



DEGREE PLANNING GUIDE FOR PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology at St. Edward's University is taught as a rigorous scientific study of behavior with a focus on individuals functioning both alone and as members of society. The goals of the department are to encourage students to develop into articulate, responsible, and competent scholars with a breadth of interests within the field of psychology and an awareness of community responsibility. To achieve these goals, students engage in a strong academic preparation along with practical experience. A unique aspect of the program is the opportunity to apply theoretical material in concrete situations throughout one's college career. Emphasis on a solid academic foundation, flexibility relevant to current insights and new discoveries, and independent research by students, stimulates the development of potential to meet the challenges of contemporary society. Graduates are knowledgeable about content areas within psychology and are well prepared for success in graduate programs, and a host of employment opportunities. Graduates routinely continue their studies in psychology, neuroscience, medicine, business, social work, special education, and vocational rehabilitation. Some of the employment opportunities include positions in education, childcare, marketing, criminal justice, human resources, therapeutic settings, social services, and recreational leadership, to name a few. The success, adjustment, and satisfaction of any psychology graduate depend on the individual's interest and personal involvement in the academic program. Majors are also encouraged to participate in Psi Chi (the National Honor Society in Psychology) and the Psychological Society.

YOUR MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS This phase of your course work will allow you to study your field of interest in-depth. Psychology requires a minimum of 40 credit hours. The program includes a core of 31 credit hours with such courses as General Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Social Psychology, and Abnormal Psychology. You will then choose 9 hours of electives in Psychology, which will enable you to become more knowledgeable about a specific area of interest. The major may be combined with pre-med or pre-law preparation.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Your four-year degree plan also includes general education courses that are required of all St. Edward's students. These include English, math, science, and others outlined in the undergraduate bulletin.

WHAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? No problem! In fact, it is not unusual. Part of what college is about is a process to identify your area of interest. As long as that decision is made in the first two years, it is not likely to impact your degree program very much, as a good deal of your initial course work is the area of general education, that body of courses common to all students. There are a few exceptions - major change in direction after two years (philosophy to accounting for example) would lengthen your program. If you are a full-time student and take five courses each semester, you will graduate in four years. It's unusual to do it much faster and not uncommon for it to take a little longer. It all depends on how many courses make sense for you and if you enroll in summer courses.

PLANNING YOUR FIRST YEAR OF STUDY We want you to take an active role in planning your degree program. While there are requirements in your program, there are still decisions you will need to make. For example, what foreign language do you wish to study?; what math classes do you want to choose to satisfy the math requirement?; is there a particular religious study or philosophy course that appeals to you; are there any time conflicts? Your advisor will help, but your planning and proactive involvement is critical.

SUGGESTED DEGREE PLAN FOR PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC)

FIRST FALL

FSTY 1310 Freshman Studies
FSTY 1311 Rhet & Comp I
MATH 1312 or higher
Modern Language
PSYC 2301 General Psychology

15 hours

SECOND FALL

Oral Communication
CULF 1319 Und & App Arts
Science in Depth
PSYC 2307/2308 Adol/Child
PSYC 2317 Statistics

15 hours

THIRD FALL

CULF 3330 Hist of Global Process
Ethics
SCIE 2320 Science in Perspective
PSYC 3319 Social Psyc
PSYC career/4442 if not 4343 in 3rd spring

15 hours

FOURTH FALL

PSYC 4359 Research & Field +
PSYC 4360 History & Systems
Elective
Elective
Elective

15 hours

FIRST FIRST SPRING

ENGW 1302 Rhet & Comp II
Modern Language
CULF 1318 Lit & Hum Experience
CULF 1320 American Experience
PSYC career emphasis

15 hours

SECOND SPRING

CULF 2321 American Dilemmas
RELS/PHIL
PSYC 2316 Theories personality
PSYC 3438 Experimental Psychology
Elective

15 hours

THIRD SPRING

CULF 3331 Contemporary World Issues
PSYC 4341 Abnormal Psychology
PSYC career/4343 if not 4442 in 3rd fall
PSYC career emphasis
Elective

15 hours

FOURTH SPRING

CAPS 4360 Capstone +
Elective
Elective
Elective
Elective
GDCT 4000.01* Intent to graduate

15 hours

Note: You have some choices as to when you would like to take a particular course, particularly those under the General Education Requirement. Please consult the bulletin and your degree plan for prerequisite requirements.

+ *Students will take CAPS with their Res/Field instructor*

**You must register for this course in the term you plan to graduate. Failure to do so will result in you not graduating.*