UC San Diego
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Dear Student,

We're so thrilled that you will be joining us in the Fall! You should have already received information from your college regarding the New Student Site, setting up your @UCSD e-mail, asking questions of your advisors online, and college orientation.

As a Psychology major, we hope you'll take advantage of the resources we've compiled, starting by thoroughly reviewing our website. We recommend starting with the Major Requirements and New Students areas, and moving on to Teaching and Learning Opportunities, Policies and Procedures, Academic and Writing Resources, and Additional Resources. We also encourage any students interested in Research (including Clinical Psychology research) to consider the Honors Program, for which you will be able to apply in your Junior year.

There are no restrictions on the number of students who can earn degrees within the Psychology Department, and you may switch between our majors at any time beginning on the first day of classes in the Fall. We hope that you will find the major that best meets your needs and would be happy to discuss your options with you.

The Psychology advising team is here to support you during your transition to UC San Diego. This packet includes some handy resources to help you be successful as a new Transfer Student. After reviewing, please feel free to get in touch with any remaining questions. We hope you'll also join us in September for a Department Orientation session. We also encourage you to follow our department's Facebook page and YouTube Channel for announcements, events, exciting news, and resources.

We look forward to speaking with you this summer, meeting you at Orientation, and helping you in the Fall!

Sincerely,
Kristi MacKenzie and Elisa Crossman
Psychology Academic Advisors
1533 Mandler Hall

Walk-In Advising Hours: M-Th 9-11 am, 1-3 pm; Closed Fridays

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YOUR STEPS TO SUCCESS AS A PSYCHOLOGY STUDENT

We want you to be successful as a UC San Diego Psychology student. Our goal is for you to find a supportive community here. We encourage students to take ownership over their academic careers and want to give you the tools to do so. We suggest that you:

- Be your own advocate and take responsibility for your education.
- Get to know the Psychology website and become familiar with TritonLink.
- Be proactive and ask informed questions.
- Get into the habit of checking your @UCSD e-mail and New Student Site.
- Go to Orientations for both your college and your major.
- Enroll in appropriate classes during your enrollment time.
- Plan to stay proactive during Fall quarter (go to Advising Hours and Professor/TA Office Hours, and make use of campus resources).
- Arrive prepared and ready to learn.
- Locate opportunities, take risks, and find your community on campus.

FRESHMAN STUDENT SUMMER TIMELINE

Now
- Set up your New Student Site and review the enrollment recommendations made by your college advising staff
- Ask clarifying questions about your Fall course recommendations
- Register for the Math Placement Exam (http://testing.ucsd.edu)
- *Register for Psychology Orientation*

August 29-31 • Fall quarter enrollment

Sept 25 & 28 • Psychology Department Orientations

September 27 • Fall quarter classes begin

You should be able to find answers to most of your questions on our website; if there are additional questions that you are unable to find answers to, you can always ask a question in the New Student Site and request that your college forward it to us.

First year students will begin their studies in Psychology by taking foundation-building Lower Division courses outside of the Psychology department. In your first year, you should work to complete the majority of your Lower Division requirements in Formal Skills (Mathematics/Logic), Natural Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) and Computer Programming. You will not be taking Upper Division Psychology classes during your first quarter, but once you have completed at least 45 units and two quarters here at UC San Diego, you may be eligible for enrollment in Upper Division Core-level Psychology courses. Lower Division General Psychology classes will not count toward a Psychology degree, but may fulfill your college requirements.

psychology.ucsd.edu

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

* What Psychology majors are available to me, and what are the requirements?

* How do I choose the best major for me?

* What classes should I take during my first quarter?

* Which Lower Division Psychology classes count toward Psychology major requirements?

* I want to take an Upper Division class (100+). Why can't I?

* All the courses I want/need to take are full! What should I do?

* I'm trying to choose my Natural Science courses, but I'm lost. Do I need to choose three from the same department? One of each? Three of each? Which is best for me?

* Which Math class should I take?

* Do I need to take a year of calculus?

* Do I need to take any calculus at all? What else can I take?

* Which Programming class should I take? Which is best?

* Which Statistics class should I take?

* Can I take Statistics or Research Methods during my first quarter?

* Does my AP Statistics class count toward my Psychology major requirements?

* Does my AP Psychology class count toward my Psychology major requirements?

* I took a class at a Community College before entering UCSD, or have an AP class that I believe should fulfill my Lower Division major requirements, but it is not showing up correctly.

* Degree Audit? Academic History? TritonLink? What are these and how do I read them?

* Can I take any classes Pass/No Pass?

* How can I set up an appointment to talk about my major or plan my courses?

* Do I need to come during advising hours?

* But how about if I just have a form to drop off?

* Is there an Honors Program? How can I get involved?

* What career options do I have as a Psychology major?

* What happens if I decide to switch majors, but have some Psychology coursework done? Can I earn a minor?

To find answers to these frequently asked questions, please visit the FAQs for Freshmen page on the Psychology Department website.