Psychology

The undergraduate program in psychology provides a broad general education in the tradition of the liberal arts. This tradition focuses on the development of wide-ranging interests in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, and on the development of critical and analytical thinking. A student who has earned a degree in one of the liberal arts, such as psychology, should be prepared to pursue lifelong learning and personal enrichment, as well as enter the work force or pursue advanced studies.

Graduates of the psychology program who have entered the work force immediately have found employment in a wide variety of settings, ranging from sales and personnel work in the business sector, to positions with the human service agencies of local, state, and federal governments. Graduates who have gone on to advanced study have successfully prepared themselves for professional careers in such fields as business, law, medicine, and psychology.

Students planning to apply to medical schools or law after completing a major in psychology should plan their programs of study in close consultation with the pre-medical or pre-law advisors on campus. Students planning to apply for admission to graduate study in psychology should plan their undergraduate program of study very carefully in consultation with advisors in the Department of Psychology. At least two years, and as many as six years, of graduate study are required for qualification as a professional psychologist.

Students who enter the University with a major in psychology should meet with the director of undergraduate studies as soon as possible after arrival at the University in order to discuss their interests and plans of study. Students already at the University who wish to change to a major in psychology should contact the office of the director of undergraduate studies in order to initiate the request for a change of major.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Core Curriculum Requirements (PSYC 102 is required to satisfy social science and degree requirements)</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Liberal Arts Academic Requirements - ENGL, Global Studies, and FL</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for Major in Psychology</td>
<td>39-42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- PSYC 102 (with a grade of C- or better) (3)
- PSYC 202 (with a grade of C- or better) 1
- Any MATH course that meets University Core Curriculum Requirements (3)
- PSYC 211, PSYC 311 (passed with a grade of C- or better, completion of 211 before senior year recommended) 8
- Psychology Electives 29-30
Ten courses from the list below. At least six must be from Groups A, B, and C, with at least one course from each of these three groups. A minimum of three courses must be chosen at the 400-level from among the total offerings in the A, B, and C Groups and PSYC 489 in Group D.

Group A: PSYC 233, PSYC 237, PSYC 301, PSYC 303, PSYC 304, PSYC 305, PSYC 306, PSYC 307, PSYC 331, PSYC 333, PSYC 334, PSYC 431, PSYC 432, PSYC 440, PSYC 451, PSYC 453, PSYC 461, PSYC 464, PSYC 470, CI 403

Group B: PSYC 302, PSYC 308, PSYC 309, PSYC 310, PSYC 312, PSYC 345, PSYC 402, PSYC 407, PSYC 409, PSYC 415, PSYC 416, PSYC 417, PSYC 419, PSYC 443, PSYC 445, PSYC 471

Group C: PSYC 223, PSYC 314, PSYC 322, PSYC 323, PSYC 340, PSYC 405, PSYC 411, PSYC 420, PSYC 421, PSYC 425, PSYC 441, PSYC 465, PSYC 480

Group D: PSYC 222, PSYC 389, PSYC 391, PSYC 392, PSYC 393, PSYC 394, PSYC 489, PSYC 499A, PSYC 499B, QUAN 402, MATH 282

Of all credits that a student completes for PSYC 391, PSYC 392, PSYC 393, and PSYC 394, a maximum of three hours may count toward the major. A total of nine hours of these courses may count toward the 120 hours to graduate.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Electives</th>
<th>29-30</th>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
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1 Courses in parenthesis will also count toward the 39 hours of University Core Curriculum requirements. All courses counted toward the Psychology Major must have a combined GPA of 2.0.

**Parent Training Specialization**

Psychology majors intending to pursue careers as mental health counselors and therapists providing services to children and families may wish to pursue a specialization in Parent Training. The specialization includes course work focused on psychological development across the child and adolescent lifespan, child and adolescent psychopathology, training in helping skills, and evidence-based parenting strategies to promote positive relationships and develop effective disciplinary techniques.
## Parent Training Specialization Requirements

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<tr>
<td>Any MATH course that meets University Core Curriculum Requirements.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 211, PSYC 311 (passed with a grade of C- or better, completion of PSYC 211 before senior year recommended)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialization requirements: PSYC 301, PSYC 451 or PSYC 391, PSYC 303, PSYC 432, PSYC 425, PSYC 441 or PSYC 393</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology Electives</td>
<td>12</td>
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Four additional courses from the list below. At least six courses for the Major in total must be from Groups A, B, and C, with at least one course from each of these three groups.

- **Group A:** PSYC 233, PSYC 237, PSYC 301, PSYC 303, PSYC 304, PSYC 305, PSYC 306, PSYC 307, PSYC 331, PSYC 333, PSYC 334, PSYC 431, PSYC 432, PSYC 440, PSYC 451, PSYC 453, PSYC 461, PSYC 464, PSYC 470, CI 403
- **Group B:** PSYC 302, PSYC 308, PSYC 309, PSYC 310, PSYC 312, PSYC 345, PSYC 402, PSYC 407, PSYC 409, PSYC 415, PSYC 416, PSYC 417, PSYC 419, PSYC 443, PSYC 445, PSYC 471
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Of all credits that a student completes for PSYC 391, PSYC 392, PSYC 393, and PSYC 394, a maximum of three hours may count toward the
Degree Requirements

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1 Courses in parenthesis will also count toward the 39 hours of University Core Curriculum requirements. All courses counted toward the Psychology Major must have a combined GPA of 2.0.

Psychology Minor

A minor in psychology requires the successful completion of at least 15 semester hours (five courses) in courses offered by the Department of Psychology and acceptable to the department for fulfillment of major requirements. PSYC 393 may not be included. A maximum of three hours from PSYC 391, 392 or 394 may count toward the minor. To count as one of the five required courses, three credits must be completed in 391, 392 or 394. Courses in other departments, such as the Department of Counseling, Quantitative Methods and Special Education, do not fulfill minor requirements. All courses counted toward the Psychology Minor must have a combined GPA of 2.0. Students completing a minor in psychology for purposes of qualifying to teach psychology in the State of Illinois must complete a minimum of 20 semester hours in psychology.

A student wishing to complete a minor in psychology must apply to the Department of Psychology for approval of the program of study for the minor. Without this approval the minor will not be officially listed on the student’s transcript at the time of graduation. Application forms are available in the office of the director of undergraduate studies in psychology.

Courses taken at other institutions may count towards the minor only if those courses are acceptable for transfer credit in psychology. If credit is not accepted for transfer, a revised application for the minor must be approved. No more than two transfer courses can count toward a minor.

Neuroscience Minor

The Neuroscience Minor in Psychology is an interdisciplinary course of study that will provide students an understanding of the neural foundations underlying behavior. Students will be required to take coursework in different areas of neuroscience. In addition, students will be required to participate in ongoing research in a laboratory of their choosing. Students from many different majors will find the neuroscience courses addressing brain and behavior appealing and practical for their future professions. The students will come to understand that neuroscience spans levels from the molecular to the psychological in both humans and other animals.

A minor in neuroscience requires the successful completion of 19 semester hours in courses listed within the minor with a combined GPA of 2.0 or greater and a minimum GPA of 2.0 in both PSYC 302 and PSYC 415. The minor requires PSYC 302-3, PSYC 415-4, and PSYC 392-6 (13 credit hours combined) and six credit hours of approved elective courses (three credit hours must be at the 400 level). The list of approved elective courses will be routinely updated to include timely special topics courses. Please contact the Neuroscience Minor Coordinator for a current list of approved courses.

A student wishing to complete the neuroscience minor must apply to the Department of Psychology for approval of the program of study. Without this approval the minor will not be officially listed on the student’s transcript at the time of graduation. Application forms are available in the Undergraduate Office in the Psychology department.

Courses taken at other institutions may apply towards the minor only if those courses are acceptable for transfer credit with the home department that offers the course. If credit is not accepted for transfer, a revised application for the minor must be approved. No more than two transfer courses can count toward the minor. No more than two courses can count towards both the Psychology major and the Neuroscience minor.
Neuroscience Minor requirements: PSYC 302 (C- or better), PSYC 415 (C- or better), PSYC 392 (six
credit hours) Electives: Two additional courses from the list below; one course must be at the 400-level:
PSYC 222, PSYC 304, PSYC 308, PSYC 309, PSYC 310, PSYC 312, PSYC 314, PSYC 331, PSYC 402,
PSYC 416, PSYC 417, PSYC 419, PSYC 489 (with approval of Neuroscience Minor Coordinator)

Transfer Credit

Credit for a course in psychology successfully completed at another accredited institution will be
transferred to meet major or minor requirements in psychology at SIU Carbondale, subject to the following
conditions:
1. The course number must bear a departmental prefix clearly indicating the course is a psychology
course. Examples are PSYCH and PSYC.
2. The course must have covered substantially the same content material as a course currently offered at
SIU to meet major requirements.
3. Credit for a course completed at a community or junior college is not transferable if the corresponding
course at SIU is offered at the 400-level.
4. A grade point average of 2.0 or higher must have been earned in the course.
5. No more than five transfer courses can count for the major, and no more than two transfer courses can
count toward a minor.
6. All transfers of credit to meet major or minor requirements in psychology must be explicitly approved by
the department of psychology.

Courses from other institutions that do not meet these conditions may still be acceptable for elective credit
to meet general University requirements. Students should consult their departmental or college advisor
about such courses.

Senior Honors Program

A small number of students are selected each year for the honors program. Selection criteria are
promising academic performance (3.0 overall grade point average and 3.25 psychology grade point
average minimum), expressed interest, recommendation by departmental advisor, and capacity of
program to take new students. Emphasis is on small seminar and individual research work by the student.
Concurrent membership in the University Honors Program is strongly encouraged.