

# **ADVISEMENT INFORMATION FOR BA & BS PSYCHOLOGY MAJORS**

**(Catalog Year: 2022-2023)**

## **What kind of undergraduate degree can I get in psychology at Baylor University?**

The Department of Psychology and Neuroscience offers three undergraduate degrees, the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Psychology, the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Psychology, and the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Neuroscience. Information on the Neuroscience program is available in “Neuroscience Advising Guide”, which is available in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience office (BSB B309).”

## **What is the difference between B.A. and B.S. Degrees?**

The B.A. and B.S. degrees in Psychology provide liberal arts education with required courses in the humanities, mathematics, natural science, and social science. The B.A. degree has a greater emphasis in the humanities and the B.S. degree has a greater emphasis in science and mathematics. The choice of the B.A. degree versus the B.S. degree is more a matter of your interests and abilities rather than career choice, as most careers are equally accessible with the B.A. or the B.S. Graduate and professional schools in psychology and other disciplines place much greater emphasis on the courses you take, your grade point average and career-related experiences, than whether your degree is a B.A. or a B.S. Approximately 80-85% of our majors earn the B.A. degree.

## **What about graduate programs at Baylor?**

Baylor offers two graduate degrees in psychology, the Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Psychology. However, being a Baylor undergraduate does not mean you will be able to get an advanced degree from Baylor as well. Students from all over the country apply for these programs, and only a select few are chosen. You can find out more about Baylor University graduate programs online: <https://www.baylor.edu/psychologyneuroscience/index.php?id=946251>

## **What do I do once I decide to major in Psychology?**

You should declare Pre-Psychology (see below) as your major; then you must complete the requirements listed in your degree plan. You may obtain your degree audit through BearWeb.

## **What is “Pre-Psychology”?**

All new students are admitted as Pre-Psychology majors. Students enrolling at Baylor as Freshman will be promoted into the PSY major when they have achieved the following:

### **Pre-Major in Psychology (BA)**

Incoming first-year students are admitted as "Pre-PSY majors." Students will be admitted into the PSY major when they have achieved the following:

- A. Completed, with a grade of C or better
  - PSY 1305: Psychological Science
  - NSC 1306: Introduction to Neuroscience
  - PSY 2402: Psychological Statistics

Transfer or AP credit cannot be used to complete these six hour requirements for promotion, although they may be used to satisfy graduation requirements.

- B. Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.25 in no fewer than 40 hours completed at Baylor University. Transfer hours and grades are not considered in meeting these requirements.

All students will be evaluated at the conclusion of the summer, fall, or spring term in which 40 hours is surpassed. Students failing to meet these requirements for promotion at that time will be ineligible to continue in the BA PSY major.

#### Students enrolling as transfer

1. Students transferring from another institution may select Pre-PSY (BA) as a major. Transfer students must complete the above requirements within their first 30 hours attempted at Baylor University. Application for a Change of Major should be made with the student's academic advisor.
2. Students wishing to transfer to BA PSY from another major at Baylor must have completed requirements listed in "A" above, must have an overall GPA of 2.5, and must do so before 60 hours are attempted at Baylor University. Upon successful application, such students will be admitted directly to the BA PSY major. Application for a Change of Major should be made with the student's academic advisor

*Students failing to meet the promotion criteria cannot continue in the major.*

#### **Pre-Psychology (BS Degree)**

- A. Completed the following courses, with a C or better:
- MTH 1321
  - PSY 1101 if matriculating as a Pre-PSY major, an alternative NSE course may be used as a substitute, with approval of the chair or chair's designee. This requirement is waived for transfer students.
- B. Completed six hours at Baylor University from the following courses:
- PSY 1305
  - NSC 1306-1106
  - PSY 2402
- C. Have a minimum GPA of 2.75 in no fewer than 40 hours attempted at Baylor University

*All students will be evaluated at the conclusion of the summer, fall, or spring term in which 40 hours is surpassed. Students failing to meet these requirements for promotion at that time will be ineligible to continue in the BA PSY major.*

#### Students enrolling as transfers

1. Students transferring from another institution may select Pre-PSY (BS) as a major. Transfer students must complete the above requirements within their first 30 hours attempted at Baylor University. Application for a change of major should be made with the student's academic advisor.
2. Students transferring from another major at Baylor cannot select Pre-PSY (BS) as a major. Rather, students desiring to change their major to BS PSY must have completed requirements listed in "A" above, must have an overall GPA of 3.30, and must do so before 45 hours are attempted at Baylor University. Upon successful application, such students will be admitted directly to the BS PSY major. Application for a Change of Major should be made through the student's academic advisor.

*Students failing to meet the promotion criteria cannot continue in the major.*

NOTE: Once you have completed the pre-requisites for the major, you will automatically be promoted to the full major. If you fail to meet the minimal criteria, your major will automatically be changed to “undecided”. This could cause you to be dropped from upper level psychology courses that you have enrolled in for the subsequent semester. You should be proactive in talking to your advisor within the department (Dr. Lawrence) if it looks like you will NOT meet the minimal criteria to discuss your options.

### **What about the requirement for advanced hours?**

Advanced hours are achieved by taking any course that is at the “3000- 4000” level. The university specifies that you must have at least 36 hours of advanced coursework. All 3000 or 4000 level psychology hours count toward this university requirement. Please note that when you complete the requirements for the psychology major, you will have only taken 19 or 20 hours of advanced credit hours. You must take an additional 16 – 17 hours of advanced courses. To complete the advanced hour requirement, you may take any combination of additional courses inside or outside the department.

### **Are there any special recommendations about completing the requirements for the major?**

Yes. Here are some specific suggestions:

1. Psychological Science (PSY 1305) and Introduction to Neuroscience (NSC 1306 and 1106) should be taken very early, preferably in your freshman year.
2. Your “Formal Reasoning” requirement should be fulfilled very early, preferably in your freshman year. Please note that PHI 1306: Logic and MTH 1301: Ideas in Mathematics do not qualify as a pre-requisite for PSY 2402: Statistics. Therefore, students should take MTH 1320: Pre-Calculus, MTH 1321: Calculus I or STA 1380: Elementary Statistics to fulfill their Formal Reasoning requirement.
3. Psychological Science (1305), Statistics (2402) and Introduction to Neuroscience (NSC 1306/1106) are the prerequisites for most other psychology courses.
4. Try to enroll in Research Methods (PSY 2405) the semester after you complete Statistics.
5. Plan your schedule carefully so that you are not overburdened with too many laboratory courses (foreign language, lab science, psychological science, and statistics) in the same semester.
6. Seek Academic Advisement every semester. Watch for advising or other types of registration “Holds”. You will not be allowed to register until you remove all Holds.
7. Register as soon as you are able. Your registration time and date will be posted on BearWeb a few weeks before registration begins. If you wait to register, the psychology classes you need might already be filled.
8. To gain admittance into a closed class, you should get on the electronic waitlist. If you are graduating senior, you may contact the Psychology Department or Dr. Lawrence to discuss your options. **Although the catalog says you may get consent of the instructor for prerequisite waivers, those decisions are made only by the department chair or a designee of the chair.**

### **How do I make sure I have all the courses I need to graduate?**

The degree audit is how the university determines your eligibility for graduation. Therefore, you should get a copy of your degree audit every semester to make sure you are meeting all your necessary requirements for graduation. Information about preparing for graduation and filing a graduation card are available through the University’s website. In addition, you should make an appointment each semester with the academic advisor for your degree programs (University Advising Office, College of Arts and Sciences Advising Office, Psychology Department, Honors College, BIC, and/or Pre-Health). Ask questions. Check BearWeb to determine who is designated as your academic advisor. Ultimately the responsibility to ensure you have completed all your requirements rests on you, not your advising team.

## BA Degree (Requirements for a Major in Psychology) 34-35 hours

Group A: Required courses. Students are required to take all of the following:

PSY 1305	Psychological Science	none
NSC 1306	Introduction to Neuroscience	none
NSC 1106	Introduction to Neuroscience Lab	none
PSY 2402	Statistics	PSY 1305; MTH 1320, 1321 or STA 1380
PSY 2405	Research Methods	1305 & 2402

Group B: Student must select one class from the following three groups

Group 1: Mental Health

PSY 3308	Theories of Psychotherapy/Counseling	1305 & 2402
PSY 3309	Introduction to Clinical Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3330	Psychopathology	1305 & 1306/1106

Group 2: Experimental Psychology with Laboratory

PSY 3311/3111	Cognition	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 3320/3120	Learning & Behavior	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 3323/3123	Sensation & Perception	1306/1106 & 2402

Group 3: Social and Developmental Psychology

PSY 3310	Social Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3350	Life Span Human Development	1305 & 1306/1106
PSY 4327	Theories of Personality	1305 & 2402

Group C: Advanced Psychological Electives. Select 3 additional courses (minimum of 9 hours) from the above lists or any other 3000 level or 4000 level PSY course (see list of courses below). PSY 3321 & 3341 are not applicable to the major.

PSY 3314	Industrial/Organizational Psychology †	1305 & 2402
PSY 3318	Psychology of Memory	1305, 1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 3333	Health Disparities	1305
PSY 3335	Child Psychopathology	1305
PSY 3360	Psychology of Gender †	1305 & 2402
PSY 3370	Affective Neuroscience	1306/1106
PSY 3375	Sleep	1306/1106
PSY 3380	Forensic Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3399	Positive Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3406	Comparative Psychology †	1305, 1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4302	Human Development †	1305 & 2402
PSY 4312	Behavioral Medicine	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4315	Psychological Assessment & Psychometrics	2402
PSY 4317	The Literature of Behavioral Neuroscience	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4324	Research on the Senses and Perception †	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4325	Sports and Exercise Psychology	1305
PSY 4329	Consciousness †	1305, & 1306/1106
PSY 4339	Psychology of Religion	1305
PSY 4355	Psychology of Aging	1305
PSY 4380	Psychology of Personal Relationships	1305 & 2402
PSY 4385	Psychology of Film	1305
PSY 4395	History of Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 4400	Advanced Statistics	2402 or STA 2381
PSY 4v96	Special Topics in Psychology	instructor consent

† These courses are offered at select times throughout a 2- to 4-year period

Note: 3v90: Community Internship is a 3000-level course that does not count toward the major but does count as an upper division course (prerequisite is PSY 3330: Psychopathology)

Group D: Courses required in other fields (A grade of "C" or better is required in each of these courses)

- MTH 1320: Pre-cal or MTH 1321: Cal I or STA 1380: Elem. Stats.
- Four additional hours from the Scientific Methods I Distribution List (not NSC).

## Degree Requirement Guide - Bachelor of Arts

A Suggested Sequence of Required Courses - BA Degrees 2022-2023

F r e s h m a n Y e a r			
Fall		Spring	
_____ 0	Core: Common Course (Chapel)	_____ 0	Core: Common Course (Chapel)
_____ 0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)	_____ 0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)
_____ 3	Core: Common Course	_____ 3	Core: Common Course
_____ 3	Core: Common Course	_____ 3-4	Core: Distribution List (**Foreign Language)
_____ 3-4	Core: Distribution List (**Foreign Language)	_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course
_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course	_____ 3	Major Course
_____ 1	Core: Lifetime Fitness	_____ 3	Elective (see below)
_____ 3	Major Course		
<b>Total:</b> 16-17		<b>Total:</b> 15-16	
S o p h o m o r e Y e a r			
Fall		Spring	
_____ 0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)	_____ 0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)
_____ 3	Core: Common Course	_____ 3	Core: Common Course
_____ 3-4	Core: Distribution List (**Foreign Language)	_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course
_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course	_____ 3	Major Course
_____ 3	Major Course	_____ 3-4	Elective (see below) / DL (Foreign Language)
_____ 3	Elective (see below)	_____ 3	Elective (see below)
<b>Total:</b> 15-16		<b>Total:</b> 15-16	
J u n i o r Y e a r			
Fall		Spring	
_____ 0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)	_____ 0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)
_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course	_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course
_____ 3	Major Course	_____ 3	Major Course
_____ 3	Major Course	_____ 3	Major Course
_____ 3	Elective (see below)	_____ 3	Elective (see below)
_____ 3	Elective (see below)	_____ 3	Elective (see below)
<b>Total:</b> 15		<b>Total:</b> 15	
S e n i o r Y e a r			
Fall		Spring	
_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course	_____ 3	Core: Distribution List Course
_____ 3	Major Course	_____ 3	Major Course
_____ 3	Major Course	_____ 3	Major Course
_____ 3	Elective (see below)	_____ 3	Elective (see below)
_____ 3	Elective (see below)	_____ 3	Elective (see below)
<b>Total:</b> 15		<b>Total:</b> 15	

**All students must graduate with a minimum of 124 hours, 36 of which must be at the 3000/4000 level.**

### Notes about major requirements:

<p>- This is a Degree Requirement Guide. It provides a general understanding of how the courses that fulfill a BA degree <u>may</u> be taken during your time at Baylor. Because every major under the BA degree will differ, it is important that you refer to your degree audit and catalog for the specific requirements for your chosen major. In addition, it is imperative that you meet with your assigned advisor each semester to make sure you are fulfilling all requirements for a timely graduation. <b>All students must graduate with a minimum of 124 hours, 36 of which must be at the 3000-4000 level.</b></p>
<p>- <b>Core - Common Course:</b> These are common courses that are part of the general education requirements for all College of Arts and Sciences (A&amp;S) degrees. All students in A&amp;S must fulfill these requirements. Those areas within the Core that may require multiple semesters are indicated above. The 1000-level Core courses should be taken in the freshman or sophomore years and 2000-level Core courses should typically be taken in the sophomore year or later. Please refer to your degree audit or catalog for a full listing of courses. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation.</p>
<p>- <b>Core - Distribution Lists (DL):</b> This portion of the A&amp;S Core curriculum includes 9 separate sections with over 200 courses from which to choose. You must complete the specific requirements of each section. Those areas within the DLs that may require multiple semesters are indicated above. Please refer to your degree audit or catalog for a full listing of courses. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation.</p>
<p>- <b>*Core - Creative Arts Experience (CAE):</b> You must attend 12 approved CAE events as part of your general education requirements. You are encouraged to attend at least 2 approved CAE events per semester (or 4 within one academic year) in order to fulfill this requirement in a timely manner. Please see your assigned advisor for more information.</p>
<p>- <b>**Core - Foreign Language:</b> The hours to complete your foreign language requirement may differ depending on which of the three options you choose or if you test into a higher level of language from the beginning. The hours could range from 8-12 hours. Please see your assigned advisor for more information.</p>
<p>- <b>Major Course:</b> These are the courses that are required for your major. Refer to the catalog or your degree audit for the exact number of hours required for your chosen major(s). The hours for each major will vary slightly. It will be critical that you work with your assigned academic advisor to understand the sequencing of these major courses.</p>
<p>- <b>Elective:</b> Because of the number of electives that are available with many BA majors, you may opt for a double major, secondary major, minor(s) or certificate(s) with the BA degree. The number of upper level (3000-4000) electives needed to graduate will depend on those upper level classes that are required in the major(s), secondary major, minor(s), certificate(s) and on how many upper level courses you choose to take from the DLs. You will need <b>36 hours</b> of upper level courses to graduate. Refer to your degree audit or catalog for more information about how you can use your elective hours. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation about electives and to ensure you are meeting all requirements for graduation.</p>

## BS Degree (Requirements for a Major in Psychology) 34-35 hours

Group A: Required courses. Students are required to take all of the following:

PSY 1305	Psychological Science
NSC 1306/1106	Introduction to Neuroscience/Lab
PSY 2402	Statistics
PSY 2405	Research Methods

Group B: Student must select one class from each of the following four groups:

Group 1: Mental Health

PSY 3308	Theories of Psychotherapy/Counseling
PSY 3309	Introduction to Clinical Psychology
PSY 3330	Psychopathology

Group 2: Experimental Psychology with Laboratory

PSY 3311/3111	Cognition	
PSY 3320/3120	Learning & Behavior	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 3323/3123	Sensation & Perception	1306/1106 & 2402

Group 3: Quantitative Psychology

PSY 4315	Psychological Assessment & Psychometrics	2402
PSY 4400	Advanced Statistics	2402 or STA 2381

Group 4: Biological Psychology

PSY 4312	Behavioral Medicine	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4319	Clinical Neuroscience	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 3355	Drugs and Behavior	1306/1106

Group C: Advanced Psychological Electives. Select 2 additional courses (minimum of 6 hours) from the above lists or any other 3000 level or 4000 level PSY course (see list of courses below). PSY 3321 & 3341 are not applicable to the major.

PSY 3314	Industrial/Organizational Psychology †	1305 & 2402
PSY 3318	Psychology of Memory	1305, 1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 3310	Social Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3333	Health Disparities	1305
PSY 3335	Child Psychopathology	1305
PSY 3350	Life Span Human Development	1305 & 1306/1106
PSY 3360	Psychology of Gender †	1305 & 2402
PSY 3370	Affective Neuroscience	1306/1106
PSY 3375	Sleep	1306/1106
PSY 3380	Forensic Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3399	Positive Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 3406	Comparative Psychology †	1305, 1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4302	Human Development †	1305 & 2402
PSY 4317	The Literature of Behavioral Neuroscience	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4324	Research on the Senses and Perception †	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4325	Sports and Exercise Psychology	1305
PSY 4327	Theories of Personality	1305 & 2402
PSY 4329	Consciousness †	1306/1106 & 2402
PSY 4339	Psychology of Religion	1305
PSY 4355	Psychology of Aging	1305
PSY 4380	Psychology of Personal Relationships	1305 & 2402
PSY 4385	Psychology of Film	1305
PSY 4395	History of Psychology	1305 & 2402
PSY 4v96	Special Topics in Psychology	instructor consent

† These courses are offered at select times throughout a 2- to 4-year period

Note: 3v90: Community Internship in Psychology is a 3000-level course that does not count toward the major but does count as an upper division course (prerequisite is PSY 3330: Psychopathology)

Group D: Courses required in other fields (A grade of "C" or better is required in each of these courses)

- MTH 1321 and 1322
- BIO 1305-1105 and 1306-1106
- CHE 1301-1101 and 1302-1102
- PHY 1408 or 1420

## Degree Requirement Guide - Bachelor of Science

A Suggested Sequence of Required Courses - BS Degrees 2022-2023

F r e s h m a n Y e a r					
Fall					
	0	Core: Common Course (Chapel)	Spring	0	Core: Common Course (Chapel)
	0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)		0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)
	3	Core: Common Course		3	Core: Common Course
	3-4	Core: Distribution List (**Foreign Language)		3-4	Core: Distribution List (**Foreign Language)
	3	Core: Distribution List Course		1	Core: Lifetime Fitness
	3-4	Major (required courses in other fields)		3-4	Major (required courses in other fields)
	3-4	Major Course		3-4	Major Course
Total:	15-18		Total:	13-16	
S o p h o m o r e Y e a r					
Fall			Spring		
	0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)		0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)
	3	Core: Common Course		3	Core: Common Course
	3-4	Core: Distribution List (**Foreign Language)		3	Core: Common Course
	3	Core: Distribution List Course		3-4	Major (required courses in other fields)
	3-4	Major (required courses in other fields)		3-4	Major Course
	3-4	Major Course		3-4	Major Course
Total:	15-18		Total:	15-18	
J u n i o r Y e a r					
Fall			Spring		
	0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)		0	Core: Common Requirement (Creative Arts)
	3	Core: Distribution List Course		3	Core: Distribution List Course
	3	Major (required courses in other fields)		3	Major (required courses in other fields)
	3-4	Major (required courses in other fields)		3-4	Major (required courses in other fields)
	3-4	Major Course		3-4	Major Course
	3-4	Major Course		3-4	Major Course
Total:	15-18		Total:	15-18	
S e n i o r Y e a r					
Fall			Spring		
	3-4	Core: Distribution List Course		3-4	Core: Distribution List Course
	3-4	Major Course		3-4	Major Course
	3	Major Course		3	Major Course
	3	Elective (see below)		3	Elective (see below)
	3	Elective (see below)		3	Elective (see below)
Total:	15-17		Total:	15-17	

All students must graduate with a minimum of 124 hours, 36 of which must be at the 3000/4000 level.

### Notes about major requirements:

- This is a Degree Requirement Guide. It provides a general understanding of how the courses that fulfill a BS degree may be taken during your time at Baylor. Because every major under the BS degree will differ, it is important that you refer to your degree audit and catalog for the specific requirements for your chosen major. In addition, it is imperative that you meet with your assigned advisor each semester to make sure you are fulfilling all requirements for a timely graduation. All students must graduate with a minimum of 124 hours, 36 of which must be at the 3000-4000 level.
- **Core - Common Course:** These are common courses that are part of the general education requirements for all College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) degrees. All students in A&S must fulfill these requirements. Those areas within the Core that may require multiple semesters are indicated above. The 1000-level Core courses should be taken in the freshman or sophomore years and 2000-level Core courses should typically be taken in the sophomore year or later. Please refer to your degree audit or catalog for a full listing of courses. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation.
- **Core - Distribution Lists (DL):** This portion of the A&S Core curriculum includes 9 separate sections with over 200 courses from which to choose. You must complete the specific requirements of each section. Those areas within the DLs that may require multiple semesters are indicated above. Please refer to your degree audit or catalog for a full listing of courses. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation. **NOTE:** Three of the DL sections (Scientific Method I, II, and Critical Thinking) are covered by science classes from most BS majors. Please see your advisor to discuss if this will apply to your chosen major.
- **\*Core - Creative Arts Experience (CAE):** You must attend 12 approved CAE events as part of your general education requirements. You are encouraged to attend at least 2 approved CAE events per semester (or 4 within one academic year) in order to fulfill this requirement in a timely manner. Please see your assigned advisor for more information.
- **\*\*Core - Foreign Language:** The hours to complete your foreign language requirement may differ depending on which of the three options you choose from the DL or if you test into a higher level of language from the beginning. The hours could range from 8-12 hours. Please see your assigned advisor for more information.
- **Major Course:** These are the courses that are required for your major. Refer to the catalog or your degree audit for the exact number of hours required for your chosen major(s). The hours for each major will vary slightly. It will be critical that you work with your assigned academic advisor to understand the sequencing of these major courses.
- **Major (required courses in other fields):** These are courses that are required for your major, but are not in your major department. For example, the Biology major will require that you take courses in other areas such as Chemistry, Math and Physics. The number of courses required in this area will vary depending on your chosen major. Please refer to your degree audit or catalog for a full listing of courses. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation.
- **Elective:** Because the number of electives that are available with most BS majors can vary significantly, you will want to discuss the possibility of adding a double major, secondary major, minor(s) or certificate(s) with your assigned advisor. Otherwise, these elective hours can be any 1000-4000 level course for which you qualify to register. Please refer to your catalog for a full listing of classes. Please see your assigned advisor for a more detailed explanation.

