MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

Majors are required to complete 41 units in psychology and 10 units in prerequisite courses with a grade equivalent of 2.00 in all courses. No “Pass” grades are accepted for the 41 units in psychology (32 units of required psychology courses and 9 units of psychology electives). Of the 32 required psychology units, 14 units, consisting of the following courses, are required: PSYC 101 or PSYC 102, PSYC 203 or PSYC 204, PSYC 212 or PSYC 213, and PSYC 314 or PSYC 313. The remaining 18 required units are to be completed by taking one upper-level course PSYC 212 or PSYC 213 and PSYC 314 or PSYC 313. The remaining 18 required units are to be completed by taking one upper-level course in each of the six topical areas: Human Development, Clinical, Social, Biopsychology, Learning-Cognition, and Diversity. All students must satisfy the relevant prerequisites for individual psychology courses taken.

Code Title Units
**Required Lower-Level Prerequisites (10 Units)**
BIOL 120 & 120L PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY [LECTURE] 4
or ENGL 190 or ENGL 102 WRITING FOR A LIBERAL EDUCATION 3
MATH 111 FINITE MATHEMATICS (or higher, excluding MATH 204) 3

**Required Courses (14 Units)**
PSYC 101 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY 3
or PSYC 102 HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 203 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT 3
or PSYC 204 HONORS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
PSYC 213 RESEARCH DESIGN AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS IN PSYCHOLOGY 4
or PSYC 212 BEHAVIORAL STATISTICS
PSYC 313 RESEARCH DESIGN AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS IN PSYCHOLOGY 4
or PSYC 314 RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

**Topical Areas (18 Units)**

**Human Development (PSYC 203 is a required prerequisite)** 3
Select one of the following:
PSYC 403 INFANT AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
PSYC 404 ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 405 PSYCHOLOGY OF AGING
PSYC 467 MIDLIFE DEVELOPMENT

**Clinical** 3
Select one of the following:
PSYC 350 PERSONALITY
PSYC 361 ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 411 TESTS AND MEASUREMENTS
PSYC 430 SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES OF PSYCHOTHERAPY

**Social** 3
Select one of the following:
PSYC 325 SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 327 INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 431 GROUP DYNAMICS

**Biopsychology** 3
Select one of the following:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 309</td>
<td>PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 317</td>
<td>SENSATION AND PERCEPTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 460</td>
<td>ETHOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 465</td>
<td>PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY</td>
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**Learning-Cognition** 3
Select one of the following:
PSYC 305 PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING
PSYC 315 MOTIVATION
PSYC 461 COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY 2

**Diversity** 3
Select one of the following:
PSYC 419 DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES IN PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 432 CROSS-CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 447 SEX DIFFERENCES: PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES
PSYC 451 INTRODUCTION TO THE EXCEPTIONAL CHILD

**Electives (9 Units)**
Select any 200-, 300- or 400-level psychology courses with a MINIMUM of 3 units (of the required 9 units) completed at the 300- or 400-level. Electives include:
Any other course(s) within a given topical area beyond the one required to fulfill the topical area requirements
Any other psychology courses listed in the catalog with the exception of PSYC 230 or PSYC 383

**Total Units** 51

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1. PSYC 213 (offered only in the fall) and PSYC 313 (offered only in the spring) represent a two-course sequence that must be taken with the same faculty member in the same academic year. In order to receive credit for PSYC 213, students must complete PSYC 313.

2. Recommended topical area course

additional options IN PSYCHOLOGY

The Department of Psychology offers undergraduates two options beyond the completion of the general undergraduate concentration: a Clinical Psychology Area of Focus and an Honors Thesis in Psychology option. More specific information about each option is provided below. Admission to each of these options is competitive; for full consideration, applications must be made to the appropriate program director by the third week in October of the student’s junior year. Application packets may be obtained in the Psychology department office.

In addition to the requirements of these options, students must also complete the Core Curriculum requirements of the university and any additional requirements of the Psychology major.

**CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY area of focus**

The Clinical Psychology Area of Focus offers more extensive training in Clinical Psychology beyond that gained by completion of the Psychology major. The area of focus provides a three-term course sequence (14 units), beginning in the spring term of the junior year. Courses are organized around practicum experience with extensive supervision so that there is continuity between theory and practice of clinical skills.

Following are the Clinical Psychology Area of Focus:
For a student to be admitted to the Clinical Psychology Area of Focus, the following criteria must be met by the spring term of the junior year:

1. Completion of PSYC 205 and PSYC 361 with a grade of "B" (3.00) or better in both courses
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.40 and a Psychology GPA of 3.60
3. Submission of a writing sample, a letter of recommendation from a TU faculty member (preferably from Psychology) or employer who has observed the applicant’s interpersonal skills, maturity and professionalism, and an interview with the program director to determine the student’s suitability to complete the Clinical Psychology Area of Focus

honors thesis in PSYCHOLOGY

The Department of Psychology offers an undergraduate honors thesis option that provides students an opportunity to learn in-depth about the research process in psychology. Students complete an independent thesis in close collaboration with a faculty mentor, while taking a series of advanced courses on research methods, data analysis, thesis preparation and professional presentation. The three-term program (11 units) culminates in the student’s senior year with the completion of the thesis and presentation of the findings in a symposium format.

The honors thesis option begins during the spring term of the student’s junior year and continues throughout the student’s senior year. The option is open to both native Towson students and transfer students entering the Psychology major in the beginning of their junior year.

Following are the specific courses that all honors thesis students must take:

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<tr>
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<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 486</td>
<td>ADVANCED EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 497</td>
<td>HONORS SEMINAR IN PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 499</td>
<td>HONORS SENIOR THESIS IN PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 498</td>
<td>HONORS CAPSTONE PSYCHOLOGY</td>
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For a student to be admitted to the Honors Thesis in Psychology option, the following criteria must be met by the spring term of the junior year:

1. Completion of PSYC 212/PSYC 213 and PSYC 313/PSYC 314 with a “B” grade or better
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.40 and a Psychology GPA of 3.60
3. Identification of a Psychology faculty member who will supervise the thesis
4. Submission of a personal statement and writing sample and interview with the program director

Suggested Four-Year Plan

Please contact your major department for more information.

1. Understand and apply basic research methods in Psychology, including research design, data analysis and interpretation.
2. Use critical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to evaluate claims related to behavioral and mental processes.
3. Demonstrate information competence and the ability to use computers and other technology toward an understanding of Psychology.
4. Communicate effectively in a variety of formats.