Psychology is the empirical analysis of mind and behavior. The department members believe that reliable knowledge of psychological processes represents a necessary condition for meaningful action in the world. Virtually all disciplines benefit from attention to psychological variables. Psychology is a versatile, inherently interdisciplinary, and multi-methodological enterprise.

The Department's mission is to engender the kind of student who possesses a diverse and clear understanding of the major concepts, traditions, and findings within the field of modern psychology. Our goal is to mentor students to think critically and independently; who are well versed in both qualitative and quantitative methodologies and regard both as potentially valuable and appropriate. Our classes incorporate discipline-specific writing, professional skills, and opportunities for creative as well as critical thinking about applied problems.

Based on the Guidelines of the American Psychological Association for the Undergraduate Psychology Major: 1.) Knowledge in Psychology; 2.) Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking; 3.) Ethical and Social Responsibility; 4.) Communication; and 5.) Professional Development, the goals of the Psychology Department are to:

- introduce students to the scientific approach and methods of critical analysis in the interpretation and evaluation of research and theory
- develop cultural humility in understanding, service and research with diverse populations
- present a selection of courses that typify the breadth of the discipline and the expertise of departmental faculty
- instill cooperative learning strategies that enable students to participate effectively in group projects and in circumstances surrounding employment
- polish student writing so that they communicate clearly, succinctly and with authority both in oral presentation and in essay form.
- mentor students’ by providing opportunity and instruction in basic and applied psychology through civic and community engagement, as well as allied health and service professions

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

There are three general categories of courses that together make up the psychology major. All must be completed with a “C” or better.

**Category I Courses** are major requirements. You must complete all of these courses in order to graduate with a psychology major. Consequently, these courses are always offered annually (i.e., once a year) if not biannually (i.e., every semester).

**Category II Courses** are major elective requirements. You must complete one 4-credit course from 4 of the 5 sub-discipline areas in order to earn a psychology degree at Pacific University. You may take more than one of these courses for credit toward the major. Course offerings vary from AD LIB (i.e., as needed), biennial (i.e., every other year) to biannual (i.e., every semester).

**Category III Courses** are elective course options, emphases, and special topics courses that count toward the major. Students must earn an additional 16 credits by taking a variety of elective courses.
**CATEGORY I: Major Requirements (18 crts required)**

Complete all of the below courses:

- PSY 150, Introduction to Psychology (4 crts)
- PSY 490, Senior Capstone —or— PSY 499 Advanced Senior Research (4 crts)

**Either**

- PSY 300 and PSY 301, Behavioral Research and Statistics (8 crts total)

**OR**

- PSY 348/349 Behavioral Research Methods (4 crts)/ Laboratory (2 crts) and PSY 350, Behavioral Statistics OR SOC 301, Social Statistics (4 crts)

**CATEGORY II: Required Breadth Elective Options (16 crts required)**

Complete at least one course from four of the five groups below:

**Group A**
- PSY 252, BIOPSY I: Behavioral and Clinical Neuroscience with Laboratory (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 352, Sensation and Perception with Laboratory (4 crts)

**Group B**
- PSY 202, Health Psychology (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 211, Abnormal Psychology (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 309, Personality Psychology (4 crts)

**Group C**
- PSY 316, Psychology of Studying (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 314, Memory and Mind (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 416, Cognitive Science (4 crts)

**Group D**
- PSY 240, Child Development (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 281, Lifespan Development (4 crts)

**Group E**
- PSY 358, Psychology of Ethnic Diversity in the US (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 308, Social Psychology (4 crts)

**OR**
- PSY 310, Community Psychology (4 crts)

**CATEGORY III: Electives (16 crts)**

Category III courses are elective options, emphases and special topics courses that count toward the major. Students must take an additional 16 elective credits, 8 of those must be upper division credits. Any course you do not take to fulfill Category II may be used for an elective, as can of the other Psychology courses except those required in Category I and the
Professional Development courses.

**NOTE:** The following classes from programs outside of psychology can be **electively** used towards the **major or minor** (no more than 8 credits total):

- BIOL 312, Genetics and Evolution
- PHIL 310, Philosophy of Science
- PHIL 314, Philosophy of Mind
- SOC/GSS 201 or 316, Gender and Sexuality
- SOCWK 325, Counseling and Interviewing Techniques

**TOTAL:** 50 credits required for the **B.A. Psych. degree**

**TOTAL:** 58 credits required, the **B.S. Psych. degree** (2 additional NS lab classes)

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES**
The following courses are recommended for any student interested in pursuing a graduate or professional degree. These courses **DO NOT** count toward upper division credits within the major. However, they do fulfill upper division credits toward the core baccalaureate requirements.

These courses include:
- PSY 351, Directed Research
- PSY 448, Mentoring in Psychology
- PSY 449, Directed Research and Community Outreach
- PSY 475, Internship Experience
- PSY 499, Senior Capstone (4 crts of 490 or 499 are required, more than 4 are considered “professional development” and do not count toward the major)

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PSYCHOLOGY MINOR**
The Psychology minor must complete the following courses with a grade of "C" or better:
- PSY 150, Introduction to Psychology (4 crts)
- PSY 350, Behavioral Statistics or SOC 301, Social Statistics (4 crts)

**Elective courses** (16 crts)
Students intending to minor in Psychology should consult with a department member prior to choosing electives. At least 8 of the elective credits must be at the upper division level and no more than 8 elective credits outside of the Psychology may be used toward a Psychology Minor. Interdisciplinary courses must be Psychology-approved courses.

**Psychology-Approved Interdisciplinary Courses**

- EXIP 365, Perceptual Motor Learning (For the Minor Only)
- BIOL 312, Genetics and Evolution
- PHIL 310, Philosophy of Science
- PHIL 314, Philosophy of Mind
- SOC/GSS 201 or 316, Gender & Sexuality
- SOCWK 325, Counseling and Interviewing Techniques

**TOTAL:** 24 Credits for the **Psychology Minor**