

PSYCHOLOGY, BS

Psychology is a science that provides critical insights into human behavior. Psychologists investigate how behavior is modified in the face of psychiatric disorders or disease and how the brain gives rise to the rich tapestry of behaviors that govern our day-to-day experiences.

A psychology major gives you much career flexibility because of its emphasis on reasoning, problem solving, critical thinking, communication, research and writing. In addition to becoming a counselor or therapist, many students go into human resources, sales, marketing, business management, law, medicine, social work, real estate, social services, and more – all fields that require comprehensive knowledge of human behavior.

Many students go on to graduate school to pursue specialized training. This may lead to a career as a counselor, therapist, or research scientist. In most states, a master's degree is required to become a licensed practitioner. At UWM, our Psychology major can be tailored: the Bachelor of Arts route is ideal for students planning a career in human services while the Bachelor of Science route focuses on neuroscience and is well-suited for students looking to go into a graduate research program or medical school.

The version of the major that leads to a Bachelor of Arts can be completed entirely on-line if that is desired.

Psychology students at UWM have a distinct advantage – they can participate in research as undergraduates, sometimes even as soon as freshman year. In psychology labs, students work directly with faculty and graduate students on their current research projects, and sometimes contribute as co-authors to peer-reviewed presentations or publications. In addition, a number of psychology students complete Field Placements. The Field Placement is similar to an internship and permits students to step out of the traditional classroom setting and volunteer with a community organization that has a mission consistent with the psychology degree. In each case, our students acquire fundamental skills, have opportunities to explore and refine their interests, and establish meaningful connections that permit them to make informed decisions about their future pursuits.

Psychology Major Requirements

The Department of Psychology offers a major in psychology leading to either the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Except for an advanced natural science credit requirement for the BS, the psychology requirements for the BS and BA degrees are the same; however, students should check the general requirements for the degree (e.g., general education requirements) carefully as they differ for the BA and BS. Students opting for the BS will need to complete at least 30 credits in approved advanced L&S natural science courses, at least 15 of which must be completed in Psychology.

Requirements

Course of Study – Bachelor of Science Degree

Complete 120 credits including 90 credits in the College of Letters & Science and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses and 30 of those 36 credits in designated upper-level Natural Science. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above)

courses in their major. Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

University General Education Requirements (GER)

Code	Title	Credits
Oral and Written Communication		
<i>Part A</i>		
ENGLISH 102	College Writing and Research (or equivalent)	
<i>Part B</i>		
Course designated as OWC-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement		
Quantitative Literacy		
<i>Part A</i>		
Select one of the following:		
MATH 103	Contemporary Applications of Mathematics	
MATH 105	Introduction to College Algebra	
MATH 108	Algebraic Literacy II	
MATH 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning ¹	
or PHILOS 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning	
Or equivalent course		
<i>Part B</i>		
Course designated as QL-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement		
Arts		
Select 3 credits		3
Humanities		
Select 6 credits		6
Social Sciences		
Select 6 credits		6
Natural Sciences		
Select 6 credits (At least two courses including one lab)		6
UWM Foreign Language Requirement		
Complete Foreign Language Requirement through:		
Two years (high school) of a single foreign language		
Two semesters (college) of a single foreign language		
Or equivalent		
UWM Cultural Diversity Requirement		
One course from the Arts, Humanities, or Social Sciences must also satisfy UWM's Cultural Diversity requirement		

¹ Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

College of Letters & Science Requirements

I. English Writing Requirement

Students must satisfy the English Writing Requirement by completing ENGLISH 102 with a grade of C or higher or by placing beyond English 102 on the English Placement Test (EPT).

Note: This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part A. The College of Letters & Science does not have a specific requirement for a writing course beyond English 102, but students must complete the university-wide requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part B listed above.

II. Mathematics and Formal Reasoning

To satisfy the Mathematics and Formal Reasoning Requirement, Bachelors of Sciences degree students must satisfy the following two requirements:

1. Complete one of the following courses or an equivalent course:

Code	Title	Credits
MATH 211	Survey in Calculus and Analytic Geometry	4
MATH 213	Calculus with Life Sciences Applications	4
MATH 221	Honors Calculus I	5
MATH 231	Calculus and Analytic Geometry I	4

2. Complete one course (at least 3 credits) at the 200 level or above chosen from courses in Mathematics, PHILOS 212, or Letters and Science statistics courses:

Code	Title	Credits
Complete one of the following:		
3 or more credits in any 200-level or above Math course		
AFRIC 220	Introduction to Statistics in African and African Diaspora Studies	
ANTHRO 568	Introduction to Anthropological Statistics	
ATM SCI 500	Statistical Methods in Atmospheric Sciences	
BIO SCI 465	Biostatistics	
ECON 210	Economic Statistics	
GEOG 247	Quantitative Analysis in Geography	
HIST 595	The Quantitative Analysis of Historical Data	
MTHSTAT 215	Elementary Statistical Analysis	
PHILOS 211	Elementary Logic	
POL SCI 390	Political Data Analysis	
POL SCI 392	Survey Research	
PSYCH 210	Psychological Statistics	
SOCIOL 261	Introduction to Statistical Thinking in Sociology	

Note: This requirement is NOT the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part B. To complete the BS, students must take one of the L&S approved courses. The courses listed here will satisfy the QL-B requirement.

III. Foreign Language Requirement

Two courses (minimum of 6 credits) in a language (including American Sign Language) other than English at the 100 level or above are required.

Placement testing may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work.

Completion of the L&S Language Requirement also satisfies the university-wide Foreign Language GER, but not vice versa.

IV. International Requirement

See Approved Courses for the L&S International Requirement (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement>) for course options.

Code	Title	Credits
Completed in one of the following ways:		9
Complete 3 courses (min. 9 cr) in a single foreign language (not including literature-in-translation or American Sign Language) at the 3rd semester level and above		
Complete 3 non-language courses (min. 9 credits) with an international content chosen from at least 2 curricular areas.		
Complete 9 credits in combination of the two options above.		

V. Breadth Requirement

Along with completing the University General Education Requirements of 3 credits in the Arts (A); 6 credits in the Humanities (HU), Social Sciences (SS), and Natural Sciences (NS/NS+); and a course with the Cultural Diversity (CD/+) designation, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
Arts		
Select 3 credits		3
Humanities		
Complete 12 credits of L&S courses with Humanities Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single subject area. *		12
Social Sciences		
Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Social Science Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area. *		12
Natural Sciences		
Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Natural Sciences Breadth designation, including laboratory or field courses from three different curricular areas. *		12
Cultural Diversity		
Complete 3 credits in a course with Cultural Diversity (CD) designation. **		3

* Students should check their course selections carefully with the list of approved L&S Breadth Courses (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list>). Students are advised to select at least 6 credits worth of courses in each of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Sciences areas that can satisfy both the campus-wide General Education Requirements and the L&S Breadth requirement.

** Students are advised to select a course that satisfies the Cultural Diversity requirement as well as a Humanities or Social Science breadth/GER requirement.

VI. The Major

The College requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Contact your major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

Research Requirement

Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement>).

VII. The Minor

The College requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation.

Psychology Major Requirements

To be accepted as a major in psychology, students must have completed PSYCH 101 and 15 university credits. The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA on all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. The undergraduate major consists of 33 or 34 credits in psychology, at least 15 of them at the advanced level (300 or above) taken in residence at UWM, including the following core courses (17 cr):

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
PSYCH 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSYCH 210	Psychological Statistics	4
PSYCH 254	Physiological Psychology	3
PSYCH 325	Research Methods in Psychology	4
Select one of the following:		3
PSYCH 205	Personality	
PSYCH 214	Introduction to Conditioning and Learning	
PSYCH 230	Social Psychology: Psychological Perspectives	
PSYCH 260	Child Psychology	
Upper-Level Courses		
Select one of the following:		16-17
Select one advanced laboratory course and four Systems and Foundations courses (16 credits)		
Select two advanced laboratory courses and three Systems and Foundations courses (17 credits)		
Total Credits		33-34

Research Experience

The College of Letters and Science requires that students complete a research experience in their major. The Department of Psychology has structured its advanced laboratory courses to satisfy that requirement. In these laboratory courses, students run multiple experiments, collect and analyze data quantitatively, and write up the results in a standard journal article format, integrating the results with a critical survey of relevant professional literature. The Systems and Foundations courses are non-laboratory, upper-level courses designed to provide in-depth knowledge on specific topics in psychology. Students are welcome to take additional Systems and Foundations courses as electives.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYCH 502	Applied Behavior Analysis	4
PSYCH 505	Cognitive Processes	4
PSYCH 514	Conditioning and Learning	4
PSYCH 654	Advanced Physiological Psychology	4
PSYCH 656	Psychophysiology	4
PSYCH 660	Experimental Child Psychology	4
PSYCH 677	Experimental Social Psychology	4

Cross-Listed Courses

The following courses offered by other academic units may be used to fulfill requirements of the undergraduate major in psychology:

Code	Title	Credits
BIO SCI 455	Cellular, Molecular and Developmental Neurobiology	3
BUS ADM 442	Industrial Psychology	3

Letters & Science Advising

The College of Letters and Science provides general academic advising for all students with a major in the College, particularly as it relates to campus' general education requirements and the College's degree requirements. We also provide specialized advising for pre-professional students (pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy, etc.) regardless if their major is in Letters and Science or not. Prospective students, including high school students and students seeking to transfer to a program in Letters and Science may also receive advising from our admissions counselors.

Upon admission, students are assigned an advisor in the College advising office. Academic advising is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment. Appointments outside of these times may be available and phone appointments are available for online students. The advising office (<https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/contact-advising>) is located on the first floor of Holton Hall. Current students should call (414) 229-4654 to schedule an appointment or use the Student Success Collaborative website (<https://uwmilwaukee.campus.eab.com>) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor; online scheduling is only available if you already have a Letters & Science advisor assigned to you. Prospective students should call (414) 229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu.

When students declare a major, they will receive an additional faculty advisor located within the major department who will assist with requirements for that major. Students should read the "Declaration of Major" information on the website of the major that they are interested in.

In some cases, the student will need to choose a faculty advisor as part of the declaration process.

All students are cautioned to consult their Letters & Science academic advisor AND their major advisor prior to each registration period to ensure they understand all requirements. Do not rely on pre-printed sample plans, as they are intended to be samples only and may not be right for your particular situation.

Honors in the Major

Psychology majors who meet the following criteria are awarded Honors in the Major:

1. A 3.000 cumulative GPA on all credits attempted;
2. A 3.500 GPA on all credits that count toward the major; and
3. A 3.500 GPA on all advanced credits that count toward the major.

Honors in the College of Letters and Science

Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. In schools and colleges in which fewer than 15% of the traditional students have a 3.500 GPA, all-university honors will be awarded to approximately the top 15% of graduating students. A criterion GPA (not lower than 3.200) for this 15% will be calculated based on statistics from the previous comparable semester. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

Contact Information

Current Students contact Associate Professor Deborah Hannula, hannula@uwm.edu

Prospective Students contact a Letters & Science Admissions Counselor at (414) 229-7711 or let-sci@uwm.edu

<http://uwm.edu/psychology/undergraduate/>