

PSYCHOLOGY-BA OR BS

THIS IS A **GENERAL** CURRICULUM GUIDE AND IS NOT APPLICABLE TO EVERY STUDENT. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.**Psychology Major (36 credits)****Required Core Courses (12 credits)**— **PSY 101 Introductory Psychology (3)**— **PSY 300 SWS Research Methods in Psychology (3)**

Prerequisites: PSY 101 or HNR 234, and STA 215, or STA 312 and WRT 150

— **PSY 400 Advanced Research in Psychology (3)**

Prerequisites: PSY 101, PSY 300, and a course in relevant content area or permission of instructor

— **PSY 492 Advanced General Capstone (3)**

Prerequisite: Senior standing and a major in Psychology or Behavioral Neuroscience

Category Requirements (18 credits)

Choose one course from each of the following six categories; prerequisite for all courses: PSY 101 or HNR 234 unless otherwise noted

— **Biological** ____ (3)

PSY 375 Comparative Psychology

PSY 330 Fdns of Behavioral Neuroscience

Prerequisite: PSY 101 or HNR 234

PSY 431 Introduction to Neuropsychology

Prerequisites: PSY 101 or HNR 234, and PSY 300

PSY 432 Psychopharmacology

Prerequisite: PSY 101 or HNR 234, and PSY 300

— **Social context** ____ (3)

PSY 355 Psychology and Culture

PSY 360 Social Psychology

PSY 381 Group Dynamics

Prerequisite: PSY 101 or HNR 234 or SOC 201

PSY 445 Industrial/Organizational Psychology

— **Developmental** ____ (3)

PSY 301 Child Development

PSY 305 Infant and Early Childhood Development

PSY 331 Adolescent Development

PSY 364 Life Span Development

— **Cognitive** ____ (3)

PSY 357 Psychology of Language

Prerequisite: none

PSY 361 Perception

PSY 365 Cognition

— **Personality/Clinical** ____ (3)

PSY 303 Psychopathology

PSY 324 Developmental Psychopathology

Prerequisite: PSY 301 or PSY 364

PSY 420 Theories of Personality

PSY 452 Counseling Theories and Applications

Prerequisite: PSY 303

— **General** ____ (3)

PSY 311 SWS Controversial Issues in Psychology

Prerequisite: WRT 150

PSY 362 Environmental Psychology

PSY 366 Perspectives on Aging

Prerequisite: PSY 101 or PHI 101

PSY 370 Cognitive Neuroscience

Prerequisite: PSY 101 and Junior Standing

PSY 405 History and Systems

Prerequisite: PSY 300

PSY 410 Tests and Measurements

Prerequisite: STA 215 or STA 312

— **Elective PSY** ____ (3)— **Elective PSY** ____ (3)**Degree: choose one (B.A. or B.S.)**Psychology majors complete the B.S. degree requirements as part of their major. Students who have completed a 3rd semester proficiency in a foreign language have the *option* of selecting the B.A. degree. It matters little to employers or graduate schools whether the degree is a B.S. or a B.A.**Bachelor of Arts**

Third semester language proficiency (201 level) is required for the B.A. degree. This may be fulfilled through language placement

(<http://www.gvsu.edu/ml/language-placement-exam-108.htm>) or by

completing the courses listed below

— **Language 101*** (4)— **Language 102*** (4) (*150 is a hybrid of 101 & 102 and is recommended for students with previous language background; students may move into Language 201 after completing Language 150)— **Language 201** (4)**Bachelor of Science**— **STA 215 Introduction to Statistics (3)**

Prerequisite: MTH 110 or equivalent

— **PSY 300 Research Methods in Psychology (3) (SWS)**

Prerequisites: PSY 101 or HNR 234, and STA 215 or STA 312, and WRT 150

— **PSY 400 Advanced Research in Psychology (3)**

Prerequisites: PSY 101, PSY 300, and a course in relevant content area or permission of instructor

Additional Elective Options

PSY 304 The Psychology and Education of the Exceptional Child

Prerequisite: PSY 301 or PSY 364

PSY 310 Behavior Modification

PSY 315 Psychology of Sex Differences

PSY 316 The Psychology of Human Intimacy and Sexuality

PSY 325 Educational Psychology

PSY 326 Intellectual/Developmental

Disabilities

Prerequisite: PSY 301 or PSY 364

PSY 349 Psychology Applied to the Media

PSY 367 Health Psychology

PSY 368 Psychology of Physical Disabilities

PSY 380 Special Topics in Psychology

PSY 385 Psychology of Religion

PSY 399 Independent readings

PSY 499 Independent Study and Research

It is imperative to meet with your faculty advisor and an advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center regularly.

The CLAS Academic Advising Center is located in C-1-140 MAK, 616-331-8585.

Online at: <http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising>

Sample Plan

Year One
PSY 101 STA 215 WRT 150 ¹
Year Two
PSY 300 PSY Category PSY Category PSY Category

Year Three
PSY Category PSY Category PSY Category PSY Elective
Year Four
PSY Elective PSY 400 PSY 492

*Students must complete a total of two courses with an SWS attribute
 *You must have a total of 120 credits to graduate from Grand Valley State University (you are encouraged to complete an average of 15 credits per semester)
 *Supplement major courses with general education courses when scheduling
 *The block tuition rate is for 12-15 credits. You will pay additional tuition for any credits over 15
 *A major GPA of 2.0 or higher is required.

¹ Students who self-place into WRT 098 should take this course in the fall semester and then take WRT 150 in the winter semester of their first year. Students who self-place into WRT 150 should normally take this course in the winter semester of their first year.

Students will not need to take WRT 150 if they have earned credit for the course through AP/Dual Enrollment. A grade of C or better is required in WRT 150 in order to satisfy the WRT 150 requirement at GVSU.

If you have received a minimum score of 3 on the **Advanced Placement (AP) Test in Psychology**, or have **CLEP or Dual Enrollment** credit for PSY 101 Introductory Psychology, you may take one 300-level (not PSY 300) course for which introductory psychology is the prerequisite during the second semester of your Freshman year.

NOTES:

- Psychology majors are strongly encouraged to choose a minor that provides knowledge and skills relevant to their chosen career.
- For those planning on pursuing a Ph.D. in psychology, research experience is crucial. Two years of research experience are highly recommended. PSY 499 is just one way to gain research experience. Consult with your faculty advisor to plan the types of research experience that would be most relevant to you. A minor in Applied Statistics can be useful.
- For students who choose to take PSY 399 and/or 499, no more than six credit hours in these courses may be counted toward the major. Psychology majors must take at least one third of the psychology credits constituting their major from the psychology department.

Guide for Declaring the Psychology Major

1. Log into myBanner from the GVSU homepage
2. Once logged in select "Student", "Student Records", and then, "Change Major"
3. Click on the "Change Major 1/Program" box
4. Click on the down arrow in the box next to "New Major 1/Program," from here scroll down and choose "Psychology-BA" **OR** "Psychology-BS" depending on your degree
5. Click "Submit" and then "Change to New Program"

General Education Overlap

General Education Categories fulfilled by courses required in the Psychology major:	
Mathematical Sciences: STA 215	Social and Behavioral Sciences: PSY 101
Global Perspectives: PSY 355	Issues: PSY 367