

What Degree Program is Right for Me?

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Which Degree Program is Right for Me?

- BA or BSc?
 - If switching now – you will follow the new program requirements
- Should I complete a 3-year or 4-year degree?
- Honours versus Specialized Honours
 - If you want to complete a thesis in 2019 or later, you will need to be in Specialized Honours
- What are my program requirements?

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BA/ BSc Honours Science Requirements

- Psychology major course requirements are identical for the BA and BSc degrees
- Your decision depends on: long-term goals and interests (impacts electives)
- **If you switch now you follow the new program**
- BSc Specific Requirements include:
 - 1000 Level Basic Science Credits (15 credits)
 - plus additional Science Electives (9 credits)
 - Minimum of 42 (not 36) credits at 3000- or above

1000 Level Basic Science Requirements

15 credits as follows:

- 6 credits from MATH courses listed
- 3 credits from EECS courses listed
- 6 credits from BIOL, CHEM or PHYS courses listed

Science Electives

Minimum 9 additional science credits outside the major includes FSE courses and most KINE courses.

- 6 science credits outside of Psychology
- 3 science credits outside of Psychology at the 2000 level or above

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- BA or BSc? QUESTIONS?

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For any of these degrees

- 3-year (90-credits) or 4-year (120-credits) does not need to be completed in that timeframe – that is the time to completion if you are taking a full complement of courses each year.
- Must fulfill specific degree requirements
 - In Psychology (our focus today)
 - Outside Psychology
- Must maintain the required CGPA
 - Cannot graduate with less than 4.0 (C)
 - Cannot graduate in Honours with less than 5.0 (C+)
 - Cannot graduate in Specialized Honours with less than 7.0 (B+)

Maintaining Honours Status

Year	Credits Earned	CGPA
1	0-23	4.00
2	24-54	4.25
3	54-83	4.80
4	84	5.0

(Minimum grade to continue with warning)

Three-year Degree?

- The Bachelor of Psychology is a 90-credit degree program designed for students who want an introduction to the foundations of contemporary psychology. Students who graduate from this program will have demonstrated depth of knowledge in core and specialty areas of psychology as well as a basic understanding of psychological research and writing. This program is well-suited for students wishing to complete a 3-year university degree and then begin a career or pursue a college diploma following graduation.

Three-year Degree?

- Must have CGPA of at least 4.0 (C) in order to graduate (to graduate with an Honours (4-year) degree you require a 5.0 or C+).
- This is not the right degree if you think you want to pursue additional post-graduate studies in a university setting as most graduate programs will require an Honours Degree (4-year; 120-credits)
- This is the right degree if you are looking for a basic university degree
- Sometimes you can return to upgrade to an Honours Degree

Honours Degree?

- The Honours in Psychology program is a 120-credit degree program designed for students who are interested in learning about and applying knowledge accumulated from the discipline of psychology. Students who graduate from this program will have demonstrated knowledge in a breadth of subdisciplines within Psychology, and will be able to critically evaluate research results, theories, and opinions within this field. Graduates of this program will be able to engage in quantitative reasoning through the interpretation of empirical results. Additionally, graduates will have demonstrated an appreciation of alternative methods used in psychological inquiry and will be able to synthesize potentially conflicting results and communicate these ideas to the general public. **Students can also complete a Double Major or a Major/Minor option.** This program is well suited for students who intend to enter the workforce following graduation and/or who may intend to pursue postgraduate studies in professional and applied related fields of psychology.

Honours Degree?

- Must have CGPA of at least 5.0 (C+) in order to graduate with an Honours degree.
- Can complete a double-major or a minor (not possible with Specialized Honours)
- **Starting Fall 2019 you will need to be in Specialized Honours program to complete an individually supervised thesis**
- Not the ideal program if you are considering graduate studies in Psychology or a research intensive related field.

Specialized Honours Degree?

- The Specialized Honours Psychology Program is a **120-credit degree program designed for students who intend to pursue postgraduate studies in Psychology or a related discipline.** Students who graduate from this program will have demonstrated knowledge in a breadth of subdisciplines within Psychology and will be able to critically evaluate research results, theories, and opinions within this field. In addition, students who graduate from this program will have specialist training in research methods, statistical analyses, scientific communication, and critical thinking. A requirement of this program is the completion of an Honour's thesis under the direct supervision of a Psychology faculty member. This program is well suited for students who plan to pursue postgraduate studies in a research-intensive field. Admission to the program is by Department permission. **Please note you can only apply to the Specialized Honours Psychology Program between May 1 and May 15.**

Specialized Honours Degree?

- Must have CGPA of at least 7.0 (B+) in order to graduate with a Specialized Honours degree.
- **Cannot** complete a double-major or a minor (not possible with Specialized Honours)
- All students follow the new program requirements
- Ideal program if you are considering graduate studies in Psychology or a research intensive related field (receive additional guidance and training about graduate school) and/or if you want to complete an individually supervised thesis.
 - Need to find your thesis supervisor, but you will receive help

Specialized Honours Degree?

- **Applications will be accepted between May 1st and May 15th of each academic year. You are eligible to apply for this program this year if you:**
- Have completed (or will have completed by the end of the summer term) at least 54 credits,
- Have completed at least 12.0 credits of your General Education requirements
- Have at least a B+ (7.0 or higher) cumulative GPA
- Have completed (or will have completed by the end of the summer term) each of the following courses:
 - *Psychology 2020: Statistical Methods I and II (or equivalent)*
 - *Psychology 2030: Introduction to Research Methods,*
 - *Psychology 2010: Writing in Psychology*
 - at least 3.0 credits from Group 1 (2100 series) and
 - at least 3.0 credits from Group 2 (2200 series)

Specialized Honours Degree?

- To remain in the program, and prior to enrolling in *Psychology 4001: Specialized Honours Thesis Seminar*, you must:
- Complete the prerequisites for *Psychology 4001* including:
 - *Psychology 3000: Professionalism and Communication in Psychology*,
 - *Psychology 3031: Intermediate Statistics Laboratory*, and
 - *Psychology 3010: Intermediate Research Methods*).

It is recommended that these courses be completed in third year (i.e., prior to completing 90 credits)

- Maintain at least a B+ (7.0 or higher) cumulative GPA AND
- Secure a thesis supervisor
 - We will make every effort to help to guide you towards an appropriate thesis supervisor, but it is your responsibility to secure a supervisor. Without a thesis supervisor, you will no longer be able to pursue the Specialized Honours Program, even if you have received provisional acceptance into the program.

Specialized Honours Degree?

- Some suggestions:
 - Start trying to connect with research labs early...see if you can devote at least 5 hours per week to volunteer in a research lab (<http://psyc.info.yorku.ca/research/research-opportunities/>)
 - Keep your grades up – remember that W option
 - Be sure to complete the required courses
 - If you have transfer credits and questions come up – please visit us in the undergraduate office

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What are my program requirements?

- I will focus on your major (Psychology) requirements
- Depends on whether you are following the previous or new degree program requirements.
 - NOTE: The Academic Calendar is always the correct place to look for your degree program requirements!
- **If you joined our department prior to 2017**, you will typically follow the Previous Degree Requirement (as of Fall 2013; Major credits only). However, if you (a) changed to the Faculty of Health, (b) changed your degree type (e.g., BSc to BA), or (c) **entered the program in 2017 or later**, OR, if you anticipate finishing your degree requirements after the Winter 2021 term, you will follow the New Degree Requirements.

Parts of the Program (Psychology Requirements)

- Introductory Psychology
- Statistics and Research Methods
- Writing in Psychology (New Program)
- Foundation Courses - Core Areas
 - 2100 and 2200 series (3100 and 3200 included for Previous Program)
- Psychology Electives (3000- and 4000- level credits)
- 4000-level Capstone courses (4001 for Specialized Honours; 4180 for Honours)

Prerequisites

Prerequisites are courses that must be successfully completed prior to enrolling in that course

- **Prerequisites are important**
- Allows teaching and learning at advanced level
- A course only counts as a prerequisite if you have passed the course!
- **Prerequisites are enforced!** So please look ahead and start thinking about the courses that you might want to take across the years (keeping in mind not all electives are offered every year)

Why do majors need **Statistics (key skill!)**

Honours: Statistics (PSYC 2020 or 2021 + 2022):

90-credit: Psyc 2021

- If you have not passed at least PSYC 2021 (3)
 - you cannot get any Psychology degree
 - you cannot enrol in Intermediate Research Methods (3010)
 - you cannot enrol in any 4000 level Psychology course
- If you have not passed either PSYC 2020 (6) or 2021 (3) and 2022 (3) you cannot begin any 4000 level thesis or research course

Why do majors need **Research Methods**

- **Introduction to Research Methods PSYC 2030 (3):**
 - you cannot take any 4000 level course without passing this first
 - you cannot take Intermediate Research Methods (3010) without passing 2030 first

Why do majors need **Writing in Psychology**

- **Writing skills** are wanted by employers.
- Effective communication skills are needed for most post-graduate studies and jobs
- This is a required component of our new program

Foundation Course Requirements (New Program)

2100 (Group 1) and 2200 (Group 2) series

All Psychology majors and minors

- Minimum of 1 course from each group

Honours

- 1 additional course from 2100 or 2200 (9.0 credits total)

Specialized honours

- Minimum of 2 courses from each group

***Anyone may take more than the minimum requirement

Foundation Course Requirements (Previous)

2100 / 3100 and 2200 /3200 series

All Psychology majors

- Minimum of 1 course from each group

Specialized honours

- Minimum of 2 courses from each group

Psychology Minor

- No requirement, but recommended

***Anyone may take more than the minimum requirement

Foundation Courses

Group 1

Social, Personality, Developmental

- **2000 Level Courses**
- Developmental Psychology - PSYC 2110
- Social Psychology - PSYC 2120
- Personality - PSYC 2130

Foundation Courses

Group 1

- **3000 Level Courses:**
- History of Psychology - PSYC 3125
- Abnormal Psychology - PSYC 3140
- Health Psychology - PSYC 3170

Foundation Courses

Group 2

Brain, Behaviour, Neuroscience

- **2000 Level Courses:**
- Sensation & Perception I - PSYC 2220
- Motivation - PSYC 2230
- Biological Basis of Behaviour - PSYC 2240
- Cognition – PSYC 2260

Foundation Courses

Group 2

Brain, Behaviour, Neuroscience

- **3000 Level Courses:**
- Neural Basis of Behaviour - PSYC 3250*
- Memory - PSYC 3265
- Sensation & Perception II - PSYC 3270*
- Animal Behaviour - PSYC 3280
- Psycholinguistics - PSYC 3290

Specialized Honours 3000-level requirements

- **3000 Level Courses:**
- Professionalism and Communication – PSYC 3000
- Intermediate Research Methods – PSYC 3010
- Intermediate Statistics Laboratory - PSYC 3031
- History of Psychology - PSYC 3125
- At least 6.0 additional credits at the 3000-level

4000-level requirements

Honours:

- PSYC 4180 (for this year and next 4170 or 4000 are options)
- At least 6.0 additional credits at the 4000-level
- (BUT note upper level credit requirements as well)

Specialized Honours:

- PSYC 4001 or PSYC 4175
- At least 6.0 additional credits at the 4000-level
- (BUT note upper level credit requirements as well)

Do you have the prerequisites for 4000 level courses?

- These must be completed BEFORE you begin a 4000 level course
- LOOK AHEAD and PLAN AHEAD!
- Have multiple options in mind though...not every course is offered each year.

Courses without additional prerequisites

- **4150** (6) Rigorous Alternatives
- **4220** (6) Theories of Human Nature
- **4890** (3 or 6) Independent Study

Seminar Courses with one prerequisite

- **4010** Developmental Seminar (3 or 6 cr) - PSYC 2110
- **4460** Atypical Development (6) - PSYC 2110
- **4020** Social Seminar (3 or 6 cr) - PSYC 2120
- **4190** Health Seminar (3 cr) - PSYC 3170
- **4270 (3)**Sensation/Perception Seminar (3) - 2220
- **4260 (3)** Seminar in Memory & Cognition - PSYC 3260or
3265

Seminar Courses with two prerequisite (Personality and Abnormal)

- **4030** (6) Behaviour Modification & Behaviour Therapy [required for YSR]
- **4040** (6) Rehabilitation Psychology
- **4050** (6) Personality Theory & Behaviour Disorders
- **4060** (6) Counselling Psychology
 - - required in York Seneca program
- **4061** (3) Theoretical Approaches to Counselling & Psychotherapy
- **4062** (3) Skills & Techniques in Counselling & Psychotherapy
- **4080** Neuropsychology of abnormal behaviour (2240 & 3140)

For more information...

- Check out our website and read our emails

<http://psyc.info.yorku.ca/>

The Undergrad Psychology Office

291 BSB

Dr. J. Connolly, Undergraduate Program Director

Dr. J Steele, Association Undergraduate Program Director

Undergraduate Office staff provides

- ✓ advice about your psychology degree requirements
- ✓ advice about where to seek non-academic services
- ✓ help with PSYC courses enrolment, when necessary
 - Scheduling advising appointments
 - Call 416-736-5117
 - Email psyc@yorku.ca

