Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Prerequisite Core

PSY 200 (or equivalent) is a prerequisite for all upper division psychology courses. PSY 171 (or any quantitative reasoning course) is a prerequisite for PSY 371. ENG 214 (or a course that satisfies the lower division writing requirement) is a prerequisite for both PSY 305GW and PSY 400. PSY 371 is a prerequisite for all non-GE upper division psychology courses (PSY 371 may be taken concurrently with other major courses).

Degree Requirements

The major includes 14 units of core curriculum, 18 units of basic courses, and nine units of electives. Because of high demand, enrollment priority is given to psychology major students in all upper division psychology courses; courses numbered 300 and above are not open to freshman.

- Psychology majors must take PSY 200, PSY 305GW, PSY 371, and PSY 400 for a letter grade and achieve a grade of C or better in all four courses.
- Majors must achieve a grade of CR in PSY 303 and PSY 690.

Writing Competence

Good writing skills are necessary for success in the major. Students whose writing needs improvement should work on their skills by taking additional composition courses or by completing writing tutorials. Psychology majors who successfully complete PSY 305GW will have satisfied the University Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR).

Psychology (B.A.) — 41 Units

Core Curriculum (14 Units)

Core courses should be taken in the order listed below.

PSY 200 General Psychology 3
PSY 303 Psychology: The Major and the Profession (online) 1
PSY 371 Psychological Statistics 3
PSY 400 Introduction to Research in Psychology 3
PSY 305GW Contemporary Issues in Psychology - GWAR 3
PSY 690 Future Directions for Psychology Majors (online) 1

Basic Courses (18 Units)

Choose two courses from each of the following Areas 1 through 3:

- Area 1: Basic Psychological Processes (6)
- Area 2: Psychological Development and Individual Differences (6)
- Area 3: Social, Cultural, Organizational and Community Contexts (6)

Electives (9 Units)

Choose 3 elective courses from courses in Areas 1–3 and/or from additional upper-division psychology courses

Areas of Study

Area 1: Basic Psychological Processes

PSY 432 Cognitive Development: Language, Thinking, and Perception 3

PSY 492 Perception 3
PSY 493 Motivation 3
PSY 494 Cognitive Psychology 3
PSY 495 The Psychology of Human Memory 3
PSY 498 Cognitive Neuroscience: Psychological Models 3
PSY 491 Learning 3
PSY 531 Psycholinguistics 3
PSY 581 Physiological Psychology I 3
PSY 582 Physiological Psychology II 3

Area 2: Psychological Development and Individual Differences

PSY 430 Adolescent Psychology 3
PSY 431 Developmental Psychology 1 3
PSY 433 Social, Emotional, and Personality Development 3
PSY 434 The Psychology of Aging 3
PSY 435 Behavior Problems of Children 3
PSY/SXS 436 The Development of Femaleness and Maleness 4
PSY 442 Health Psychology 3
PSY 451 Theories of Personality 3
PSY 452 Abnormal Psychology: Minor Variants of Personality 3
PSY 521 Introduction to Clinical Psychology 3

Area 3: Social, Cultural, Organizational and Community Contexts

PSY 440 Social Psychology 3
PSY 441 The Psychology of the Family 3
PSY 455 Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Psychology 3
PSY/SXS 456 Psychology of Human Sexual Behavior 3
PSY 461 Introduction to Industrial/Organizational Psychology 3
PSY 462 Personnel Psychology 3
PSY 463 Human Factors 3
PSY 465 The Psychology of Work-Life Stress 3
PSY 466 Training and Development in Organizations 3
PSY 472 Introduction to Legal Psychology 3
PSY 474 Psychology of Social Justice 3
PSY 475 Psychology of Policing 3
PSY 525 Community Psychology 3
PSY 547 Social Conflict and Conflict Resolution 3
PSY 558 Field Services Seminar & PSY 559 and Psychological Field Service 3-5
PSY 645 Group Processes 3

Additional Courses That May be Used for Electives

PSY 300 Current Issues in Psychology 3
PSY/SXS 320 Sex and Relationships 3
PSY 330 Child Development 1 3
PSY 443 The Science of Happiness 3
PSY 450/SXS 400/SOC 400 Variations in Human Sexuality 3
PSY 571 Intermediate Psychological Statistics 3
PSY 601 Theoretical Backgrounds in Psychology 3
PSY 668 The Psychology of Leadership 3
PSY 680 Peer Advising in Psychology 3
PSY 685 Projects in the Teaching of Psychology 3

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PSY 693  Proseminar I  3
PSY 694  Proseminar II  3
PSY 697  Senior Project Preparation  3
PSY 698  Senior Project in Psychology  3
PSY 699  Independent Study in Psychology  1-4

Students may not use PSY 330 as an elective if they have taken PSY 431.

Complementary Studies

Bachelor of Arts students must complete at least 12 units of complementary studies from courses with a prefix other than PSY, and not cross-listed with PSY. (Note: Students may not use an alternate prefix that is cross-listed with the primary prefix for the major.)

Students who complete two majors or a major and a minor automatically complete the complementary studies requirement. Additional ways to complete complementary studies for students in the Psychology major include 12 units of languages other than English, 12 units from an approved Study Abroad program, 12 units from partial completion of a certificate, or 12 units from any combination of courses in ANTH, BIO, CAD, CJ, CSC, COUN, EDUC, ETHS, PHIL, and SOC, or a coherent group of courses approved by a major advisor as complementary to the major. All of the units must be separate from units counted in the major. Courses which fulfill the complementary studies requirement may be lower or upper division units, resident or transfer units, or units taken in approved study abroad programs. Consult with your major advisor for assistance.

Students who have earned AA-T or AA-S degrees may use courses from community colleges to fulfill the Complementary Studies requirement provided the course has a prefix other than Psychology. Students should consult with a major advisor about how transfer units and/or SF State units can best be applied to this requirement in order to ensure degree completion within 60 units.

General Education Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Course Level</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Area Designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>LD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written English Communication I</td>
<td>LD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>LD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written English Communication II</td>
<td>LD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences: US History</td>
<td>LD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>D2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Social Sciences: US & CA Government  LD  3  D3
Lifelong Learning and Self-Development (LLD)  LD or UD  3  E
Physical and/or Life Science  UD  3  UD-B
Arts and/or Humanities  UD  3  UD-C
Social Sciences  UD  3  UD-D

SF State Studies

Courses certified as meeting the SF State Studies requirements may be upper or lower division in General Education (GE), in a major or minor, or an elective.

American Ethnic and Racial Minorities (AERM)  LD or UD  3
Environmental Sustainability (ES)  LD or UD  3
Global Perspectives (GP)  LD or UD  3
Social Justice (SJ)  LD or UD  3

Note: LD = Lower Division; UD = Upper Division.

First Time Student Roadmap (4 Year)

This roadmap opens in a new tab. (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/science-engineering/psychology/ba-psychology/roadmap.html)

Transfer Student Roadmap (2 Year)

For students with an AA-T in Psychology. This roadmap opens in a new tab. (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/science-engineering/psychology/ba-psychology/adt-roadmap.html)

This degree program is an approved pathway (“similar” major) for students earning the ADT in Psychology

California legislation SB 1440 (2009) mandated the creation of the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) to be awarded by the California Community Colleges. Two types of ADTs are awarded: Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) and Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T). Note: no specific degree is required for admission as an upper-division student. However, the ADT includes specific guarantees related to admission and graduation, and is designed to clarify the transfer process and strengthen lower-division preparation for the major.

An ADT totals 60 units and includes completion of all lower-division General Education requirements and at least 18 units in a specific major. Students pursuing an ADT are guaranteed admission to the CSU if minimum eligibility requirements are met, though not necessarily to the CSU campus of primary choice.
Upon verification that the ADT has been awarded prior to matriculation at SF State, students are guaranteed B.A. or B.S. completion in 60 units if pursuing a “similar” major after transfer. Determinations about “similar” majors at SF State are made by faculty in the discipline.

Degree completion in 60 units cannot be guaranteed when a student simultaneously pursues an additional major, a minor, certificate, or credential.

A sample advising roadmap for students who have earned an ADT and continue in a “similar” major at SF State is available on the Roadmaps tab and displays:

- How many lower-division units required for the major have been completed upon entry based on award of a specific ADT;
- Which lower-division requirements are considered complete upon entry based on award of a specific ADT;
- How to complete the remaining 60 units for the degree in four semesters.

Students who have earned an ADT should seek advising in the major department during the first semester of attendance.

General Advising Information for Transfer Students

1. Before transfer, complete as many lower division requirements or electives for this major as possible.
2. The following courses are not required for admission, but are required for graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to complete these units before transfer; doing so will provide more flexibility in course selection after transfer.
   - a course in U.S. History
   - a course in U.S. & California Government
   - a 2nd-semester course in written English composition

For information about satisfying the requirements described in (1) and (2) above at a California Community College (CCC), please visit http://www.assist.org. Check any geographically accessible CCCs; sometimes options include more than one college. Use ASSIST to determine:

- Which courses at a CCC satisfy any lower division major requirements for this major, including 2nd-semester composition;

Remedial courses are not transferable and do not apply to the minimum 60 units/90 quarters required for admission.

Additional units for courses that are repeated do not apply to the minimum 60 units required for upper division transfer (for example, if course was not passed on the first attempt, or was taken to earn a better grade).

Before leaving the last California community college of attendance, obtain a summary of completion of lower division General Education units (IGETC or CSU GE Breadth). This is often referred to as a GE certification worksheet. SF State does not require delivery of this certification to Admissions, but students should retain this document for verifying degree progress after transfer.

Credit for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or College-Level Examination Program courses: AP/IB/CLEP credit is not automatically transferred from the previous institution. Units are transferred only when an official score report is delivered to SF State. Credit is based on the academic year during which exams were taken. Refer to the University Bulletin in effect during the year of AP/IB/CLEP examination(s) for details regarding the award of credit for AP/IB/CLEP.

Students pursuing majors in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines often defer 6-9 units of lower division general education in areas C and D until after transfer in order to focus on preparation courses for the major. (This advice does not apply to students pursuing associate degree completion before transfer.)

Transferring from institutions other than CCCs or CSUs

Review SF State’s lower division General Education requirements. Note that, as described below, the four basic skills courses required for admission meet A1, A2, A3, and B4 in the SF State GE pattern. Courses that fulfill the remaining areas of SF State’s lower division GE pattern are available at most two-year and four-year colleges and universities.

Of the four required basic skills courses, a course in critical thinking (GE A3) may not be widely offered outside the CCC and CSU systems. Students should attempt to identify and take an appropriate course no later than the term of application to the CSU. To review more information about the A3 requirement, please visit http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/undergraduate-education/general-education/lower-division/AAEEL.

Identify and complete a 2nd-semester written English composition course before transfer. This is usually the next course after the typical “freshman comp” course, with a focus on writing, reading and critical analytical skills for academic purposes, and developing skills in composing, revising, and the use of rhetorical strategies.

Waiting until after transfer to take a single course at SF State that meets both US and CA/local government requirements may be an appropriate option, particularly if transferring from outside of California.

All students must meet the transfer eligibility requirements outlined below for admission.

For more information, visit the Undergraduate Admissions section.

- Complete 60 or more transferable semester units or 90 or more quarter units
- Earn a college grade point average of 2.00 or better in all transferable courses. Non-local area residents may be held to a higher GPA standard.
- Be in good standing at the last college or university attended
- Complete 30 semester units (45 quarter units) of general education, including four basic skills courses:
  - One course in oral communication (same as CSU GE area A1)
  - One course in written composition (same as CSU GE area A2)
  - One course in critical thinking (same as CSU GE area A3)
  - One course in mathematics or quantitative reasoning, with intermediate algebra as a prerequisite (same as CSU GE area B4)
- The four basic skills courses and a minimum of 60 transferable semester units (90 quarter units) must be completed by the spring
semester prior to fall admission, or by the fall semester prior to spring admission. Earn a "C" or better grade in each basic skills course.