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 e-mail, asking online advising questions, 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 Majors and New Students areas, and moving on to Experiential Learning, Programs and Events, Courses, and Resources. We also highly recommend that any students interested in Research consider applying for the Honors Program this Fall.

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. We plan to contact you first via the New Student Site within the next few weeks with an introduction and some basic advising guidelines. Later in the summer, we’ll contact you again with personalized enrollment suggestions and other information relevant to you, specifically. We hope you’ll also join us in August or September for an orientation session; if you attend one of our Transfer Orientations, you can also sit down for a one-on-one appointment with an advisor.

After reviewing these resources, please use the New Student Site to ask us any remaining questions. We also encourage you to follow our department’s Facebook page and brand new Instagram account (with more content coming this summer and fall) 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

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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.
- Review your completed major requirements.
- Get comfortable with your Academic Tools on TritonLink, including your Academic History and Degree Audit.
- Be proactive and ask informed questions.
- Get into the habit of checking your @UCSD e-mail and the New Student Site.
- Go to Orientations for your college and your major.
- Review recommendations made by your college and your major, and enroll in appropriate classes during your enrollment time.
- Check in with yourself frequently to make sure that your workload meets your needs; don’t be afraid to admit if you’ve taken on too much.
- Plan to stay proactive during Fall quarter (go to college and major advising and faculty/TA Office Hours, and make use of campus resources).
- Show up prepared and ready to learn.
- Locate opportunities, take risks, and find your community on campus.

STEPS TO SUCCESS IN THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

TRANSFER STUDENT SUMMER TIMELINE

LATE JUNE/EARLY JULY
- Set up your New Student Site and review your Psychology major orientation page
- Watch for the department welcome message in the New Student Site
- Register for Psychology Orientation

JULY 1
- Deadline to submit your on-time transcripts to Admissions

JULY 2-AUG 16
- Psychology Dept sends out personalized course recommendations via the New Student Site (following transcript processing by Admissions)

MID-AUGUST
- Psychology Transfer Orientations begin (several sessions throughout Aug/Sept)

AUGUST 23
- Additional Transfer seats released in Statistics, Research Methods, and Core-level Psychology classes

AUGUST 26-28
- Fall quarter Transfer enrollment

SEPT 23-27
- Welcome Week 2019
- Psychology Department Orientations

SEPTEMBER 26
- Fall quarter classes begin
You will receive personalized enrollment recommendations in July or August through the portal on the New Student Site. Throughout the summer you can send us questions there 24 hours a day (we’ll get you answers within 2-3 business days). If you do not receive your recommendations by August 16th, please contact us there.

We recommend that you register for one of the Psychology Orientation sessions specifically marked for Transfer Students; these include both an introduction to the department and our majors, and a 15-20 minute one-on-one session with an advisor to plan your Fall quarter classes and create an academic plan. Sessions are held in August on campus, with a special session on September 20th reserved for out-of-town students; we are not able to accommodate telephone or Skype appointments at this time. For additional information, please see the Psychology Department website.

Students unable to attend a Transfer Orientation session may choose to register for one of our more general Department Orientations, offered during Welcome Week. Department Orientations do not include one-on-one advising. Any of our Orientation sessions will cover what you need to know about your chosen major within our department, including major requirements, course equivalency, the schedule of classes, prerequisites, waitlists, and more.

**TRANSFER ORIENTATION SESSIONS**
(all sessions begin at 9 am in McGill 1350 and include one-on-one advising, scheduled later in the day):
- Friday, August 9th
- Tuesday, August 13th
- Friday, August 16th
- Wednesday, August 21st
- Friday, August 23rd
- Tuesday, August 27th
- Wednesday, August 28th
- Friday, September 20th ***reserved for out-of-town students***

**DEPARTMENT ORIENTATION SESSIONS**
(do NOT include one-on-one advising):
- Tuesday, September 24th (1-2:30pm), Mandeville B-150
- Wednesday, September 25th (9-10:30am), Mandeville B-150
- Friday, September 27th (9:30-11am), McGill 1350

Additional Transfer Orientation Sessions may be added; we are unable to schedule individual appointments outside of the scheduled Orientations. Please note that the Psychology Orientation Sessions are completely separate from any orientation your college may offer, so plan to attend both (just not on the same day!).
Are you considering graduate school or a professional program? Are you interested in conducting original research?

Apply for the Psychology Honors Program!

Conduct your own research project, learn to manage a project from beginning to end, get to know advising faculty, and gain an advantage for admission into graduate schools. For more information, come by the department and check out the website!

Applications will be available online in October, and are due on November 15th!

HONORS INFORMATION SESSIONS

Are you considering applying for the Honors Program? Do you have questions about how the program would apply to your major or work with your schedule? Want to talk to someone about how to fill out the application, or who to use as your best reference? Are you curious what the program is like for students?

We’ll be holding two Honors Information Sessions this Fall; we invite you to attend to get all your questions answered! Dates and times are to be determined, so watch your e-mail!

Register in the Fall on the Psychology Department website!
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

To find answers to more frequently asked questions, visit the Transfer FAQs or general FAQs pages on the Psychology Department website.

How do I choose the best major for me?
All 10 of our majors are available for you to consider; we do not have any limits on the number of students in our major at this time. Our B.S. degrees were created specifically for students intending to pursue graduate programs with heavy research emphases, but your choice of major will not limit your future graduate school or career options. We encourage students to explore coursework that is of interest and let that interest guide their major choice.

How easy is it to change from one Psychology major to another?
Students may change major tracks on TritonLink at any time, and because we do not have any limits on students in our major, we welcome you to make adjustments to your major as needed. If you decide to change your major again, you’ll need to wait a minimum of two weeks after your initial major change before doing so. Students with more than 150 quarter units completed will need to provide a quarter-by-quarter plan in order to change majors.

Can I earn a double major?
It is possible to earn a double major at UC San Diego; we encourage you to carefully plan and consider your course load if you decide to do so. You will want to meet regularly with advisors at both majors and your college to ensure that you are on track. It is not possible to double major within the same department.

What classes should I take during my first quarter?
We recommend that you take 3-4 classes during your first quarter. We will provide recommendations to you in the New Student Site, but generally you should consider completing 1-2 outstanding Lower Division courses (especially Statistics or Research Methods) and 1-2 Psychology Core classes during your first quarter. Most students take 1 class for their General Education requirements during their first quarter as well.

Will I need to take Lower Division classes?
You may need to take Lower Division requirements, even if you have earned IGETC certification. Lower Division requirements build the foundation for Upper Division courses. If you have not yet completed all of your major’s Lower Division coursework, you will need to do so before graduation.

Do I have to finish all of my Lower Division requirements before starting Upper Division classes?
No, we recommend that all new transfer students, regardless of outstanding Lower Division coursework, take at least one Upper Division Psychology Core class (100-108) during their first quarter on campus.

All the courses I want/need to take are full! What do I do?
Most departments are holding seats for new transfer students and will release them in late August; there should be adequate room for new transfer students in classes required for your first quarter.

I took a class at my Community College that I believe should fulfill my Lower Division major requirements. How can I get it to count?
Check assist.org; if your class is listed, it should count without any further work on your end. If it’s not, you’ll need to petition it in the Fall.

I took a class at my Community College that has the same name as a required Core or Elective. Do I need to take the class here, or does my previous class count?
Community College coursework is always considered to be at the Lower Division level. Even if you used the same book or had the same instructor, a Lower Division course will never count toward any Upper Division Psychology requirement (Core or Elective). This is a UC system policy and cannot be petitioned.

Can I take any classes Pass/No Pass?
You may take any Lower Division courses for majors within the Psychology Department for P/NP except Statistics (LD MGT classes must be taken for a Letter Grade for Business Psychology majors). PSYC 195, PSYC (or MGT, or COGS) 199, and AIP 197 can only be taken for P/NP, but all other Upper Division courses taken for your major must be taken for a Letter grade. You may take up to 25% of your total coursework at UC San Diego for P/NP (this usually translates to around 4 total classes).

I transferred from another four-year institution. Why does my Degree Audit say that I need to take all of my Psychology major courses? I know I completed some!
All courses taken at another university must be petitioned for use toward majors within our department. We do not have articulation agreements with other universities, including other UC schools. A maximum of three Upper Division courses (4 units each) from outside of UC San Diego may be used toward majors within our department.
You may wish to begin your studies at UCSD this Summer. The following courses are highly recommended for new transfer students. All Summer offerings are designed to be useful for completing your degree. Learn more and request authorization at summersession.ucsd.edu.

SUMMER SESSION 1 (JULY 1 - AUG 3)

**PSYC 70 - Research Methods** - M-Th 9:30am-10:50am (Formal Skills)
This course provides an overview of how to choose appropriate research methods for experimental and non-experimental studies. Topics may include classic experimental design and counterbalancing, statistical power, and causal inference in experimental and non-experimental settings. Additional discussion section required.
Enforced Prerequisite: PSYC 60 (Statistics) or equivalent

**PSYC 101 - Developmental Psychology** - M-Th 11:00am-12:20pm (Psychology Core)
This course provides a comprehensive overview of the field of developmental psychology, including topics in cognitive, language, and social development.

**PSYC 106 - Behavioral Neuroscience** - M/W 5:00pm-7:50pm (Psychology Core)
This course provides a comprehensive overview of human and animal behavior from a neuroscience perspective. Topics include the functions and mechanisms of perception, motivation (sex, sleep, hunger, emotions), learning and memory, and motor control and movement.

**PSYC 147 - Gender** - M/W 5:00pm-7:50pm (Psychology Elective)
This course provides an overview of the role of gender in psychology, with an emphasis on critical thinking about gender. Topics may include gender differences in behavior and communication, influences on gender roles, gender identity, and gender effects on health and well-being.

SUMMER SESSION 2 (AUG 5 - SEPT 7)

**PSYC 70 - Research Methods** - M-Th 9:30am-10:50am (Formal Skills)
This course provides an overview of how to choose appropriate research methods for experimental and non-experimental studies. Topics may include classic experimental design and counterbalancing, statistical power, and causal inference in experimental and non-experimental settings. Additional discussion section required.
Enforced Prerequisite: PSYC 60 (Statistics) or equivalent

**PSYC 105 - Cognitive Psychology** - M/Tu/W/Th 9:30am-10:50am (Psychology Core)
This course provides a comprehensive overview of cognitive psychology, the scientific study of mental processes: How people acquire, store, transform, use, and communicate information. Topics may include perception, attention, language, memory, reasoning, problem solving, decision making, and creativity.

**PSYC 166 - History of Psychology** - Tu/Th 6:00pm-8:50pm (Psychology Elective)
This course provides a survey of the major trends and figures in the development of psychology as a field. Topics may include the mind-body problem, nativism vs. empiricism, and the genesis of behaviorism.

**PSYC 180 - Adolescence** - Tu/Th 6:00pm-8:50pm (Psychology Elective/Specialization)
This course provides an overview of the period of human adolescence, including the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional changes that take place during this developmental transition.