

PSYCHOLOGY (BA)

CIP: 42.0101

Program Description

Psychology is the study of mind and behavior. The major in Psychology introduces students to the main concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the field. Students gain the ability to think scientifically, creatively, and critically about human behavior and mental processes; to acquire the basic skills for conducting research in these areas; and to develop a general understanding of psychology as both a natural science and a social science.

Students grapple with overarching themes and persistent questions in psychology, such as the interaction of heredity and environment, variability and continuity of behavior and mental processes within and across species, free will versus determinism, the relation between mind and body, and applicability of general theories and measures to specific societal and cultural contexts. Topics of inquiry include cognition, sensation and perception, language and memory, child development and education, personality and individual differences, social interaction and group dynamics, intergroup relations, and the connection between the individual and society.

Students complete the major with realistic ideas about how to implement their psychological knowledge, skills, and values in occupational pursuits in a variety of settings. The NYUAD Psychology Program provides a solid preparation for graduate programs in basic and applied psychology, other psychology-related fields, and graduate programs in business, education, health, and law.

Specialization

Brain and Cognitive Sciences

For Psychology majors only

The Psychology major offers a specialization in Brain and Cognitive Science (BCS), which covers the collection of disciplines that are unified by a focus on the function of the brain. BCS investigates some of the deepest mysteries facing science in the 21st century, which concern the processes that underlie neural dynamics and enable higher brain functions, including perception, memory, attention, language, emotion, decision-making, motor control, and consciousness.

Experimental approaches in BCS vary from analyses of molecular and cellular mechanisms in nerve cells and groups of nerve cells to imaging studies of the entire brain to behavioral studies of whole organisms. Theoretical tools include mathematical and computational modeling approaches that have proved useful in other areas of science. Experimental questions include issues related to biophysical and neurochemical mechanisms within single nerve cells, meso- and macro-scale functional neural circuits, and the relationship between activity at these various levels of analysis and behavior. Additionally, courses in the BCS will examine how disruption at these different levels results in psychiatric (e.g., anxiety disorders and depression), neurological (e.g., Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases), and developmental (e.g., dyslexia and autism) disorders.

Study Away

The study away pathway can be found on the NYUAD Student Portal at students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways (<http://students.nyuad.nyu.edu/>

pathways/). Students with questions should contact the Office of Global Education.

Psychology courses taken abroad may not be counted as advanced electives. The program strongly recommends that students not take more than one Psychology course while studying abroad.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Physical Education (2 courses)		
Quantitative Reasoning (1 course)		
Experimental Inquiry (1 course)		
Islamic Studies (1 course)		
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
Colloquia		4
Field Colloquia (2 J-Term courses)		6
Core Competencies		
Arts, Design, and Technology		4
Cultural Exploration Analysis		4
Data and Discovery		4
Structures of Thought and Society		4
Major Required Courses		
PSYCH-UH 1001	Introduction to Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 1002EQ	Research Methods in Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 1003E	Biopsychology	4
PSYCH-UH 1004Q	Statistics for Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 3090	Research Seminar in Psychology	2
Major Electives (see note below)		
Complete 2 Cognition and Perception electives (see list below)		8
Complete 2 Social and Developmental Psychology electives (see list below)		8
Complete 2 Advanced electives (see lists below)		8
Capstone		
PSYCH-UH 4001	Capstone Project in Psychology 1	4
PSYCH-UH 4002	Capstone Project in Psychology 2	4
Other Electives		
Complete enough courses to reach the minimum overall required 128 credits		48
Total Credits		128

Notes: Advanced Psychology electives cannot replace other Psychology electives.

Cognition and Perception Electives

(Cannot be replaced by Advanced Psychology electives.)

Code	Title	Credits
PSYCH-UH 2216	Psychotherapy and Counseling	4
PSYCH-UH 2217	Abnormal Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 2218	Language Science	4
PSYCH-UH 2410	Cognition	4
PSYCH-UH 2411	Perception	4
PSYCH-UH 2412	Cognitive Neuroscience	4

Social and Developmental Psychology Electives

(Cannot be replaced by Advanced Psychology electives.)

Code	Title	Credits
PSYCH-UH 2210	Developmental Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 2211	Social Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 2213	Motivation and Volition	4
PSYCH-UH 2215	Psychology of Sex and Gender	4
PSYCH-UH 2216	Psychotherapy and Counseling	4
PSYCH-UH 2217	Abnormal Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 2219	Cultural Psychology	4

Advanced Electives

Advanced Psychology electives cannot replace other Psychology electives.

Code	Title	Credits
POLSC-UH 2310	Political Psychology	4
PSYCH-UH 3613EQ	Lab in Early Childhood Education	4
PSYCH-UH 3614EQ	Lab in Multisensory Perception and Action	4
PSYCH-UH 3616EQ	Lab in Data Analysis for the Psychological Sciences	4
PSYCH-UH 3617EQ	Lab in Visual Neuroscience	4
PSYCH-UH 3618EQ	Lab in Psychology of Gender Images	4
PSYCH-UH 3619EQ	Lab in Psychology of Economic Inequality	4
PSYCH-UH 3620EQ	Lab in Clinical Neuropsychology	4
PSYCH-UH 3621EQ	Lab in Language Science	4
PSYCH-UH 3720	Special Topics in Psychology	4

Specialization Requirements

Brain and Cognitive Science (for Psychology majors)

Students pursuing the Brain and Cognitive Science (BCS) specialization for the Psychology major must complete 2 additional courses, along with other elective restrictions noted below.

Course	Title	Credits
BCS Required Courses		
BIOL-UH 3101	Behavioral and Integrative Neuroscience	4
BIOL-UH 3211	Experimental Neurobiology	4
Cognition and Perception Electives		

Psychology majors specializing in Brain and Cognitive Science (BCS) must take PSYCH-UH 2412 as one of their Cognition and Perception electives for the major.

PSYCH-UH 2412	Cognitive Neuroscience (can be used toward major Cognition and Perception electives)
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Advanced Electives

Psychology majors specializing in Brain and Cognitive Science (BCS) must take two of the following as their Advanced electives for the major.

PSYCH-UH 3614EQ	Lab in Multisensory Perception and Action
PSYCH-UH 3617EQ	Lab in Visual Neuroscience
PSYCH-UH 3620EQ	Lab in Clinical Neuropsychology
PSYCH-UH 3621EQ	Lab in Language Science

Total Credits	8
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Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
PSYCH-UH 1001	Introduction to Psychology	4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
Physical Education		
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
Field Colloquia (J-Term)		3
Credits		3
3rd Semester/Term		
PSYCH-UH 1002EQ	Research Methods in Psychology	4
Colloquia		4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
4th Semester/Term		
PSYCH-UH 1003E	Biopsychology	4
Major Elective		4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
Physical Education		
Credits		16
5th Semester/Term		
Field Colloquia (J-Term)		3
Credits		3
6th Semester/Term		
PSYCH-UH 1004Q	Statistics for Psychology	4
Major Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
7th Semester/Term		
Major Elective		4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16

8th Semester/Term

PSYCH-UH 3090	Research Seminar in Psychology	2
Major Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		14

9th Semester/Term

PSYCH-UH 4001	Capstone Project in Psychology 1	4
Advanced Major Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16

10th Semester/Term

PSYCH-UH 4002	Capstone Project in Psychology 2	4
Advanced Major Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		12
Total Credits		128

Learning Outcomes

Students who major in Psychology at NYU Abu Dhabi will develop:

1. Specialized knowledge of the psychology scientific, theoretical literature.
2. Comprehensive understanding of the critical problems and questions in psychology, including how to identify them, evaluate their importance, and prepare ways to study them.
3. Technical, creative, and analytic skills to collect, analyze, and interpret various types of data. These skills will include a mastery of widely used computer-based data collection programs and statistical software packages.
4. Advanced communication skills, including how to present their work according to the field's academic standards. These skills will include a mastery of how to write papers in the style of the American Psychological Association (APA).
5. The ability to recognize the ethical complexity of issues in psychology, including the necessity for academic integrity.
6. Skills to self-evaluate and evaluate others through the peer-review process of critical idea exchange.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

NYU Abu Dhabi Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on NYU Abu Dhabi's undergraduate academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/abu-dhabi/academic-policies/>).