

# BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES IN PSYCHOLOGY

## Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in Psychology

Bachelor of Arts – Requires four semesters of a second language

Bachelor of General Studies – Requires a major and a minor

Psychology examines all aspects of human behavior: Why do people behave the way they do? What makes people happy or unhappy? What are the relationships between the mind and the brain? Majoring in psychology allows you to explore the behavior of people and how their minds work, and then apply that knowledge to the modern world.

Students have many reasons for wanting to major in psychology. Some are simply fond of observing the behavior of others around them, fascinated with the results of their observations and curious to learn why people behave as they do. Some plan to become psychologists themselves or to enter one of the many professions where a background in psychology can be useful – such as, business, teaching, medicine, nursing, law, social work, the ministry, counseling, student services, child development, administration, or human resources.

Our department offers a wide variety of psychology courses (<http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/psychology/#courseinventory>) from which to choose and additional experiences and opportunities are available beyond the classroom. There are many chances to engage in extracurricular enrichment, including Psi Chi (<http://psych.ku.edu/psi-chi>), a research-focused Honors Program (<http://honors.ku.edu>), research assistantships and volunteer opportunities in faculty labs (<http://psych.ku.edu/undergraduate-research>).

Our scientific approach to understanding human behavior equips students with a solid foundation of analytical, research and interpersonal skills for careers in many fields with a human service emphasis.

Learn more about career paths available to psychology majors: What are you going to do with that degree? (<http://benschmidt.org/jobs>) Where do college graduates work? (<https://www.census.gov/dataviz/visualizations/stem/stem-html>)

## Undergraduate Admission

### Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu>) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (<http://www.iss.ku.edu>) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (<http://credittransfer.ku.edu>) website.

## Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

## Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

### B.A. or B.G.S. Major in Psychology

#### Psychology Major Course Requirements

#### Psychology Prerequisite or Co-Requisite Knowledge (3)

Majors must complete courses as specified in each of the following area. These hours do not contribute to the minimum number of hours required for the major.

College Algebra or Pre-Calculus. Satisfied by:

MATH 101	College Algebra	3
or MATH 104	Precalculus Mathematics	

#### Psychology Core Knowledge and Skills (25)

Majors must complete a course in each of the following 9 areas:

Orientation Seminar in Psychology. Satisfied by:

PSYC 102	Orientation Seminar in Psychology	1
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General Psychology. Satisfied by:

PSYC 104	General Psychology	3
or PSYC 105	General Psychology, Honors	

Research Methods in Psychology. Satisfied by:

PSYC 200	Research Methods in Psychology	3
or PSYC 201	Research Methods in Psychology, Honors	

Statistics in Psychological Research. Satisfied by:

PSYC 210	Statistics in Psychological Research	3
or PSYC 211	Statistics in Psychological Research, Honors	

Note: A student may not take more than 3 of the following core courses before being admitted to the major.

Cognitive Psychology. Satisfied by:

PSYC 318	Cognitive Psychology	3
or PSYC 319	Cognitive Psychology, Honors	

Child Development. Satisfied by:

PSYC 333	Child Development	3
or PSYC 334	Child Development, Honors	

Abnormal Psychology. Satisfied by:

PSYC 350	Abnormal Psychology	3
or PSYC 351	Abnormal Psychology, Honors	

Social Psychology. Satisfied by:

PSYC 360	Social Psychology	3
or PSYC 361	Social Psychology, Honors	

Biological Psychology. One course required:

PSYC 370	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
PSYC 371	Behavior Neuroscience, Honors	
PSYC 375	Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSYC 380	Clinical Neuroscience	

PSYC 381 Clinical Neuroscience, Honors

### **Diversity, Equity, and Ethical Behavior (3)**

Majors must complete 3 hours. Choose one of the following: 3

PSYC 465 Stereotyping and Prejudice Across Cultures

PSYC 492 Psychology and Social Issues

PSYC 545 Culture and Psychology

PSYC 592 Psychological Significance of Physical Illness and Disability

### **Psychology Required Electives (9)**

Majors must complete 9 hours, at least 6 of these hours must be completed with courses numbered 300 or higher. 9

## **Psychology Major Hours & Major GPA**

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

### **Major Hours**

Satisfied by 37 hours of major courses. Note: No more than 3 hours of PSYC 480, PSYC 481, or PSYC 483 may count toward the minimum hours required for the major. (No more than a 6-hour combination of these courses may be counted toward the major.)

### **Major Hours in Residence**

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

### **Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours**

Satisfied by a minimum of 24 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

### **Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA**

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa>).

A sample 4-year plan for the BA degree in Psychology can be found here: Psychology (<http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/psychology/ba-bgs-psychology/ba>), or by using the left-side navigation.

Sample 4-year plans for the BGS degree in Psychology and the BS in Behavioral Neuroscience can be found using the left-side navigation.

## **Departmental Honors**

Students may inquire about departmental honors as soon as they are admitted to the undergraduate major. The department website (<http://psych.ku.edu>) has details. Participation usually begins in the senior year. A 3.25 grade-point average overall and a 3.5 grade-point average in psychology courses are required. Students follow individualized courses of study arranged through the director. Students who complete PSYC 460, individual research, and a paper under the direction of an instructor may graduate with departmental honors.