

PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR, B.A.

In the undergraduate study of psychology, the emphasis is on a broad acquaintance with the behavioral sciences, not specialization. The subject matter is preparatory to a career in psychology either in basic research and teaching, or in any number of professional applications to various human problems. A psychology major may prove valuable to those planning other professional careers such as medicine, law, education, or business, as well as to those who seek a broad cultural background in the behavioral sciences.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the psychology (B.A., B.S.) and/or neuroscience (B.S.) programs, students will attain the following:


- **Knowledge Base:** Demonstrate knowledge of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology and/or neuroscience, including its links to other disciplines.
- **Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking Skills:** Apply basic research methods in psychology and/or neuroscience, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation. Demonstrate scientific reasoning and problem solving.
- **Ethics, Social Responsibility and Responsible Conduct of Research:** Demonstrate use of empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, be mindful of diversity and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology and/or neuroscience as a science.
- **Communication:** Demonstrate competence in writing and in oral communication skills. Ability to produce a research study or other neuroscience and/or psychology project, explain its scientific results and present information.
- **Individual and Professional Development:** Develop the ability to apply psychology and/or neuroscience content, skills, project management and teamwork skills to career preparation. Apply psychological and/or neuroscience principles to personal, social, and organizational issues. Become aware of career opportunities and paths towards career goals.

Requirements





In addition to the program requirements, students must

- earn a minimum final cumulative GPA of 2.000
- complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC–Chapel Hill courses
- take at least half of their major core requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC–Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.000 in the major core requirements. Some programs may require higher standards for major or specific courses.

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Hours
Gateway Course		
PSYC 101	 General Psychology (with a grade of C or better)	3

Core Requirements

PSYC 210	 Statistical Principles of Psychological Research ^H	3
PSYC 270	 Research Methods in Psychology ^{1,2}	3
One course below 400 from four of the five following psychology program areas:		12
Behavioral and Integrative Neuroscience:		
NSCI 221	Neuropsychopharmacology	
NSCI 222	Learning ^H	
NSCI 225	Sensation and Perception ^{3,H}	
PSYC 220	Biopsychology ^H	
Clinical:		
PSYC 242	Introduction to Clinical Psychology ^H	
PSYC 245	Psychopathology ^H	
Cognitive:		
NSCI 225	Sensation and Perception ^{3,H}	
PSYC 230	Cognitive Psychology ^H	
Developmental:		
PSYC 250	Child Development ^H	
Social:		
PSYC 260	Social Psychology ^H	
Two additional PSYC and/or NSCI courses numbered between 395 and 699; may not include PSYC 493 or NSCI 493 ⁴		6
One additional PSYC and/or NSCI course above 101; may not include PSYC 190 or NSCI 190. ⁴		3
Additional Requirements		
BIOL 101 & 101L	 Principles of Biology and  Introductory Biology Laboratory ^{H,F}	4
One non-Psychology and Neuroscience Department course which comes from the Allied Science list (see below)		3
One additional non-Psychology and Neuroscience Department quantitative reasoning course (FC-QUANT) not used to fulfill the FC-QUANT Gen Ed requirement or any other requirement in the psychology major.		3-4
Total Hours		40-41

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

^F FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

¹ Psychology and Neuroscience double majors may also use any NSCI 27* course to fulfill this requirement.

² Psychology and Human Development Family Studies double majors may also use EDUC 408 to fulfill this requirement.

³ NSCI 225 can meet either the behavioral neuroscience or cognitive requirement, but not both.










⁴ Up to 3-credit hours of the following may be used to fulfill one core major requirement: PSYC 395/NSCI 395, PSYC 693H/NSCI 693H or PSYC 694H/NSCI 694H.



A student may submit a maximum of 45 credit hours from the department (this includes both PSYC and NSCI courses) towards the completion of the B.A. degree.








Students planning to enter graduate programs in psychology are urged to include a research-intensive course such as PSYC 395, NSCI 395, PSYC 530, or PSYC 693H and PSYC 694H in their program as well as a course in software programming/coding.

Students interested in medical and/or health careers are strongly encouraged to connect with Pre-professional & Pre-graduate Advising (<https://careers.unc.edu/students/pre-professional-pre-graduate-advising/>) and Health Professions Advising (<https://hpa.unc.edu/explore/explore-health-careers/medicine/>). Particularly note that medical and/or health professional schools may recommend, though not require, psychology courses.

Allied Science Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Anthropology		
ANTH 143	Human Evolution and Adaptation	3
ANTH 148	 Human Origins	3
ANTH 217	 Human Biology in Comparative Perspective	3
ANTH 298	 Biological Anthropology Theory and Practice	3
ANTH 315	 Human Genetics and Evolution	3
ANTH 318	 Human Growth and Development	3
ANTH 412	Paleoanthropology	3
ANTH 413	 Laboratory Methods: Archaeobotany	3
ANTH 414	 Laboratory Methods: Human Osteology	3
ANTH 415	 Laboratory Methods: Zooarchaeology	3
ANTH 416	 Bioarchaeology	3
ANTH 423	Written in Bone: CSI and the Science of Death Investigation from Skeletal Remains	3
ANTH 437	Evolutionary Medicine	3
ANTH 471	Biocultural Perspectives on Maternal and Child Health	3
Astronomy		
ASTR ---	Any course above ASTR 99 except ASTR 390	
Biochemistry		
BIOC 107	Introduction to Biochemistry	4
BIOC 108	Introduction to Biochemistry	4
Biology		
BIOL ---	Any course above BIOL 101, except BIOL 195, BIOL 290, BIOL 291, BIOL 292, BIOL 293, BIOL 294, BIOL 295, BIOL 296, BIOL 395, BIOL 410, BIOL 490, and BIOL 495	
Biomedical Engineering		
BMME 150	Introduction to Materials Science	3
BMME 207	Biomedical Electronics	4
BMME 301	Human Physiology: Electrical Analysis	4
BMME 315	Biotransport	3
BMME 335	Biomaterials	3
BMME 385	Bioinstrumentation	3
BMME 405	Biomechanics of Movement	3

BMME 420	Introduction to Synthetic Biology	3
BMME 435	Biological Physics	3
BMME 445	Systems Neuroscience	3
BMME 455	Biofluid Mechanics	3
BMME 470	Analysis of Tissue Engineering Technologies	3
BMME 485	Biotechnology	3
BMME 505	Skeletal Biomechanics	3
Biostatistics		
BIOS ---	Any course above BIOS 500H, except BIOS 540, BIOS 543, BIOS 690, BIOS 691, BIOS 693H, BIOS 694H	
Chemistry		
CHEM ---	Any course above CHEM 101 except CHEM 190, CHEM 291, CHEM 395, CHEM 396, CHEM 397, CHEM 410, and CHEM 692H	
Computer Science		
COMP ---	Any course above COMP 116, except COMP 185, COMP 190, COMP 380, COMP 390, and COMP 393	
Environment and Ecology		
ENEC 108	Our Energy and Climate Crises: Challenges and Opportunities	4
ENEC 202	 Introduction to the Environmental Sciences	4
ENEC 220	North Carolina Estuaries: Environmental Processes and Problems	3
ENEC 222	Estuarine and Coastal Marine Science	4
ENEC 256	Mountain Biodiversity	4
ENEC 304	Restoration Ecology	4
ENEC 324	 Water in Our World: Introduction to Hydrologic Science and Environmental Problems	3
ENEC 352	Marine Fisheries Ecology	3
ENEC 403	Environmental Chemistry Processes	3
ENEC 406	Atmospheric Processes II	4
ENEC 410	Earth Processes in Environmental Systems	4
ENEC 411	Oceanic Processes in Environmental Systems	4
ENEC 415	Environmental Systems Modeling	3
ENEC 416	Environmental Meteorology	3
ENEC 431	Sustainable Cities: Exploring Ways of Making Cities More Sustainable	3
ENEC 450	Biogeochemical Processes	4
ENEC 462	Ecosystem Management	3
ENEC 471	Human Impacts on Estuarine Ecosystems	4
ENEC 479	Landscape Analysis	3
ENEC 489	Ecological Processes in Environmental Systems	4
ENEC 530	Principles of Climate Modeling	3
ENEC 562	Statistics for Environmental Scientists	4
ENEC 567	Ecological Analyses and Application	3
Environment Sciences		
ENVR 205	Engineering Tools for Environmental Problem Solving	3
ENVR 403	Environmental Chemistry Processes	3
ENVR 411	Laboratory Techniques and Field Measurements	3
ENVR 412	Ecological Microbiology	3
ENVR 413	Limnology	3

ENVR 416	Aerosol Physics and Chemistry	4
ENVR 419	Chemical Equilibria in Natural Waters	3
ENVR 421	Environmental Health Microbiology	3
ENVR 425	Introduction to Health Physics: Radiation and Radiation Protection	3
ENVR 430	Health Effects of Environmental Agents	3
ENVR 442	Biochemical Toxicology	3
ENVR 451	Introduction to Environmental Modeling	3
ENVR 453	Groundwater Hydrology	3
ENVR 468	Temporal GIS and Space/Time Geostatistics for the Environment and Public Health	3
ENVR 470	Environmental Risk Assessment	3
ENVR 472	Quantitative Risk Assessment in Environmental Health Microbiology	3
ENVR 514	Measurement of NO _x , O ₃ , and Volatile Organic Compounds	3
ENVR 575	Global Climate Change: Science, Impacts, Solutions	3
ENVR 630	Systems Biology in Environmental Health	3
ENVR 661	Scientific Computation I	3
ENVR 662	Scientific Computation II	3
ENVR 666	Numerical Methods	3
ENVR 668	Methods of Applied Mathematics I	3
ENVR 669	Methods of Applied Mathematics II	3
ENVR 671	Environmental Physics I	3
ENVR 672	Environmental Physics II	3
ENVR 675	Air Pollution, Chemistry, and Physics	3
Exercise and Sport Science		
EXSS 175	 Human Anatomy ^F	3
EXSS 175 & EXSS 275L	 Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Laboratory ^F	4
EXSS 276	Human Physiology	3
EXSS 376	Physiological Basis of Human Performance	4
EXSS 380	Neuromuscular Control and Learning	3
EXSS 385	Biomechanics of Sport	3
EXSS 475	Functional Anatomy	3
EXSS 576	Exercise Endocrinology	3
EXSS 580	Neuromechanics of Human Movement	3
Geography		
GEOG 110	 The Blue Planet: An Introduction to Earth's Environmental Systems ^H	3
GEOG 111	 Weather and Climate	3
GEOG 212	 Environmental Conservation and Global Change	3
GEOG 253	Introduction to Atmospheric Processes	4
GEOG 391	Quantitative Methods in Geography	3
GEOG 412	Synoptic Meteorology	3
GEOG 414	 Climate Change	3
GEOG 416	 Applied Climatology: The Impacts of Climate and Weather on Environmental and Social Systems	3
GEOG 440	Earth Surface Processes	3
GEOG 441	Introduction to Watershed Systems	3
GEOG 442	Limnology and Freshwater Ecology	3

Earth, Marine, and Environmental Sciences

GEOL --- Any course above GEOL 100, except GEOL 190, GEOL 390, GEOL 395, GEOL 396, GEOL 412, GEOL 480, GEOL 590, GEOL 601, GEOL 602, GEOL 691H, GEOL 692H, and GEOL 695

MASC --- Any course above MASC 100, except MASC 190, MASC 390, MASC 395, MASC 396, and MASC 490

EMES --- Any course above EMES 100, except EMES 190, EMES 220, EMES 390, EMES 395, EMES 396, EMES 412, EMES 490, EMES 590, EMES 691H, and EMES 692H

Mathematics

MATH --- Any course above MATH 230 except MATH 290, 296, 396, 410, 411, 418, 515, 691H and 692H.

Microbiology

MCRO --- Any course above MCRO 100 except MCRO 690

Nutrition


NUTR 240 Introduction to Human Nutrition 3


NUTR 400 Introduction to Nutritional Biochemistry 3

NUTR 600 Human Metabolism: Macronutrients 3

NUTR 620 HUMAN METABOLISM: MICRONUTRIENTS 3

Philosophy

PHIL 155  Truth and Proof: Introduction to Mathematical Logic ^H 3

PHIL 455  Symbolic Logic 3

Physics

PHYS --- Any course above PHYS 99 except PHYS 132, PHYS 295, PHYS 391, PHYS 395, PHYS 410, PHYS 671L, PHYS 672L, PHYS 691H, and PHYS 692H

Statistics and Operations Research












STOR --- Any course above STOR 100 except STOR 151 or STOR 155

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

^F FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans can be used as a guide to identify the courses required to complete the major and other requirements needed for degree completion within the expected eight semesters. The actual degree plan may differ depending on the course of study selected (second major, minor, etc.). Students should meet with their academic advisor to create a degree plan that is specific and unique to their interests. The sample plans represented in this catalog are intended for first-year students entering UNC-Chapel Hill in the fall term. Some courses may not be offered every term.

First Year	Hours
First-Year Foundation Courses	
IDST 101  College Thriving	1
ENGL 105  English Composition and Rhetoric or ENGL 105I  English Composition and Rhetoric (Interdisciplinary)	3
First-Year Seminar or First-Year Launch (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/ideas-in-action/first-year-seminars-launches/) ^F	3
Triple-I and Data Literacy (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/ideas-in-action/triple-i/)	4
Global Language through level 3 (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/ideas-in-action/global-language/)	varies
Major Courses	
BIOL 101  Principles of Biology & 101L  and  Introductory Biology Laboratory ^{H, F}	4
Take one of the following:	3
PSYC 101  General Psychology ^F	
PSYC 210  Statistical Principles of Psychological Research ^H	
PSYC/NSCI 2xx Program area course	
One additional non-Psychology and Neuroscience Department quantitative reasoning course (FC-QUANT) not used to fulfill the FC-QUANT Gen Ed requirement or any other requirement in the psychology major.	3
Hours	21
Sophomore Year	
PSYC 210  Statistical Principles of Psychological Research ^H or PSYC 270  Research Methods in Psychology	3
PSYC/NSCI 2xx: Program area course	3
One non-Psychology and Neuroscience Department course which comes from the Allied Science List	3
Hours	9
Junior Year	
PSYC 270  Research Methods in Psychology	3
PSYC/NSCI 2xx Program area course	3
PSYC/NSCI 2xx Program area course	3
One additional PSYC and/or NSCI course numbered between 395 and 699. May not include PSYC 493 or NSCI 493. ¹	3
Hours	12
Senior Year	
PSYC/NSCI 2xx Program area course	3
One additional PSYC and/or NSCI course numbered between 395 and 699. May not include PSYC 493 or NSCI 493. ¹	3
One additional PSYC and/or NSCI course above 101. May not include PSYC 190 or NSCI 190. ¹	3
Hours	9
Total Hours	51

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

^F FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

¹ Up to 3-credit hours of the following may be used to fulfill one core major requirement: PSYC 395/NSCI 395, PSYC 693H/NSCI 693H or PSYC 694H/NSCI 694H.

Special Opportunities in Psychology and Neuroscience

Honors in Psychology and Neuroscience

Any major in the program with an overall grade point average of 3.3 or higher and prior research experience in a faculty lab (e.g., PSYC 395 or NSCI 395) is eligible for enrollment in the departmental senior honors thesis program. Each candidate for honors participates in a two-semester course sequence (PSYC 693H and PSYC 694H or NSCI 693H and NSCI 694H) and carries out independent research in an area of the student's choice under the guidance of a psychology and neuroscience faculty member. Please see the department website for the application form (<https://psychology.unc.edu/honors-program/>) and additional information.

Departmental Involvement

The Carolina Psychology and Neuroscience Ambassadors Program (<https://tarheels.live/psychologyandneuroscienceambassadors/>) is a peer mentoring program which connects relative new or inexperienced psychology and/or neuroscience majors with more advanced and experienced students, in order to create stronger networking and provide greater access to support and resources.

The Carolina Neuroscience Club (<http://carolinaneuroscience.web.unc.edu>) brings together students who have an interest in the brain and nervous system. Club members meet regularly to discuss courses, research articles, and post-college neuroscience opportunities. Membership is open to anyone interested in neuroscience.

Psi Chi (<https://hellife.unc.edu/organization/psi-chi-psychology-national-honor-society-uncch/>) is the National Honor Society for psychology. UNC's chapter strives to increase awareness of career options as well as the role of psychology in the community, among exemplary psychology students.

Nu Rho Psi (<https://nurhopsi.org/>) is the National Honor Society for neuroscience. The Nu Rho Psi chapter at Carolina aims to build connections among neuroscience students on campus, celebrate brain awareness week in our community, provide mentorship to underclassmen interested in the field, and much more.

Helping Give Away Psychological Science (<https://www.hgaps.org/>) is a student-based nonprofit organization to improve information about psychology on Wikipedia, on other online sites, and in the community.

High-Impact/Experiential Education

Several opportunities for experiential education are available. The Karen M. Gil Internship Program (<http://psychology.unc.edu/undergraduate->

studies/gil-internship/) offers both course credit and a monthly stipend to selected psychology and neuroscience majors who are placed in approved internship sites in the community. Interns are selected through a competitive process (minimum grade point average is 3.4). Other experiential education opportunities include PSYC 395; NSCI 395; PSYC 693H; PSYC 694H; NSCI 693H; NSCI 694H; coursed-based research courses (such as NSCI 27* lab-based research courses); or courses where service learning is a central focus, such as a psychology or neuroscience course with an APPLES (<https://ccps.unc.edu/apples/>) program component.

Undergraduate Awards

The Department of Psychology and Neuroscience administers several undergraduate awards: the Dashiell-Thurstone Prize; the David Bray Peele Undergraduate Award; the Donald T. Lysle Service Award; the Lindquist Undergraduate Research Award; the J. Steven Reznick Award for Diversity Enhancement in Psychological Research; the J. Steven Reznick Diversity and Psychological Research Grant; and the Susan M. McHale Award for Outstanding Psychological Research by a Student Who Enhances Diversity, as well as several fellowships and grants administered through the UNC Office for Undergraduate Research (<https://our.unc.edu/>) or the UNC Honors Carolina Office (<https://honorscarolina.unc.edu/>). Additional honors include election to Psi Chi, the national honor society for psychology undergraduates, and/or election to Nu Rho Psi, the national honor society for neuroscience undergraduates. Each year, the Lindquist Undergraduate Research Award is given to several undergraduate students to support their research; the Dashiell-Thurstone Prize is awarded to one student for the best undergraduate research project; the David Bray Peel Undergraduate Award is given for the best honors project; and the Donald T. Lysle Service Award is given to a psychology or neuroscience major who has made exemplary service contributions. The Donald T. Lysle Service Award is presented at the Chancellor's Award Ceremony, the only campus-wide recognition at Carolina. The department also supports awards that support diversity. The J. Steven Reznick Award for Outstanding Research That Enhances Diversity is for a graduating senior who has conducted excellent research that contributes to psychological knowledge about diversity and the J. Steven Reznick Diversity and Psychological Research Grant as well as the Susan M. McHale Award for Outstanding Research by a Student Who Enhances Diversity are awarded to student researchers who identify as being from an underrepresented population. For each of these awards, diversity is broadly defined, including but not limited to diversity based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, disability, religious affiliation, and socioeconomic status. For additional details on these awards, please visit the Psychology and Neuroscience page on undergraduate awards (<https://psychology.unc.edu/departmental-awards/#undergraduateawards>).

Undergraduate Research

Qualified students interested in doing independent research under the direction of a faculty member may enroll for independent research credit (PSYC 395 or NSCI 395). Students interested in this option should speak directly with psychology faculty members regarding opportunities in their laboratories. Additional information is available on the department's website (<http://psychology.unc.edu/undergraduate-studies/undergraduate-research/>). Many other psychology and neuroscience courses also include heavy research components and/or meet the general education research and discovery requirement (NSCI 27* labs). See the research methods, research intensive, and research exposure courses at the Office for Undergraduate Research (<https://our.unc.edu/find-research-courses/>).

Department Programs

Majors

- Neuroscience Major, B.S. (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/neuroscience-major-bs/>)
- Psychology Major, B.A. (p. 1)
- Psychology Major, B.S. (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/psychology-major-bs/>)

Minors

- Neuroscience Minor (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/neuroscience-minor/>)

Graduate Programs

- M.A. in Psychology (<https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/psychology-neuroscience/>)
- Ph.D. in Psychology (<https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/psychology-neuroscience/>)

Contact Information

Department of Psychology and Neuroscience

Visit Program Website (<http://psychology.unc.edu>)

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