

Welcome to the Psychology Major

The undergraduate psychology program offers BS, AB, and minor degrees. The BS degree requires completion of all requirements for the AB degree plus additional courses in the Quantitative Studies (QS) and Natural Sciences (NS) Areas of Knowledge. This fall, the psychology major started transitioning into a new set of requirements for the AB degree, which will be fully effective for students matriculating at Duke this fall (expected Class of 2022). When you declared AB Psychology as your major, the old set of requirements automatically applied to you. If you prefer to follow the new requirement, you can let us know by emailing us at psychologyDUS@duke.edu.

CURRENT MAJORS MAY CHOOSE WHICH SET OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS THEY WISH TO FOLLOW

The following is a head-to-head comparison of the old and new major requirements for the AB. NOTE: The additional requirements for the BS have not changed, and the minor has not changed.

AB Requirement	Old (what counts)	New (what counts)
Introductory Psychology	PSY 101 at Duke or Appropriate transfer course or High score on AP/IB exam	High AP/IB scores <u>no longer</u> allow students to place out of PSY 101 at Duke. Students can earn a PSY 11 or PSY 91 credit towards Trinity requirements but not towards the major
Statistics	PSY 201L, MATH 342, or STA 101 102, 104, 111, or 250	Same
Methods	PSY 202L, 202, or 301; one course in the PSY 302-315 series; or SOCIOL 332	PSY 202L or PSY 202 or one of the following if already taken prior to spring 2019: PSY 301-315, SOCIOL 332
Timeline for Completing the Foundational Courses (above)	Introductory Psychology along with Statistics and Methods requirements may be completed any time prior to graduation	Introductory Psychology along with Statistics and Methods requirements must be completed by the end of junior year
Distribution	Satisfied by taking two area survey courses, where at least one course is PSY 106/PSY 107 or PSY 102, and at least one course is PSY 105, PSY 103, or PSY 104. Up to four survey courses may count toward the major	Satisfied by taking three area survey courses, where at least one course is PSY 106/PSY 107 or PSY 102, and at least one course is PSY 105, PSY 103, or PSY 104. Up to four survey courses may count toward the major
Depth	At least three intermediate/advanced courses spread across two areas where a survey course was completed	None
Seminar	One upper-level seminar in psychology (First-year seminars and FOCUS courses do not count)	Same
Additional Upper-Level Course	None	Additional course at the 300 level or above (Research Independent Study courses do not count)
Eleven Courses	11 courses in Psychology, at least 9 of which must be taken at Duke. (Freshman seminars, FOCUS courses, and the PSY 203 practicum do not count.) No course that is being used to satisfy an AB requirement may also be used to satisfy a BS requirement. A maximum of two Research Independent Study courses may count toward either the AB or the BS	Same

Next Steps

- 1. Select your advisor:** Upon declaration, we will ask you to rank up to three faculty members that you would like to serve as your advisor in the major. We try our best to match you with your first option. However, there are instances where a faculty member is unable to accommodate additional advisees and we are not able to honor your preference. If you have no preference in your advisor assignment, we will assign you someone whose area of expertise best matches your interests, as outlined in your long-range plan. Before providing your rankings, please review faculty listings on our webpage: <http://psychandneuro.duke.edu/people/primary-faculty>. Submit your rank of three faculty members using this form <https://bit.ly/2OyGbxO>.
- 2. Check out the Psychology & Neuroscience website** (<https://psychandneuro.duke.edu/undergraduate>) for more details about the requirements for the AB, BS, and minor degrees in psychology along with their respective worksheets. You will also find information about research opportunities and announcements for internships, jobs and other professional development opportunities.
- 3. Set up a consultation meeting with our Undergraduate Program Coordinator** (psychologyDUS@duke.edu) to go over your advisement report and major checklist to make sure you are on track to complete the major. You will then use this information to complement your conversation with your faculty advisor.
- 4. Reach out to your faculty advisor.** Students must meet with their faculty advisors prior to registration each semester to be marked eligible to enroll in classes. We encourage our majors to be proactive by reaching out to their faculty advisors once the advisor assignments have been made. Building rapport and networking are two important skills to develop early on in your career journey. Your advisor relationship can help hone these skills. Faculty advisors are an essential resource during your undergraduate career, and we encourage you to take advantage of their knowledge and experience by requesting meetings outside of registration periods, attending their office hours, or inviting them to FLUNCH.
- 5. Join the psychology majors' listserv** to receive update (<https://lists.duke.edu/sympa/info/psy-undergrad>).
- 6. Join psychology-related organizations on campus** including NAMI (<https://www.facebook.com/dukenami/>), the Psychology Majors' Union (<https://dukegroups.com/organization/pmu>), and PsiChi (contact professor Ruth Day at ruthday@duke.edu).

You may reach us by email at psychologyDUS@duke.edu or visit us in the Psychology Undergraduate Studies office, which is temporarily located at 017 Soc/Psych. We invite you to stop by to introduce yourself; our goal is to know our students on a first-name basis! We have an open-door policy, so please do not hesitate to ask questions, request insights and feedback, and share information about what you are doing and what you hope to accomplish (e.g., research, study away/abroad) during your academic career. If we don't have the information you need, we will do our best to refer you to someone who does.

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