

PSYCHOLOGY, BACHELOR OF ARTS (760)

Program Coordinator

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Psychology Major: The Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree in Psychology

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Psychology (https://www.wku.edu/psychology/programs/undergraduate/major_requirements16-17.php) is a great program for those interested in helping others and who want to understand why people behave the way they do. The BA program is suitable for those interested in pursuing specific career paths in psychology including clinical, counseling, and school as well as other related applied areas of psychology like forensic and sport psychology.

The BA program offers students flexibility in their programs of study allowing them to select courses specific to their future interests that will make them more attractive to employers and graduate programs. The BA program also maintains a liberal arts focus by exposing students to coursework in related fields like Gerontology, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Philosophy. Ultimately, students pursuing the BA degree in Psychology develop objective and deep understanding of human behavior and mental processes as well as strong critical thinking and data analysis skills, all of which are valuable in any field one chooses to enter following graduation.

Concentrations

- General (No Concentration)
- Forensic Psychology (PSFP)
- Sport Psychology (PSSP)

Program Requirements (34-53 hours)

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>. (<https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>)

The general major in psychology requires a minimum of 34 semester hours and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. A minor, second major, or the sport psychology concentration is required. At least half of the program must be in upper division courses (numbered 300 or above).

Core Courses for Major and Concentrations

Code	Title	Hours
PSY 100	Introduction to Psychology ¹	3
PSY 210	Research Methods in Psychology ¹	3
PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory ¹	1
PSY 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
PSY 481	History of Psychology	3
Total Hours		13

Additional Required Course for Psychology Major

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 183	Introductory Statistics	
PHIL 215	Symbolic Logic	
Another mathematics course that satisfies the Colonnade: Quantitative Reasoning requirement ²		

¹ A "C" or higher is required in PSY 100, PSY 210, and PSY 211.

² Excluding MATH 109.

General Psychology (without Concentration)

The general psychology major requires 34 hours. The following courses are required in addition to the core courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Applied Development and Behavior		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY/PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	
PSY 422	Adolescent Psychology	
FACS 191	Child Development	
GERO 100	Introduction to the Aging Experience	
Foundations of Behaviors		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 331	Psychology of Learning	
PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSY 412	Psychology of Motivation and Emotion	
PSY 436	Applied Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 450	Psychology of Personality	
Group Behavior		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 350	Social Psychology	
PSY 355	Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology	
PSY 371	The Psychology of Sales Behavior	
PSY 470	Psychology and Law	
Behavioral Change		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 340	Sport Psychology	
PSY 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSY 442	Beginning Skills in Psychological Interviewing	
PSY 443	Behavior Modification	
PSY 445	Introduction to Clinical and School Psychology	
Psychology Electives		
Select any courses with at least 6 hours in courses numbered 300 or above ¹		9
Total Hours		21

¹ With the exception of PSY 175 or PSY 310

Forensic Psychology Concentration

The forensic psychology concentration requires 40 hours. The following courses are required in addition to the core courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Applied Development and Behavior		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY/PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	
PSY 422	Adolescent Psychology (recommended)	
FACS 191	Child Development	
GERO 100	Introduction to the Aging Experience	
Foundations of Behaviors		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 331	Psychology of Learning	
PSY 412	Psychology of Motivation and Emotion	
PSY 436	Applied Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 450	Psychology of Personality	
Group Behavior		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 350	Social Psychology	
PSY 355	Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology	
PSY 371	The Psychology of Sales Behavior	
Behavioral Change		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 340	Sport Psychology	
PSY 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSY 442	Beginning Skills in Psychological Interviewing	
PSY 443	Behavior Modification	
PSY 445	Introduction to Clinical and School Psychology	
Forensic Psychology Concentration Courses ¹		
PSY 470	Psychology and Law	3
PSY 472	Advanced Forensic Psychology	3
Restricted Electives		
Select three of the following:		9
CRIM 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	
CRIM 330	Criminology	
CRIM 456	Homicide and Serial Homicide	
PHIL 211	Why Are Bad People Bad?	
PHIL 427	Philosophy of Law	
PS 220	Judicial Process	
PS 328	Criminal Justice Procedures	
Total Hours		27

¹ Concentration courses may not be counted as category courses

Sport Psychology Concentration

The sport psychology concentration requires 53 hours. The following courses are required in addition to the core courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Applied Development and Behavior		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY/PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	
PSY 422	Adolescent Psychology	
FACS 191	Child Development	
GERO 100	Introduction to the Aging Experience	
Foundations of Behaviors		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 331	Psychology of Learning	
PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSY 436	Applied Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 450	Psychology of Personality	
Group Behavior		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 350	Social Psychology	
PSY 355	Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology	
PSY 371	The Psychology of Sales Behavior	
PSY 470	Psychology and Law	
Behavioral Change		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSY 442	Beginning Skills in Psychological Interviewing	
PSY 443	Behavior Modification	
PSY 445	Introduction to Clinical and School Psychology	
Sport Psychology Concentration Courses ¹		
PSY 340	Sport Psychology	3
PSY 412	Psychology of Motivation and Emotion	3
PSY 290	Supervised Study in Psychology	3
or PSY 390	Field Experience in Psychology	
or PSY 490	Research, Readings or Special Projects in Psychology	
Additional Required Courses		
BIOL 131	Human Anatomy and Physiology	4
PE 311	Exercise Physiology	3
PE 313	Motor Development	3
HMD 211	Human Nutrition	3
HMD 360	Advanced Nutrition	3
or HMD 364	Sports Nutrition	
or HMD 368	Dietary and Herbal Supplements	
COMM 315	Sport Communication	3

or LEAD 300 or SOCL 324	Leadership Theory and Application Sociology of Sport	
Total Hours		40

¹ Concentration courses may not be counted as category courses.

Finish in Four Plans Psychology, General (760)

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENG 100		3 COMM 145	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102		3 MATH 183 or PHIL 215	3
PSY 100 or PSYS 100		3 World Language 102 (if needed) OR General University Elective	3
Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences		3 Colonnade: Arts & Humanities	3
World Language 101 (if needed) OR General University Elective		3 Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences with lab	3
		15	15
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 210 or PSYS 210		3 PSY 313 or PSYS 313	3
PSY 211 or PSYS 211		1 PSY Category Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 PSY Elective (numbered 200 or above, not PSY 175 or PSY 310)	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		2 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
Colonnade: Literary Studies		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
Colonnade: Connections (Systems)		3	
		15	15
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY Category Course		3 PSY Category Course	3
PSY Elective (numbered 300 or above, not PSY 175 or PSY 310)		3 PSY Category Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 PSY Elective (numbered 300 or above, not PSY 175 or PSY 310)	3
Colonnade: Writing in the Disciplines		3 Colonnade: Connections (Social and Cultural)	3
Colonnade: Connections (Local to Global)		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
		15	15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 481		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
PSY Category Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3

2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
	15	15
Total Hours 120		

Psychology, Forensic Psychology Concentration (760)

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENG 100		3 COMM 145	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102		3 MATH 183 or PHIL 215	3
PSY 100 or PSYS 100		3 World Language 102 (if needed) OR General University Elective	3
Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences		3 Colonnade: Arts & Humanities	3
World Language 101 (if needed) OR General University Elective		3 Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences with lab	3
		15	15
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 210 or PSYS 210		3 PSY 313 or PSYS 313	3
PSY 211 or PSYS 211		1 PSY 440	3
CRIM 101		3 PSY Category Course	3
PS 220 (fulfills major and Colonnade: Connections (Systems))		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
Colonnade: Literary Studies		3	
		16	15
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 470		3 PHIL 211 (fulfills major and Colonnade: Connections (Social and Cultural))	3
PSY Category Course		3 PSY 472	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 PSY Category Course	3
Colonnade: Writing in the Disciplines		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
Colonnade: Connections (Local to Global)		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
		15	15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 481		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
CRIM 456		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
PSY Category Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		2 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
		14	15
Total Hours 120			

Psychology, Sports Psychology Concentration (760)**First Year**

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENG 100		3 COMM 145	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102		3 Colonnade: Arts & Humanities	3
MATH 183 or PHIL 215		3 PSY 220, FACS 191, or GERO 100 (Psychology Applied Development & Behavior Category)	3
PSY 100 or PSYS 100 (Need C or better)		3 BIOL 131*	4
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
		15	16

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Colonnade: Literary Studies		3 PSY 313	3
HMD 211 (fulfills major and Colonnade - Connections: Systems)*		3 PSY 350 (fulfills major and Colonnade - Connections: Social and Cultural)	3
PSY 210 or PSYS 210 (Need C or better)		3 PE 313*	3
PSY 211 or PSYS 211 (Need C or better)		1 COMM 315, LEAD 300, or SOCL 324 (choose one; concentration required course)*	3
Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences (CHEM 109 recommended)		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3	
		16	15

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 340*		3 PSY 412*	3
Colonnade: Writing in the Disciplines		3 PSY 440, PSY 442, or PSY 443 (Psychology Behavioral Change Category)	3
Colonnade: Connections (Local to Global)		3 HMD 360, HMD 364, or HMD 368*	3
PSY 331 or PSY 436 (Psychology Foundations Category)		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
PSY 290, PSY 390, or PSY 490*		1-3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
PE 311*		3	
		18	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSY 481		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3

2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
	15	15

Total Hours 125

* Sport Psychology Concentration Required Course