

MAJOR MILESTONES: Expected Course Sequence and Cumulative Outcomes for the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

<p style="text-align: center;">Year One: Awareness & Appreciation (8-10 hours) Psychology 101 One of 310, 320, 330 Possible elective: 221</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Year Two: Statistical, Methodological, & Analytical Skills (8-12 hours PSYC & 4 hours STAT) Statistics 232 & Psychology 242 One or two 300-level PSYC electives (e.g., 310, 320, 330, 335, 370)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Year Three: Conceptual Depth & Breadth (12-16 hours) One of 440, 442, 446, 448 Two or three 300- or 400-level PSYC electives</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Year Four: Synthesis of Methodological & Conceptual Competencies (8-14 hours) Psychology 499 Two or three 400-level PSYC electives Two credits of 495, 496, or 497</p>
<p>Competencies First Year Majors Acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know major psychological subfields • Know major psychological perspectives • Understand the scope of contemporary psychology • Think scientifically about behavior and mental processes • Understand the role of the scientific method in answering psychological questions • Respect the field of psychology as a scientific discipline • Become familiar with psychology research ethics and methodology through research participation • Understand the variety of explanations for differences in causes of behavior • Apply knowledge of psychological perspectives to everyday life 	<p>Competencies Second Year Majors Acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate appropriate research designs (i.e., correlational, experimental, laboratory, field) to test hypotheses • Generate tests of hypotheses by applying the appropriate descriptive and inferential statistics using SPSS • Understand and evaluate articles from professional journals. • Gather and synthesize information from (refereed and peer-reviewed) sources • Interpret and generalize research results appropriately • Develop an integrated research paper, addressing a specific psychological problem. • Begin to express own ideas in written and oral presentations consistent with psychological standards (i.e., APA format). • Create understandable graphs and tables in APA format. • Critically evaluate research in light of the ethical principles of psychologists • Appropriately implement ethical treatment of participants • Begin to generate plausible alternative hypotheses that are falsifiable • Respect the diversity of behavior and experience and appreciate the rich opportunities that such differences provide • Engage in the active and collaborative learning process 	<p>Competencies Third Year Majors Acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply research knowledge and critical analysis of psychological literature to a particular content area • Demonstrate an understanding of particular experimental paradigms in psychology • Continue to apply critical thinking skills in order to develop a greater understanding of the role of psychology in addressing human concerns • Gain breadth of knowledge from multiple perspectives within the discipline of psychology • Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the applications and limitations of the scientific method • Develop a greater appreciation and understanding of the relationships between theories, observations, and conclusions • Critically evaluate the empirical support for various theories and findings within specific content areas • Develop greater appreciation of role of individual differences within culturally diverse settings • Further apply analytical and methodological skills in the study of diverse cultural issues • Engage in metacognitive analysis of own learning and performance • Read and use primary sources • Formulate novel predictions based on theories 	<p>Competencies Fourth Year Majors Acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate integration of analytical, methodological, and conceptual skills in addressing a psychological question • Independently explore a question of interest using psychological research methods (theoretical or empirical) • Master expressing one's own ideas in written and oral presentations in a manner consistent with psychological standards (i.e., APA format) • Create a research presentation appropriate for submission to a conference or publication • Display initiative • Know and use psychological concepts readily • Demonstrate in-depth familiarity within a particular content area in psychology • Communicate accurately quantitative and qualitative analytical skills to others • Comprehend and analyze primary sources across both empirical and theoretical content areas • Integrate respect for diverse perspectives into own career choices • Synthesize undergraduate psychology experiences to evaluate personal strengths, values, and goals in order to inform vocational choices

MAJOR MILESTONES

Expected Course Sequence and Outcomes for the Bachelor of Science in Psychology*

***NOTE:** In addition to the competencies for the B.A. in Psychology, competencies unique to the B.Sc. degree are listed below. The course sequence for the B.Sc. degree also differs from that for the B.A.

<p>Year One (8-10 hours PSYC) Psychology 101 One of 310, 320, 330 Possible elective: 221 One Natural Science</p>	<p>Year Two (8-12 hours PSYC & 4 hours STAT) Statistics 232, Psychology 242 One or two 300-level PSYC electives (e.g., 310, 320, 330, 335, 370) One or two Natural Science</p>	<p>Year Three (12-14 hours PSYC) One of 440, 442, 446, 448, plus associated lab (441, 443, 447, 449) Two or three 300- or 400-level PSYC electives One or two Natural Science</p>	<p>Year Four (8-12 hours PSYC) One of 440, 442, 446, 448, plus associated lab (441, 443, 447, 449) if not taken Year Three Psychology 481 One 400-level PSYC elective Two credits of 495, 496, or 497 One Natural Science</p>
<p>Competencies First Year Majors Acquire:</p>	<p>Competencies Second Year Majors Acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to synthesize natural science and social science aspects of psychology 	<p>Competencies Third Year Majors Acquire:</p>	<p>Competencies Fourth Year Majors Acquire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independently carry out an experimental research project from start to finish (i.e., conceptual development, data collection, analysis, professional level oral & written presentation) • Synthesize natural science and social science aspects of psychology

Expected Course Sequence for the Transfer Student Majoring in Psychology**

****NOTE:** It is assumed that transfer students enter PLU with PSYC 101 and 2-3 psychology elective courses completed, and—if intending to complete the Bachelor of Science—have also completed approximately 3 courses in natural science.

Bachelor of Arts

<p>Year Three (8-12 hours PSYC & 4 hours STAT) Statistics 232, Psychology 242 One or two 300-level PSYC electives (e.g., 310, 320, 330, 335, 370)</p>	<p>Year Four (12-16 hours) Psychology 499 One of 440, 442, 446, 448 Two 300- or 400-level PSYC electives Two credits of 495, 496 or 497</p>
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Bachelor of Science

<p>Year Three (8-12 hours PSYC & 4 hours STAT) Statistics 232, Psychology 242 One or two 300-level PSYC electives (e.g., 310, 320, 330, 335, 370)</p>	<p>Year Four (16 hours) Two of 440, 442, 446, 448, plus one associated lab (441, 443, 447, 449) Psychology 481 One 400-level PSYC elective One Natural Science Two credits of 495, 496, or 497</p>
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