply for upper-division psychology major status in the Psychology Department Office during the semester in which they expect to successfully complete the core course requirements. Approval will be contingent upon satisfactory fulfillment of these requirements.
3. All students, including transfer students and students changing to the psychology major, must request the Psychology Department to screen their transcripts (to be provided by the student) for successful completion of the requirements before enrollment in restricted, 100-level psychology courses will be permitted. Currently enrolled students who wish to change to the psychology major must first obtain the change-of-major form in the north lobby, Joyal Administration Building.
4. General Education and elective units may be used toward a double major or minor (see Double Major or departmental minor). Consult the appropriate department chair, program coordinator, or faculty advisor for further information.
5. CR/NC grading is not permitted in the psychology major.
6. General Education and elective units may be used toward a double major or minor (see double major or departmental minor). Consult the appropriate department chair, program coordinator, or faculty advisor for further information.
7. Students who complete all courses required in the major may be cleared with a minimum of 44 units for the psychology major. Although not required, psychology electives may be applied toward the major and may be used to meet the required minimum total of 44 units for the psychology major.

FACULTY

All full-time faculty members in the department have a Ph.D. in psychology or a closely related field. Their areas of expertise represent the breadth of contemporary scientific psychology. In addition to being dedicated teachers, most faculty members also conduct and publish original research. Many are also licensed or certified as practitioners of clinical psychology, school psychology, or applied behavior analysis.

For faculty phone numbers and e-mail, see the campus directory.

For more on the faculty, see the faculty pages.

The faculty pages are updated by the department or program.