

Psychology Department

The Psychology Major Requirements

Based on the 2019-2020 Catalog

	Requirement	Credits	Timing / Comments	Notes:
	Required psychology courses:			
	PSYC 110 (Intro to Psychology)	3	As early as possible	
	PSYC 210 (Psych. Statistics)	3	Before taking Methods	
	PSYC 210L (Psych. Stats Lab)	1	Together with 210	
	PSYC 220 (Research Methods) ¹	4	After 210 & before senior year	
	PSYC 420 (Senior Seminar)	4	Fall of senior year	
	PSYC-495 & 496/8 ²	6	Fall and spring of senior year	
	Elective psychology courses:			
	PSYC-260 or 270	4	Sooner rather than later	
	PSYC-229, 360, or 390	4	Sooner rather than later	
	PSYC-230 or 240	4	Sooner rather than later	
	Choose a PSYC 3XX seminar	3	A 300-level seminar	
	Total PSYC credits above:	36		
(□)	Optional 2XX and 3XX courses	any	After fulfilling prerequisites	
	Requirements outside Psychology			
	Philosophy	2	Sooner rather than later	
П	Biology	2	Sooner rather than later	
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_	Additional Requirements			
Ц	Complete written thesis			
Ц	Thesis oral exam		Spring of senior year	
	Narrative assessment of major		Spring of senior year	
	Attaining Honors in the Major †			
Ц	(1) Pass thesis orals with distinction		(decided by thesis committee)	
Ц	(2) A-/A grade on thesis each term (2)		(decided by thesis advisor)	
Ц	(3) Present at conference		(WC UGC 3 , WPA 4 , or other)	
Ц	(4) GPA > 2.299		(at the time of graduation)	
Ц	(5) Psychology major GPA > 3.499		(at the time of graduation)	
	(6) Dept. unanimous vote on thesis		(If criteria 1-4 are met)	

Language

Students with high GPAs may be eligible for invitation to the **Phi Beta Kappa** liberal-arts honors society (<u>www.pbk.org</u>) in their junior or senior year, but they must have taken at least one foreign-language course at the 200-level or higher. Studying languages is good for the mind-brain and for one's career, too!

Footnotes

¹ If planning to study abroad, then be extra careful with planning when to take 210+210L and 220!

- 2 If hoping for honors in the major, do not register for PSYC-498; 496 will be converted to 498 automatically if honors status is awarded to you by the department.
- ³Whitman College Undergraduate Conference
- ⁴Western Psychological Association
- [†] See also the **Psychology Majors' Handbook** on the departmental website.