

# UC San Diego

## PSYCHOLOGY

### Majors Effective Fall 2015

The UC San Diego Department of Psychology emphasizes research in the experimental and theoretical analysis of human and animal behavior, and the study of the mind. Students who major in psychology can expect to develop knowledge in a broad range of content areas, as well as basic skills in experimental and analytic procedures. We offer courses in all major areas of experimental psychology, with areas of specialization in Clinical Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Psychology of Human Health, Sensation and Perception, and Social Psychology. Once a student has decided upon a major in psychology, he or she is highly encouraged to consult with the Psychology Student Affairs Office to ensure full understanding of the major requirements.

Degrees offered include:

- Psychology Bachelor of Arts
- Psychology Bachelor of Science
- Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Clinical Psychology
- Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Cognitive Psychology
- Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Developmental Psychology
- Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Human Health
- Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Sensation and Perception
- Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Social Psychology

Students majoring in psychology must have departmental approval for electives taken outside the department. We recommend consulting the psychology department before enrolling in courses offered by other departments. It is recommended that students in all BS tracks seek additional advising from faculty and advising staff to determine which courses outside of Psychology might be the most valuable, given students' specific academic or professional goals after graduation.

## Psychology Bachelor of Arts

Suitable for students wishing to obtain a general education in Psychology for use in college and beyond. Students in the Bachelor of Arts program must complete two Formal Skills courses, including a Research Methods course, and can choose four Core and eight Elective Upper Division courses of interest to them to better prepare them for a related career. Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts may participate in research opportunities (PSYC 199s) within the department, but will not receive credit towards their major for these experiences. Students are encouraged to participate in research and internship opportunities throughout their career as a Psychology student.

## Psychology Bachelor of Science

Our program offers seven Psychology Bachelors of Science degrees, suitable for students interested in graduate study in Experimental or Clinical Psychology. Students must complete three Formal Skills courses, including two Calculus courses and a Research Methods course. Students are encouraged to research requirements for the field of graduate study they wish to pursue to ensure that they are completing all prerequisite courses, including the appropriate level of Calculus.

Students may choose an area of Specialization (listed below) or may simply earn a Bachelor of Science degree without a specialization. Students in the Bachelor of Science track without a specialization may choose any four Core and eight Elective Upper Division courses from within our catalog. All Students earning a Bachelor of Science degree must complete two Research courses (labs or 199s) and must complete the Research Paper requirement. Students are encouraged to participate in both research and internship opportunities throughout their career as a Psychology student.

*All BS students must complete the listed Core(s) and three Elective courses within their chosen Area of Specialization, along with three additional Core (one for Human Health majors), five additional Elective, and two Research courses.*

## Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Clinical Psychology

*For students interested in Clinical Psychology, Psychiatry, and Counseling careers*

The Clinical Psychology specialization provides instruction in the psychological and physiological causes of and treatments for mental illness in children and adults.

*Required Core course: PSYC 100 (Clinical Psychology)*

<http://psychology.ucsd.edu>

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#### **Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Cognitive Psychology**

*For students interested in graduate study and research in Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive Science, Neuroscience, or Information Processing*

Cognitive Psychology includes understanding reasoning, thinking, language, judgment, and decision making in adults and children (including attention, memory, and visual and auditory information processing).

*Required Core course: PSYC 105 (Cognitive Psychology)*

#### **Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Developmental Psychology**

*For students interested in graduate study and research in Developmental Psychology or careers in Childhood Education, Special Education or Social Work*

Developmental Psychology entails all aspects of human development with emphases on social and personality development, perceptual development, and language acquisition. This specialization also includes the study of developmental psychopathology.

*Required Core course: PSYC 101 (Developmental Psychology)*

#### **Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Human Health**

*For students interested in careers in medicine, public or behavioral health, or Neuroscience*

Health psychology focuses on understanding how psychological, biological, and environmental factors interact to jointly influence human health. Topics include addiction, impulsive behavior, and issues related to cognitive control.

*Required Core courses: PSYC 100 (Clinical Psychology), PSYC 101 (Developmental Psychology), PSYC 104 (Social Psychology). Students must complete one additional Core course for a total of four.*

#### **Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Sensation & Perception**

*For students interested in graduate study and research in Sensation & Perception, Neuroscience, Otolology, or Opthamology*

Sensation and Perception is the study of how our sense organs and brain allow us to construct our consciously experienced representation of the environment. Experiments involving computer-controlled stimuli are used to test models of sensory or perceptual processes. Processes of particular interest include color vision, motion perception, and auditory illusions and paradoxes.

*Required Core course: PSYC 102 (Sensory Neuroscience)*

#### **Psychology Bachelor of Science with a Specialization in Social Psychology**

*For students interested in graduate study and research or careers in Social Work, Counseling, or Social, Forensic, Consumer, or Industrial/Organizational Psychology*

Social Psychology is the study of human behavior in social situations. The specialization focuses on topics including emotion, aggression, and social cognition. It also encompasses applied social psychology, including psychology and the law and psychology in the workplace.

*Required Core course: PSYC 104 (Social Psychology)*