

Psychology Major Packet

Welcome to the Psychology Department at Weber State University.

Psychology is an exciting and diverse field with a myriad of job opportunities for graduates with a bachelor's degree. This packet will provide the information to get you started and will guide you towards fulfilling the requirements for a bachelor's degree in psychology. Congratulations on your smart choice!

Important Contacts

Aubrey Jenkins, Department Secretary

SS 370, 626-6247, AubreyJenkins@weber.edu

Department Webpage

weber.edu/psychology

To Declare a Major

- Download and complete the Program of Study Declaration Form found on the Psychology Department website (<http://departments.weber.edu/psychology>).
- Bring the completed form to Aubrey Jenkins who will also assign you an Advisor.
 - *Note: the Psychology major requires a minor (any WSU minor is acceptable).*

Advising Action Plan

There is much for you to do to prepare yourself for graduation and life after WSU. Meeting with your Departmental Advisor should be one of the most important on your list! If you don't know who your advisor is, contact Aubrey Jenkins. With your Advisor, you should discuss your career aspirations and plan out a course sequence that makes sense for you. Your advisor can offer helpful advice, resolve problems, and may even be able to cut through some red tape in your academic life.

This packet is a general action plan for you as you prepare for your future as a Psychology Major. This packet provides suggestions depending on whether you are a freshman (0-30 credit hours completed), sophomore (31-60 hours), junior (61-90 hours), or senior (91-120 hours).

Freshmen

Freshmen who already know that psychology is for them will have lots of opportunities to plan a well thought out and balanced schedule of courses. Speak to your advisor about what opportunities might be available to you by way of lower division research or reading courses, practicum, or other activities.

Sophomore Majors

This year you most likely will complete the majority of your General Education courses, particularly in Math. Math 1010 or equivalent (see Catalog) is the prerequisite for Statistics in Psychology (PSY 3600). Statistics in Psychology is a good course to complete early on as a major because most faculty members require it before you can work with them on research.

Junior Majors

We strongly encourage juniors to take Research Methods (PSY 3610). Of all WSU Psychology courses, Research Methods will help you learn to "think like a psychologist." In the past, many students have regretted waiting until their final semester of senior year to take this course, recognizing how much easier their other Psychology courses would have been had they already had Research Methods. Many students mention that taking Methods early will make every other Psychology course much more valuable (and easier).

Junior year is a good time to get involved in activities that will supplement your psychology course work. Check with your advisor and/or other faculty members about opportunities such as practicum, research, and reading courses, as well as involvement in Psi Chi and Psychology Club. These activities are not only fun and different; they will help you be competitive for jobs and/or graduate school. Everyone with whom you will be competing for a job or a place in a graduate program will have completed college with good grades. What will make you stand out from the crowd? Non-class activities are a way to show your commitment and competence in the field of psychology in a way that goes beyond course work.

Junior year is also a time to look carefully at your courses to make sure you are getting the ones you need to reach your career goals. Talk to your advisor or the Department Chair (Dr. Eric Amsel, 626-6658) about your career plans and whether your preparations are adequate.

It is not too early to prepare for the GRE, a required exam for those preparing for graduate school in psychology or a related discipline. There are similar exams for other professional schools, such as the LSAT (Law) and MCAT (Medicine). You could begin a self-assessment and work on the weak areas. Another helpful resource is the practice test option at www.ets.org/gre. Everyone can boost scores by building skills. Bookstores and libraries carry review and practice materials. Find out about test preparation courses, such as those offered here at WSU (see <http://weber.edu/graduationprep/>) and the University of Utah. You should be prepared for these very important tests.

Senior Majors

One more year and you're on to new horizons. By now, you should have begun requesting applications for graduate school or potential employment. Talk with your advisor and other faculty members about ideas, possibilities and strategies. The more faculty members you talk with, the better you are informed! Remember that graduate school applications are usually due in December and January so you should be working far in advance of this month to get your materials together.

Psychology students have taken various paths after graduation. From talking to our graduates we can assure you of one thing: If you have exhibited overall quality performance at Weber State University, you will be prepared to succeed in graduate programs or related employment. Our graduates consistently report that they were exceptionally well prepared by the Psychology Department. See the WSU Psychology Website (<http://departments.weber.edu/psychology/>) or a faculty member for more information about graduate school.

Preparing to Graduate

In order to graduate, you must be cleared as a Psychology Major. Prior to your final semester at WSU, go to the Graduation Office (Student Services 136) and apply for graduation. Bring your Graduation Application to our office (SS 370) and request to be "cleared" for a Psychology Major.

- Meet with Sarah Homer, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Advisor, to receive graduation clearance for your General Education requirements for the Bachelor's degree.
- Contact Aubrey Jenkins with your W# for a short (~ 15 min.) appointment with the Department Chair for a graduation evaluation.
- Complete the Graduation Evaluation Survey under "How to Prepare to Graduate" (<http://departments.weber.edu/psychology/>).
- Obtain graduation clearance for your minor requirements from your minor department.
- Congratulations – you are ready to graduate!

Course Requirements

These requirements are for students working under the 2008-2009 catalog. If you have chosen to work under a previous year, please follow the requirements listed in that catalog. Your advisor can answer any questions you may have.

Psychology Major and Teaching Major:

Students who select the Psychology Teaching Minor must meet the Teacher Education admission and licensure requirements (see Teacher Education Department).

1. Complete a minimum of **36 credit hours** from the following:
 - Core General Courses (10 hours)
 - Core Content Courses (15 hours)
 - Additional Courses (11 hours) selected from the Core General Courses, Core Content Courses, or Electives Group A or B.
2. A minor is also required.
3. All required courses must be passed with a letter grade of “C” or higher.
4. Other requirements (e.g., general education courses, upper division credit hours) may be found in the WSU catalog and discussed with the college advisor Sarah Homer.

Core General Courses

1010SS	Introductory Psychology	3
3600 [*] SI	Statistics in Psychology	3
3610 ^{**} SI	Research Methods in Psychology	4

^{*} PSY SI3600 Statistics in Psychology is recommended to be taken no later than first semester Junior year. Math 1010 or equivalent is required to register for PSY SI3600.

^{**} PSY SI3610 Research Methods in Psychology is recommended to be taken no later than second semester Junior Year. Note that PSY SI3600 (or an equivalent with prior approval from the Department Chair) is a prerequisite for PSY SI3610.

Core Content Courses (15 hours)

A.	2730	Biopsychology	3
B.	†3000 ¹	Child Psychology	3
	<u>OR</u> †3140 ¹	Psychology of Adolescence	3
C.	3010	Abnormal Psychology	3
D.	†3250 ¹	Conditioning and Learning	3
	<u>OR</u> †3500 ¹	Cognition	3
E.	†3460	Social Psychology	3
	<u>OR</u> †3430	Theories of Personality	3

†One of these two courses must be taken to fulfill the core course requirement. However, the student may opt to also take the second course as an elective.

Electives Group A: Area Specialization Courses

2000	Interpersonal Relationships	3
2370 DV	Psychology of Women and Gender	3
3020	Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	3
3100 DV	Psychology of Diversity	3
3270	Motivation and Emotion	3
3300	Applied Behavior Intervention	3
3550*	Psychology of Consciousness	3
3560	Group Dynamics	3
3710	Physiological Psychology	3
3730	Perception	3
3740	Drugs and Behavior	3
4000	Advanced General	3
4050	Evolutionary Psychology	3
4090	History and Systems of Psychology	3
4310	Intro to Counseling Theories	3
4340**	Skills & Techniques of Counseling	3
4510	Industrial and Organizational Behavior	3
4760***	Tests & Measurements	3
4900	Selected Topics in Psychology	2-3
4990	Seminar	1

* PSY 1010 and 2730 are prerequisites for PSY 3550

** PSY 4310 or permission of the instructor is a prerequisite for PSY 4340

*** PSY 3010 and 3600 are prerequisites for PSY 4760

Electives Group B: Individualized Instruction and Experiential Courses

1050	Careers in Psychology	1
1540	Psychology of Adjustment	2
2010	The Science and Profession of Psychology	3
2800***	Projects and Research	1-2
2830***	Directed Readings	1-2
2890****	Cooperative Work Experience	1-2
4380*****	Practicum	1-2
4390*****	Practicum	1-2
4800***	Projects and Research	2-3
4830***	Directed Readings	2-3
4890****	Cooperative Work Experience	1-2
4910*****	Capstone Research Project	3, 3
4920*****	Conferences and Workshops	1-3

*** PSY 2800, 2830, 4800 and 4830 require a contract to be filled out with an instructor prior to registration.

**** PSY 2890 and 4890 require the student to have a current job in the field and get permission of the coordinator in the department.

***** Eighteen credit hours of psychology coursed approved by the supervising instructor are required, one of which must be PSY 1010. Also, permission of the instructor is required. A maximum of four credit hours counted toward the psychology major and minor from the following courses: PSY 2890, 4890, 4380 and 4390.

***** PSY 4910 requires a contract to be completed for the project and approval of the Department of Psychology prior to registration. The course is taken for one semester to complete the proposal and gain approval. This course is taken for a second semester to complete the project.

***** PSY 4920 may be used for credit toward a major or minor or BIS in psychology but only when written permission of the department is given at the time of registration.

Course Designations:

DV = Fulfills a University Diversity Requirement

SI = Fulfills a University Scientific Inquiry Requirement

SS = Fulfills a Social Science General Education Requirement

Psychology Faculty

Professor	Area of Interest	Office	Phone (801)	Email address
Eric Amsel (Chair)	Developmental	SS 354	626-6658	eamsel@weber.edu
Aaron Ashley	Cognitive	SS 360	626-8743	aaronashley@weber.edu
Todd Baird	Clinical	SS 328B	626-7724	tbaird@weber.edu
Norris Bancroft	Experimental	SS 328A	626-7068	nbancroft@weber.edu
Lauren Fowler	Neuroscience	SS 368	626-7620	lfowler@weber.edu
Azenett Garza	Social	SS 328D	626-6249	agarza@weber.edu
Richard Grow	Clinical	SS 334	626-6713	rgrow@weber.edu
Joseph Horvat	Personality	SS 340	626-6248	jhorvat@weber.edu
Theresa Kay	Clinical	SS 366	626-6812	tkay@weber.edu
Maria Parrilla de Kokal	Clinical Developmental	SS 328B	626-7622	mdekokal@weber.edu
Melinda Russell-Stamp	School/Educational	Davis 308K	395-3592	melindarussellstamp@weber.edu
Matthew Schmolesky	Neuroscience	SS 356	626-8745	mschmolesky@weber.edu
Leigh Shaw	Developmental	SS 362	626-7429	lshaw@weber.edu
Mark Adams (Adjunct)	Clinical	CS	626-6406	marksadams@weber.edu
Melissa Alder (Adjunct)	Clinical	CS	626-6406	melissaalder1@weber.edu
Julie Arbuckle (Emeritus)	Clinical		626-6247	
Bruce Haslam (Emeritus and Adjunct)	Social	SS 305	626-6247	wbhaslam@weber.edu
Bill McVaugh (Emeritus)	Clinical		626-6247	
Craig Oreshnick (Adjunct)	Clinical	CS	626-6406	coreshnick@weber.edu
Peggy Smith (Adjunct SLCC)	Developmental Psychopathology			margaretsmith@weber.edu