

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

College of Professional & Global Education

Dean: Dr. Alex Hwu

SF State Downtown Campus

160 Spear Street, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology offers a foundation in the analysis and critical evaluation of psychological literature; the communication of psychological concepts and facts both orally and in writing; and the development of psychological research including design, data analysis, measurement, and ability to use computer for statistical analysis. Our B.A. degree provides an excellent foundation for work in the community in many fields that involve human relations and behavior. In addition, the undergraduate degree is excellent preparation for graduate school in all fields of psychology, other behavioral and social sciences as well as for graduate programs in business, law, medicine, and many other professional fields.

Program Learning Outcomes

- Knowledge Base in Psychology. Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology. Develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains. Describe applications of psychology.
- Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking. Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena. Demonstrate psychology information literacy. Engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem-solving. Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research. Incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry.
- Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World. Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science practice. Build and enhance interpersonal relationships. Adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels.
- Communication. Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes. Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes. Interact effectively with others.
- Professional Development. Apply psychological content and skills to career goals. Exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation. Refine project management skills. Enhance teamwork capacity. Develop meaningful professional direction for life after.

Admissions requirements:

To be eligible for admission, students must have

- Be a resident of California or another authorized state. See **State Authorization** (<https://cel.sfsu.edu/courses/authorization/>).
- Have completed a minimum of 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) unit
- Have a grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better in all transferable units attempted.
- Be in good standing at the last college or university attended.

- Have completed all lower-division General Education requirements (39 semester units or 58.5 quarter units) with a grade of C- or better including the below four courses commonly called "Golden Four":

- Oral Communication
- Written Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Quantitative Reasoning

Psychology (B.A.) – 41-47 Units

The major includes 14 units of core curriculum, 18 units of basic courses, and 9 units of electives. Because of high demand, enrollment priority is given to Psychology majors in all upper-division Psychology courses. Courses numbered 300 and above are not open to freshmen.

- 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.
- PSY 171 (or any quantitative reasoning course) is a prerequisite for PSY 371 .

Core Curriculum (14 Units)

Core courses should be taken in the order listed below.

Code	Title	Units
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	Writing in Psychology - GVAR	3
PSY 690	Future Directions for Psychology Majors (online)	1

Basic Courses (18-21 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 (6-7)
- Area 3: Social, Cultural, Organizational, and Community Contexts (6-8)

Electives (9-12 Units)

Choose 3 elective courses from courses in Areas 1–3 not used to satisfy the Basic Course requirement and/or from additional upper-division psychology courses.

Areas of Study

Code	Title	Units
Area 1: Basic Psychological Processes		
PSY 432	Cognitive Development: Language, Thinking, and Perception	3
PSY 490	Introduction to Data Science for Psychology	3
PSY 491	Learning	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 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		3
PSY 435	Developmental Psychopathology	3
PSY/SXS 436	The Development of Femaleness and Maleness	4
PSY 442	Health Psychology	3
PSY 451	Theories of Personality	3
PSY 452	Clinical Psychopathology	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 464	Psychology of Career Pursuit	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 540	Decision Making: A Perspective from Social Psychology	3
PSY 547	Social Conflict and Conflict Resolution	3
PSY 558 & PSY 559	Field Services Seminar 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		3
PSY 668	The Psychology of Leadership	3
PSY 680	Peer Advising in Psychology	3
PSY 685	Projects in the Teaching of Psychology	3
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

¹ 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 that 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.

2 Year Student Roadmap

This roadmap opens in a new tab. (<http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/extended-learning/ba-psychology/roadmap/>)