



PSYCHOLOGY (PSHBA, PSHBS)

Penn State Behrend's Psychology B.A. and B.S. majors are challenging and personally rewarding programs of study. Students in both majors take a core three-course methodology sequence that culminates in an original research project presented at a regional undergraduate psychology conference. Students also publish their work in our annual psychology journal. Because of Penn State Behrend's small-college setting, psychology majors work closely with faculty and often work on original faculty research projects. Faculty topics of research include studies of biological bases of memory, the psychology of language, program evaluation, adolescent aggression, workplace satisfaction, and sexual dysfunction.

As a scholarly discipline, psychology emphasizes the communication and explanation of principles and theories of behavior. As a science, it is focused research through which investigators collect, quantify, analyze, and interpret data to describe human and animal behavior. As a profession, psychology involves the practical application of knowledge and techniques for the solution or prevention of individual or social problems. Once you have completed your training in psychology at Penn State Behrend, you will possess a solid background in all three of these dimensions of psychology and will be well prepared for the workforce or graduate education.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Psychology is one of the most adaptable majors students can choose. Penn State Behrend's Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science graduates usually enter the job market following graduation (often capitalizing upon a recent internship) or enter graduate programs in Psychology or related fields. Penn State Behrend graduates are employed or continuing their education at the following locations, among others:

Business

Abraxas Foundation, Inc.
Brevillier Village Retirement Community
Erie Community Action Drug/Alcohol Svcs.
Gannondale
GECAC
Transitional Living, Inc. (Butler, PA)
Gertrude Barber Center

Great Lakes Rehabilitation Hospital
Hamot Medical Center
Lake Erie Institute of Rehabilitation
Mars Home for Youth
West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation
Meadville Medical Center
Erie Insurance

NYU Medical Center
Office of Children and Youth
St. Vincent's Health Center
Stairways, Incorporated
State of Florida, Department of Labor
The Devereux Foundation (Baltimore)

Graduate Programs

Case Western Reserve University
Clark University
Cleveland State University
University of Maryland, Baltimore
Johns Hopkins University

Edinboro University of PA
Gannon University
George Mason University
Univ. of Texas, Galveston, Medical School

Kent State University
Michigan State University
Portland State University
University of Iowa

Program Chair: Dr. Charisse Nixon, 814-898-6041, cln5@psu.edu
www.behrend.psu.edu/psychology

PSYCHOLOGY

(B.A., B.S., 124 Credits Minimum for Graduation)

THE GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO BOTH THE B.A. AND B.S. DEGREES

Students should review their degree audits via eLion at <http://eLion.psu.edu>

General Education (45 credits)

WRITING/SPEAKING (9 cr)

ENGL 015 or 030H (GWS) _____ (3)

ENGL 202A, B, C, or D (GWS) _____ (3)

CAS 100A, B, C, or H (GWS) _____ (3)

QUANTIFICATION (6 cr)

any GQ course _____ (3)

any GQ course _____ (3)

NATURAL SCIENCES (9 cr)

Students may complete any 9 credits of GN sciences as long as one course contains a lab.

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

Lab course _____

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (3 cr)

Students may complete any 3 credits of GHA as long as the total equals 3 or more credits.

ARTS (6 cr)

GA courses*

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

HUMANITIES (6 cr)

GH courses*

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL (6 cr)

GS courses*

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

*Courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major.

Note: A student may request an exception in order to establish a focus in one area. For example, a student may opt to take *one* course in the Social & Behavioral Sciences, *two* in the Arts, and *three* in the Humanities—referred to as the 3-6-9 sequence.

Additional Graduation Requirements

First-Year Seminar (Included in electives) _____ (1)

Writing Across the Curriculum in the major (W)** _____ (3)

International Cultures (IL)**+ _____ (3)

United States Cultures (US)**+ _____ (3)

**Can also be counted toward General Education or major requirements.

+ Effective for students enrolling in or after summer session 2005.

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements (12–24 credits)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE (0–12 credits): students must attain 12th credit level proficiency.

_____ (4) _____ (4) _____ (4)

This requirement is governed by a placement policy dictated by the number of levels of foreign language completed prior to admission to college.

B.A. KNOWLEDGE DOMAINS (9 credits)

Formerly, students were required to complete 3 credits in each of three domains (Arts, Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences). Effective Summer 2005, students are permitted to complete all 9 credits in any one of six domains or a combination thereof, but *courses may not be taken in the area of the*

student's primary major. The six domains are Arts (GA), Humanities (GH), Social & Behavioral Sciences (GS), Natural Sciences (GN), Quantification (GQ), and Foreign Language *if* the coursework is in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit proficiency of the first foreign language.

_____ (3) _____ (3) _____ (3)

See complete list of courses at: <http://www.psu.edu/bulletins/bluebook/gened/bad.html>

OTHER CULTURES (3 cr)† _____

†Cannot be used to satisfy the U.S. & International Cultures requirement. See: <http://www.psu.edu/bulletins/bluebook/gened/bad.html#OCUL>

Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements

B.S. DEGREE (25 credits)

MATH (4 cr)

MATH 110 or 140 (Fulfills 4 cr. Gen. Ed. GQ) _____ (4)

Choose either: * Business Option: or ** General Psychology Option:

Students choosing the Business option, in consultation with advisor, select at least 21 credits in business courses.* Students choosing the General Psychology option, in consultation with advisor, select at least 21 credits in Science courses.** Students could graduate with a minor in Business or Science.

_____ () _____ ()
 _____ () _____ ()
 _____ () _____ ()
 _____ () _____ ()

* 3 credits of IO Psychology courses can count in the Business Option.

**Anatomy, Physiology, and Genetics are strongly recommended. Three credits of biological psychology courses can count in the General Option.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR (≥43 credits)

PSYCH 100 (Introductory Psychology) _____ (3)

CMPBD 100 (Computing in Humanities & Social _____ (1)

Sciences) Students may test out of this course. Students may substitute CMPSC 203 (a GenEd GQ) for CMPBD 100.

RESEARCH CORE (12 cr)

PSYCH 200 (GQ) (Elementary Statistics in Psychology) _____ (4)
 or STAT 200 (GQ) (PSYCH 200 is strongly preferred)

PSYCH 301W (Basic Research Methods) _____ (4)

PSYCH 406W (Advanced Research Methods) _____ (4)

BASIC COURSE REQUIREMENT (12 cr)

Choose 1 course from at least 4 of the following 5 categories.

Taking courses from all 5 categories is strongly suggested.

1) **Foundations of Behavior:** PSYCH 260, 261, 439, 461, 462

Course Chosen: _____

2) **Social/Developmental:** PSYCH 212, 221, 412, 413*, 414*, 416, 420

Course Chosen: _____

3) **Cognitive/Experimental:** PSYCH 253, 256, 413*, 456, 452, 453

Course Chosen: _____

4) **Clinical/Counseling:** PSYCH 140, 238, 414*, 438, 470, 471, 481

Course Chosen: _____

5) **Diversity:** PSYCH 231, 232, 422, 479

Course Chosen: _____

*May be counted for either category, *but not both*

ADVANCED COURSE REQUIREMENT (9 cr)

Take three additional 400-level psychology classes. (except 494, 495, or 496)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

SPECIAL INTEREST (6 cr)

Take at least 2 other psychology courses of any level as interest dictates.

(3 credits of 494, 495, or 496 may be applied to this requirement.)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES:

INTERNSHIP:

PSYCH 495 (Variable cr.) _____ ()

Requirements: PSYCH 100, 200, 2.50 GPA overall, 3.00 Psychology GPA, at least 5th semester standing, and approval of site. In certain cases, one or more of the requirements may be waived upon approval of instructor.

INDEPENDENT STUDIES:

PSYCH 296/494/496 (Variable cr.) _____ ()

SENIOR THESIS: (Variable cr.) _____ ()

PSYCHOLOGY MINOR

Total of 18 credits in Psychology courses including PSYCH 100 and 6 credits at the 400 level

PSYCH 100 _____ (3)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

_____ (3)

IMPORTANT POLICIES: Minimum Graduation Requirements for Behrend College Majors. Students graduating from a Behrend College major/minor must achieve a minimum overall grade-point average of 2.0 and earn a C grade or better in all 300- and 400-level courses within the Prescribed, Additional, and Supporting courses as specified in Senate Policy 82-44 and in PSYCH 100, 200 or STAT 200, and in PSYCH 301W. If a student receives a grade below C, he/she must repeat that course, or a division-approved alternative, and earn a C or better.

A SAMPLE SCHEDULE

(This schedule is an **example** of the courses a psychology student might take)

FIRST-YEAR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

FIRST SEMESTER

PSYCH 100
First-Year Seminar
ENGL 015 or 030
Natural Science
Quantification
Humanities
GHA, GPA, or GPE

SECOND SEMESTER

CMPBD 100 or CMPSC 203
100/200-level PSYCH
Natural Science
Quantification
Arts
GHA, GPA, or GPE

FIRST-YEAR BACHELOR OF ARTS

FIRST SEMESTER

PSYCH 100
First-Year Seminar
ENGL 015 or 030
Natural Science
Foreign Language
Humanities
GHA, GPA, or GPE

SECOND SEMESTER

CMPBD 100 or CMPSC 203
100/200-level PSYCH
Quantification
Foreign Language
Arts
GHA, GPA, or GPE

SOPHOMORE B.S. and B.A.

PSYCH 200, 301W, and 406W sequence should be started in the first or second semester of the sophomore year.

FIRST SEMESTER

CAS 100 A, B, or C
Schedule PSYCH 100 before PSYCH 301W
100/200 level PSYCH
Natural Science or Quantification
Arts (for B.S.) / Foreign Language (for B.A.)
GHA, GPA, or GPE

SECOND SEMESTER

ENGL 202A
Schedule PSYCH 301W before PSYCH 406W
100/200 level PSYCH
100/200 level PSYCH
Social & Behavioral Science (not PSYCH)
Humanities

JUNIOR B.S. and B.A.

Schedule PSYCH 301W before PSYCH 406W
Schedule as many PSYCH courses as possible
Schedule two 400-level classes
Schedule remaining General Education courses
Schedule as many remaining courses from checklist as possible

SENIOR B.S and B.A.

Schedule as many PSYCH courses as possible
Schedule two 400-level classes
Schedule remaining General Education courses
Schedule remaining courses from checklist
Investigate Internship (PSYCH 495A), Independent Study (PSYCH 496), and Senior Thesis opportunities

FULL-TIME PSYCHOLOGY FACULTY

Dr. Dawn G. Blasko (*Ph.D., SUNY-Binghamton*): Cognitive Psychology

Dr. Eric W. Corty (*Ph.D., Indiana University-Bloomington*): Clinical Psychology

Mr. Dennis Dorman (*M.Ed., Edinboro University of Pennsylvania*): Sociology

Dr. Dharma Jairam (*Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln*): Educational Psychology

Dr. Carl A. Kallgren (*Ph.D., Arizona State University*): Social Psychology

Dr. Victoria A. Kazmerski (*Ph.D., SUNY-Stony Brook*): Cognitive Neuroscience

Dr. Heather Lum (*Ph.D., University of Central Florida*): Human Factors

Dr. Charisse L. Nixon (*Ph.D., West Virginia University*): Developmental Psychology

Dr. Clare Porac (*Ph.D., New School for Social Research*): Neuropsychology and Sensory Psychology

Dr. Shariffah Sheik Dawood (*Ph.D., University of Leicester, United Kingdom*): Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Dr. Carol Wilson (*Ph.D., Texas A&M University*): Social Psychology

The faculty in the psychology program at Penn State Behrend are active researchers and scholars as well as excellent teachers and advisors. The psychology faculty regularly publish their research work in national and international journals and present their findings at regional, national, and international conferences. All of the psychology faculty at Penn State Behrend enjoy mentoring and encourage students to take advantage of opportunities to work with them outside of the classroom.

For more information, check the Psychology Web site at:
pennstatebehrend.psu.edu/psychology