Psychology examines human behavior through environmental, genetic, physiological, and social determinants and correlates. The department strives to train students with a strong general background in psychology and an ability to think clearly and critically in a wide variety of settings. Students must fulfill distribution requirements in a wide variety of psychological topics.

Faculty and students work with related University units, including the Institute of Child Development, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, the Carlson School of Management, the departments of psychiatry and educational psychology, the Neuroscience Graduate Program, and affiliated research units within the department, such as the Center for Cognitive Science, the Center for Interest Measurement Research, and the Minnesota Center for Twin and Family Research. While a B.A. in psychology has proved to be a valuable and useful background for a wide variety of careers, a professional career as a psychologist requires further training.

**Preparatory Coursework**

Psy 1001—Introductory Psychology.

**Degree Requirements**

Students must complete at least 120 credits to graduate, including at least 36 credits in the major.

Degree requirements include Psy 1001—Introduction to Psychology (or its equivalent) and Psy 3005W—Introduction to Research Methods and Statistics. Students must also complete at least 24 additional credits of 3xxx, 4xxx, or 5xxx psychology courses, distributed across prescribed subject domains, and Psy 3902W—Major Project in Psychology.

All courses used to fulfill minimum requirements must be taken A-F. Students must receive a grade of C- or better for all courses in the major. Students must graduate with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better in courses taken to fulfill major requirements.

Transfer students must complete at least four upper division psychology courses at the University to be awarded a major in psychology.

**Required Courses**

- Psy 1001—Introduction to Psychology
- Psy 3005W—Introduction to Research Methods and Statistics
- Two courses from the cognitive and biological area: Psy 3011, 3031, 3051, 3061 or 5061, 4011, 4036, 5012W, 5013, 5014, 5015, 5031W, 5034, 5036W, 5037, 5038W, 5051W, 5054, 5062, 5064.
- Two courses from the clinical, personality and social areas: Psy 3101 or 5101, 3201, 3301, 3604 or 5604H, 3617, 3666, 5202, 5204, 5205, 5206, 5207, 5606, CPsy 3301, CPsy 4303.
- One course from the individual differences, quantitative and applied areas: Psy 3135 or 5135, 3137 and 5137, 3711, 4133, 4501, 4801, 5121, 5136, 5138, 5501, 5701, 5702, 5703, 5705, 5862, 5865.
- Electives from 3xxx, 4xxx, or 5xxx level psychology courses to satisfy the total minimum credit requirement (36 credits). A total of two courses from Psy 3960/5960, 3993/4993, 3994 and 3996 may be used.
  - Psy 3902W—Major Project
**Minor Requirements**

Undergraduate minors in psychology are offered in three tracks: general psychology, natural/biological science, and social science. All three tracks require completion of Psy 1001 and Psy 3005W plus four additional courses, for at least 20 credits.

**General Psychology Track**

One psychology course from each of the distribution areas of the major, and one elective course from any of the groups.

**Natural/Biological Science Track**

Three courses from the cognitive and biological area, and one course from the following: Psy 3101 or 5101, 3135 or 5135, 3137 and 5137, 3604 or 5604, 3666, 5136, 5137, 5206, 5606.

**Social Science Track**

Three courses from the clinical, personality and social areas, and one course from: Psy 3135 or 5135, 4133, 4501, 5121, 5136, 5138, 5501, 5701, 5702, 5703, 5705.

**What can I do with a major in psychology?**

**Skills**

Psychology majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers. These skills include:

- Ability to formulate clear and persuasive messages
- Independent, self-motivated work ethic
- Listening, clarifying, questioning and responding skills
- Ability to work well with diverse groups
- Analytical thinking, problem solving, and quantitative skills

**Employment**

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- **Social Services**—social work, therapy, health care
- **Education**—teaching, research, admissions, advising, student affairs
- **Nonprofit**—fundraising, programming, management
- **Business**—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting
- **Government**—public information, campaigns, research

Today’s workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

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**How do I declare a psychology major?**

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Talk with someone from the department: an adviser, a professor, or a teaching assistant, to learn more about the major and its requirements. A visit to the departmental website at www.psych.umn.edu/psyungrd may also be helpful.

2. When you decide upon a psychology major, meet with a psychology adviser to discuss requirements, academic and career goals, and departmental resources. Complete the Major Program form.

3. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.

4. If you decide to change your major, inform the Department of Psychology of your decision. Contact your CLA student community to learn about your new major’s declaration process.

**Remember!**

You have not declared a major until you have:

- completed a Major Program Form with your major adviser
- filed a copy with the major department
- filed a copy with your CLA student community
- be sure to keep a copy for yourself
For more information

About the psychology major:
Psychology Undergraduate Advising
105 Elliot Hall
(612) 625-8520
http://www.psych.umn.edu/
psyadvis@tc.umn.edu

About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:
CLA Psychological Sciences Student Community
30 Johnston Hall
(612) 626-7707
http://psysci.cla.umn.edu
psych@class.cla.umn.edu

or
CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300
http://www.mlk.umn.edu/
mlk@class.cla.umn.edu

About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:
Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577
www.cclc.umn.edu
cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

About graduation with honors:
Students interested in graduating with honors should contact:
CLA Honors Division
115 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-5522
www.cla.umn.edu/honors/
honors@class.cla.umn.edu

Notes: