



Psychology Department

Undergraduate Handbook



Tufts University
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<http://ase.tufts.edu/psychology>

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See Departmental website for most up-to-date version



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For additional information: <http://ase.tufts.edu/psychology>

Congratulations on becoming (or thinking of becoming) a Psychology major. Psychology concerns the processes and principles of behavior. Increased understanding of oneself and others through the study of psychology is useful in almost any endeavor. The undergraduate psychology curriculum is diverse in order to reflect the breadth of the field, from the biological bases to the social determinants of behavior. Students gain general familiarity with psychology and have the option to emphasize specific areas in the field. Courses are geared toward the development of evaluative and analytic skills, which are indispensable to advanced study in experimental, clinical, and applied psychology. These skills, together with knowledge of the factors influencing individual and group behavior, are highly valuable for careers in such fields as public health, engineering, medicine, business, administration, law, politics, and education.

THE FACULTY

Full Time

Professor Lisa M. Shin, *Department Chair* – Clinical neuroscience
Professor Samuel R. Sommers, *Undergraduate Director* – Social psychology
Professor Richard A. Chechile – Cognition, statistics
Professor Robert Cook – Animal cognition
Associate Professor Ariel Goldberg – Cognition and language
Professor Robin B. Kanarek – John Wade Professor; Physiological psychology
Professor Gina Kuperberg – Cognitive and clinical neuroscience, psycholinguistics
Associate Professor Keith B. Maddox – Social cognition
Professor Klaus A. Miczek – Moses Hunt Professor of Psychology; Psychopharmacology
Assistant Professor Paul Muentener – Cognitive development
Professor Aniruddh Patel – Music cognition
Lecturer Alexander H. Queen – Clinical psychology
Assistant Professor Elizabeth Race – Cognitive neuroscience
Associate Professor Jessica Remedios – Social cognition
Professor J. P. de Ruiter – Cognitive science
Professor Holly A. Taylor – Cognition
Associate Professor Ayanna Thomas – Cognition, memory, aging
Associate Professor Heather L. Urry – Affective neuroscience
Assistant Professor Nathan J. Ward – Applied cognition

Part-Time Lecturers

David Aurelio – Engineering psychology
Daniel Barch – Statistics and research methods
Carolyn Cohen Knoepfler – Psychopharmacology
Herb Covington – Behavioral neuroscience
Richard Griffin – Developmental cognitive neuroscience
Corrine Mahoney – Clinical psychology
Timothy McEwen – Perception
Jackquelyn Mascher – Abnormal psychology
Michael VanElzakker – Clinical psychology and methods

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

Eleven courses distributed as follows (unless stated otherwise, in the language that follows, all requirements and all references to “course” refer to a course of 3 semester-hour credits or more):

1. Psychology 1;
2. one course from among Psychology 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18;
3. one course from among Psychology 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29;
4. Psychology 31 and 32;
5. two Psychology courses numbered above 100;
6. two other courses (i.e., electives) offered by the Psychology Department;
7. and two approved courses in Related Fields (see pp. 8-9 of this handbook).

NOTE: Courses taken to fulfill the major (including Related Field) normally may not be taken pass-fail (PSY 99 is an exception when used as an elective). No more than two independent study courses (Psychology 91 and 92, 97 and 98, 99, 191 and 192, 199; note that 181 and 182 are *not* independent study) may be counted toward the major. Only one of the two courses used to fulfill the 100-level requirement may be independent study (i.e., an honors thesis student may use one semester of PSY 199 as an elective and one semester as a 100-level, but these would be the only two independent study courses allowed to count toward major requirements; for more details regarding the Senior Honors Thesis, see p. 14).

Also note that Tufts will award credit for PSY 25 *or* for PSY 103, but not for both courses due to their substantial overlap. At least six courses used towards the major must be taken at Tufts (or Tufts programs on other campuses). Biopsychology, Clinical Psychology, Cognitive & Brain Sciences, and Engineering Psychology majors may not double major in Psychology or any of the other departmental majors. Psychology majors may minor in Cognitive & Brain Sciences as long as five of the seven courses taken come from other departments.

Course Placement and Substitutions

A score of 4 or 5 on the Psychology AP test is considered equivalent to having taken PSY 1 for prerequisite purposes. Please note that the AP does *not* translate into University credits (that is, it does *not* count toward the 120 semester-hour credits needed to graduate). A score of 5 completely substitutes for PSY 1 within the major, meaning that students need one fewer course to complete their major; students with an AP score of 4 must take an additional psychology course (i.e., an elective) in lieu of PSY 1. Successful completion of CSHD 1 is treated the same way as an AP score of 4.

Students double majoring in Mathematics and one of the Psychology majors can take MATH 162 instead of Psychology 31. The Department does not, however, accept the Statistics AP as a substitute for Psychology 31. Students who are double majoring in Economics and one of the Psychology majors can use EC 13 as a substitute for Psychology 31; these students should bear in mind that their stats course likely did not cover analysis of variance (ANOVA), a technique with which they will need to familiarize themselves before taking PSY 32. Students double

majoring in Biology and one of the Psychology majors may use BIO 132 or CEE 6/CH 136 to fulfill their statistics requirement.

Psychology majors can select either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. In recommending students for honors and awards, in addition to the general college requirements, the Psychology Department gives special attention to research experience. To graduate *summa cum laude*, the department requires that a student conduct independent research supervised or approved by a faculty member in the department.

Transfer of Credit

Petitions for credit for a course taken at another institution go through SIS. Students must be sure to provide all the information requested, including a link to the full course description and a syllabus (translated into English if necessary). Such requests often take several weeks to process and no action will be taken if the student does not provide all the information required. Courses taken for a grade in a non-Tufts program abroad can be counted towards the major with approval from the Transfer of Credit committee, as these are not technically pass-fail courses even though no grade is listed for them on a Tufts transcript. The Transfer of Credit committee will examine each request on an individual basis.

Barring extraordinary personal circumstances, transfer credit will not be approved for PSY 32; this course must be taken at Tufts. Transfer of credit for PSY 31 will only be given if the statistics course was taken in a psychology department and included at least one week's coverage of ANOVA. A one-semester combination methods/statistics course does not cover either topic thoroughly enough to transfer as either PSY 31 or 32. For petitions to transfer a 100-level course, the committee examines the description, prerequisites, and syllabus to determine whether it is an upper-level class of seminar format with an appropriate reading list. Students who received course credit for an internship or research assistantship supervised by a psychology faculty member at another institution may apply to transfer that credit to Tufts.

Transfer of credit for a Related Field course must go through SIS and the department in question (for more details, see the Related Field section of this handbook). That is, if a student wishes to receive credit for a Biology course taken elsewhere, and to use that credit as a Related Field course, the student must use SIS to petition the Biology Department to approve the course as equivalent to one of the courses included on the Related Field list. Transfer requests for non-psychology courses will not be approved by our Department.

Psychology Courses as Distribution Requirements

Because Psychology courses span all five distribution areas, students are urged to check SIS for the most up-to-date information by distribution area. Most departmental courses count toward the social science distribution requirement, with notable exceptions including those considered natural sciences (Psychology 9, 25, 26, 27, 29, 32, 40, 41, 45, 46, 48, 49, 103, 104, 111, 112, 123, 124, 127, 128, 129, 142, 146, 148, and 159) and those considered mathematical sciences (Psychology 31, 107, 108, 110 and 140). Please note that Tufts only allows two courses from any one department to count toward the distribution requirement. For example, if a student uses a Psychology course to count toward the Math distribution, they would only be allowed to use one Psychology course for the Social Science distribution.

FOUR ADDITIONAL MAJORS OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT

The Psychology Department offers the following majors in order to fulfill specialized needs of some students. Faculty members associated with each major can provide further information.

Biopsychology

Biopsychology is an interdepartmental major for students interested in neurobiology and behavior. Required are five courses in Biology and five in Psychology:

1. Cells and Organisms (Biology 13);
2. General Genetics (Biology 41);
3. Animal Behavior (Biology 130);
4. one course in animal physiology (chosen from Biology 75, 110, 115, 116, 117, and 134);
5. an elective in Biology (Biology 13 or higher number);
6. Statistics (Psychology 31 or Biology 132 or CEE 6/CH 136);
7. Experimental Psychology (Psychology 32);
8. Brain and Behavior (Psychology 103);
9. and two electives from among Psychology 22, 26, 27, 29, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 48, 49, 104, 111, 112, 117, 123, 124, 127, 128, 129, 131, 142, 143, 146, 148, 154, and 159 (also be sure to check our current list of course offerings on the department website for a list of any special topics PSY 196 courses that have been approved for biopsych credit).

Majors are encouraged to elect a laboratory course in either department. Independent research (Psychology 91, 92, 191, 192) is strongly encouraged, but cannot be used as an elective in this major. Students majoring in Biopsychology usually receive a Bachelor of Science degree. Consult Professors Kanarek or Miczek for details about this program. As detailed on p. 3 of this Handbook, students can earn credit for PSY 25 or for PSY 103, but not separate for both courses. Biopsych majors who took PSY 25 before declaring their major should select an additional, third elective from the list after 9) above in order to complete the Psychology component of the major requirements.

Clinical Psychology

This major is intended for students interested in entering graduate, professional, or medical school in mental health or human services and/or wanting to work with psychiatric patients after graduation. Required courses are:

1. Psychology 1, 12, 31, 32, 71, 106, 181, and 182;
2. two electives in Psychology, one of which must be at the 100 level (and no more than one of which may be an independent study);
3. and two approved courses in Related Fields.

Students planning to continue on in clinical work will benefit from a course in physiological psychology or cognitive neuropsychology. Clinical Psychology majors who have taken PSY 32 can select either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree (all others receive a Bachelor of Arts). Note that students whose first semester on campus was Spring 2017 or earlier can opt to complete the old major requirements, substituting PSY 38 for PSY 32. For details about this major, consult Professors Kuperberg, Queen, or Shin.

Cognitive & Brain Sciences

Cognitive and Brain Sciences is an interdisciplinary area drawing on psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, philosophy of mind, and computer science. A Cognitive and Brain Sciences degree provides an excellent preparation for careers in the sciences, computer fields, health professions, law, and education. Requirements:

1. Psychology 1, 9, 31, 32, and 64 (cross-listed as Philosophy 15/Linguistics 15); Computer Science 11 and 15;
2. one course from each of the following three groups:
 - a. Psychology 11, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 103; CSHD 51;
 - b. Computer Science 131, 150CMCS, 150DR, 150HRI, 150NLP, 171;
 - c. Philosophy 3, 33 or 103, 191-02; Psychology 150, 151, 155;
3. a total of three courses taken from at least two of the following groups (only one of which may be independent study/directed research; also note that courses used to fulfill Part II. Requirements above may not be double counted toward part III. Here as well):
 - a. Psychology 80, 91, 92, 103, 112, 117, 118, 121, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 129, 131, 139, 140, 142, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 154, 191, 192, 199;
 - b. Psychology 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 155, 180; CSHD 114, 145, 152, 155, 156, 177, 195, 250; Education 114 (cross-listed with Linguistics/German 114);
 - c. Computer Science 86, 93, 105, 131, 135, 150CMCS, 150DR, 150HRI, 150NLP, 170, 171, 177, 193, 194;
 - d. Philosophy 38, 114, 117, 126, 130, 132 (cross-listed with Psychology/Anthropology 132), 133, 134, 170, 191-02;
5. Enrollment in Psychology 195 as a senior. (*Please note:* PSY 195 is a continuation course for a total of 3 semester-hour credits, but only 1.5 semester-hour credits count for each semester. This means that taking 3 courses of 3 semester-hour credits each plus PSY 195 only adds up to 10.5 semester-hour credits, which is below the limit of 12 required to be a full-time student. Please plan accordingly!)

In addition to the course requirements listed above, Cognitive and Brain Sciences majors are encouraged to complete a senior research project which entails either (a) completing an honors thesis in Psychology, CSHD, Computer Science, or Philosophy; (b) completing a year-long research experience with a faculty member in one of these departments or with a faculty member in the Neuroscience Department of the Medical School; or (c) completing a faculty-supervised review paper of the literature on a particular issue within one of these areas. Planning for such projects should begin by the end of junior year.

As with the other majors housed in Psychology, an AP score of 5 completely substitutes for PSY 1 within the CBS major. CBS majors with an AP score of 4 place out of PSY 1 but must take an additional psychology elective from the lists above in lieu of it for the major. Successful completion of CSHD 1 is treated the same way as an AP score of 4.

Students are encouraged, after consultation with their advisor, to augment the Cognitive & Brain Sciences major by taking electives in Psychology, Anthropology (150), Biology (13, 14, 116, 134), and Math (11, 12, 13, 150). Students majoring in Cognitive & Brain Sciences usually receive a Bachelor of Science degree. For details about this major, consult Professors Goldberg, Patel, and de Ruiter (Psychology) or Souvaine (Computer Science).

A minor in Cognitive & Brain Sciences is administered by the Philosophy Department. For questions, see the Department of Philosophy website or contact Jaouad Elkamouss or Professor Brian Epstein. A minor in Linguistics is also available and administered by the Philosophy Department. For questions, see the Department of Philosophy website or contact Jaouad Elkamouss or the co-directors of the minor, Professor Dilip Ninan and Professor Ariel Goldberg.

Engineering Psychology

Engineering Psychology is an interdisciplinary program offered jointly by the Departments of Engineering Design and Psychology. Engineering Psychology, commonly called “Human Factors,” applies knowledge of human behavior to the design of web sites, software, electronics and other equipment. Areas of application include the internet, computer systems, biomedical engineering, environmental design, and product design. Beginning with the Class of 2022, the 15 required courses are as follows (students whose first semester on campus was earlier than Fall 2018 may follow the old requirements, which can be found on the department website; no course can be used to fulfill multiple requirements below):

1. One of: ES 2, COMP 11, COMP 15, ME 1; or an approved COMP elective
2. Psychology 1;
3. ES 18 or ME 1;
4. COMP 11 or PHY 11;
5. One of: COMP 11 COMP 15, MATH 32, MATH 61
6. All of: Psychology 31, 32, 53, and 130
7. EM 52
8. All of: ENP 64, 120, and 161
9. One of: ENP 166 or COMP 171
10. PSY or ENP core elective

Students majoring in Engineering Psychology usually receive a Bachelor of Science degree. For details about this major consult Professors Taylor or Ward.

RELATED FIELD REQUIREMENT

Of the 11 courses comprising the Psychology and the Clinical Psychology major requirements, 2 are Related Field courses approved by the Department. The intent of this requirement is to have the student explore, in some depth, at least one other academic discipline with theories or methods related to Psychology. Beginning level courses, such as those often used to meet Distribution requirements, do *not* count as Related Field courses. However, in a number of departments, a large array of advanced courses does count, as indicated below.

Students may request an exception to count a non-listed course as a Related Field credit by sending a petition to the Director of the Undergraduate Program, Sam Sommers. Petitions (available on the department website) must include an explanation why the course should be considered (using the criteria above), as well as a syllabus. The committee will examine the prerequisites that demonstrate that the course is beyond the beginning level, as well as the course's relationship to Psychology. Since most ExCollege courses do not have prerequisites, they are rarely approved as Related Field courses. Of course, Related Field courses must be taken for a grade to count towards the major.

To apply for transfer of credit for a Related Field course, students must go through SIS and specify a course from the list below. It is up to the department in question to approve this petition. In other words, if a student takes a course abroad that she believes is comparable to SOC 141, she must use SIS to petition the Tufts Sociology Department to approve credit for SOC 141. A non-specific Sociology credit is not sufficient; if that is all that Sociology will grant, the student must follow the above procedure for petitioning the Psychology Department regarding a non-listed Related Field course.

Extra Psychology courses (i.e., more than the required 9) cannot be substituted for Related Field courses. However, when a student minors or double majors in a department offering Related Field courses, courses may be used for both purposes, even though those courses are also counting toward a minor or another major. It is recommended, but not required, that both Related Field courses be taken in the same department. Some of the courses below are cross-listed in more than one department. As long as a course is listed below under any department, it counts toward the Related Field requirement regardless of the department in which the student actually registered for the course. However, any course that is cross-listed as a Psychology course is *not* eligible for Related Field credit.

RELATED FIELD COURSES

Africana Studies:	118, 129, 150, 155, 167
American Studies:	118, 131, 141, 155, 181, 182, 183, 185, 186
Anthropology:	102, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 131, 132, 135, 137, 140, 144, 145, 146, 148, 150, 162, 163, 164, 180, 181, 182, 184, 186, 187, 188
Art History:	110, 138, 173, 183, 184, 186
Biology:	41, 49, 52, 53, 75, 97, 102, 103, 104, 105, 110, 115, 116, 119, 130, 131, 134, 142, 143, 144, 152, 171, 172, 187
Biomedical Engineering:	25, 125, 131, 161, 166
Chemistry:	51, 52, 135, 156, 157, 171, 172

Child Study & Hum Dev: 51, 61, 62, 64, 68, 82, 85, 90, 114, 115, 116, 117, 120, 122, 124, 125, 126, 145, 149, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197

Civil & Environ Eng: 137, 154, 158, 164, 167, 173, 187

Classics: 110, 123, 146, 147, 148, 158, 170

Community Health: 104, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 182, 183, 185, 186, 187, 189, 190

Computer Science: 14, 15, 20, 23, 40, 105, 131, 132, 135, 136, 170, 171

Drama: 100, 137, 138, 140, 143, 144, 148, 149, 151, 170, 187

Economics: 11, 16, 24, 30, 43, 48, 62, 77, 100, 108, 114, 119, 127, 130, 140, 142, 144, 165, 170, 171, 175, 177, 179

Education: 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 130, 140, 142, 146, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 181, 182, 186, 187, 189

Electrical Engineering: 100, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 120, 126, 127, 128, 129, 131, 133

Engineering Psychology: 161, 162, 163, 166, 171, 181

Engineering Science: 55, 56, 65, 101, 152

English: 77, 147, 154, 155, 161, 167, 168, 171, 174, 177, 178, 179, 180, 186

Entrep. Leadership: 105, 107, 141

Environmental Studies: 25, 122, 130, 142, 143, 144

History: 102, 103, 104, 105, 110, 111, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 129, 135, 139, 155, 156

Linguistics: 103, 112, 114, 133, 137, 155, 177, 195

Mathematics: 51, 61, 63, 70, 112, 126, 128, 135, 136, 161, 162, 167, 168, 170

Mechanical Engineering: 84, 118, 136, 139, 152, 180, 184

Occupational Therapy: 106, 107

Peace and Justice Studies: 109, 111, 120, 128, 130, 135, 141, 164, 172

Philosophy: 103, 114, 116, 117, 118, 120, 121, 123, 124, 125, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 141, 151, 152, 155, 161, 163, 167, 168, 170, 185, 186, 197

Physics: 25

Political Science: 104, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, 128, 129, 135, 144, 146, 153, 163, 164, 166, 167, 174, 176, 181

Religion: 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 118, 134, 143, 157, 160

Sociology: 103, 106, 108, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 120, 121, 125, 130, 135, 141, 143, 145, 180, 181, 182, 184, 185, 186, 187, 190

Urban & Envir. Policy: 100, 122, 130, 172, 181, 183, 188

Wom, Gen, Sex Studies: 140, 141, 142, 150, 152, 160, 162, 163, 170

COURSES AND PROFESSORS GROUPED BY AREA

Many majors or prospective majors who wish to specialize in a particular area of psychology wonder which course sequences are most appropriate for them. The following groupings are offered as guidelines to assist students in planning their major to meet individual needs and objectives. The faculty encourages flexibility in course selection and each student should plan his or her selections with the help of an advisor or other members of the faculty. Faculty members most closely associated with each area are listed next to it; because Psychology 1, 31, and 32 are basic core courses to psychology required of all majors, they have not been listed.

Cognitive/Learning/Perception/Cognitive Neuroscience

(Chechile, Cook, Goldberg, Kuperberg, Patel, Race, de Ruitter, Taylor, Thomas, Ward)

Core: 18, 26, 27, 28, 29, 41, 45, 46, 49

Advanced: 109, 122, 124, 129, 140, 143, 144, 146, 147, 148, 149

Related: 80

Biological/Physiological/Psychopharmacology/Neuropsychology

(Cook, Kanarek, Kuperberg, Miczek, Urry)

Core: 25, 29, 40, 42, 45, 48, 49

Advanced: 103, 104, 123, 124, 127, 128, 129, 148

Related: 55, 56, 57

Social (Maddox, Remedios, Sommers)

Core: 13, 36

Advanced: 113, 114, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139

Related: 15, 51, 111, 115, 116, 152

Clinical (Kuperberg, Queen, Shin, Urry)

Core: 12, 38, 71

Advanced: 105, 106, 109, 112, 116, 119, 181-182

Related: 14, 15, 51, 54, 55, 56, 111, 116, 123, 138, 152

Developmental (Muentener)

Core: 11, 37

Advanced: 111, 118, 152

Related: 14, 55

Methodological (Chechile)

107, 108, 110, 125, 140

Applied/Industrial/Human Factors (Ward)

Core: 17, 130

Advanced: 53, 120

Psychology Department Curricular Goals & Objectives

Preparing undergraduate and graduate students to ask and answer science-based questions about human and animal behavior by introducing students to the data, theories, and research methods from different fields of psychology: biological, clinical, cognitive, developmental, and social.

For more details, or for the learning objectives for the other majors offered by the department, see this page: <https://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/committees/objectives/index.htm>

Upon completing a Psychology major, students will be able to:

1. Understand core psychological concepts and processes such as evidence, hypothetical constructs, operational definitions, and inferences.
2. Critically examine theories and empirical findings in multiple subfields of psychology (biological, clinical, cognitive, developmental, and social).
3. Compare, contrast, and synthesize empirical and theoretical perspectives related to the study of behavior and thought using evidence-based reasoning.
4. Read and critically evaluate original journal articles related to psychological topics.
5. Apply theoretical models of behavior and thought to real life settings and skills (e.g., clinical, educational, organizational, legal context).
6. Become familiar with American Psychological Association (APA) ethics guidelines, including the process of submitting research proposals to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) or to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).
7. Initiate, design, implement, and analyze original empirical research studies on relevant psychological issues.
8. Gain an understanding of basic quantitative and analytic methods used for scientific investigation in psychology, including those related to probability, tests of frequency, correlation, t-tests, and analysis of variance (ANOVA).
9. Develop oral and visual communication skills for reporting empirical research findings.
10. Develop writing, graphic, and verbal skills to communicate empirical data in an appropriate scientific format (typically APA format).

DOING RESEARCH IN THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- *How do you get to do research and how do you decide with whom to do it?*

To the first question, the answer is by asking a professor. Make an appointment and just ask. Professors doing research want students to work with them. To the second question, the answer is to inspect the list of faculty research areas in this Handbook or on the department website. These should give you some idea of who is doing what. An interest in a professor's area of specialization and some prior reading are useful but not always necessary. In some areas, special knowledge is required, though in most areas professors are able to provide on-the-job training. After a course in the area of expertise of a professor, a student is in a good position to help with research, especially if the student has done well in the course. Sometimes a professor's research group is full, so if your request gets a "no thanks" from Professor A, ask someone else in the department or ask Professor A at a later time.

- *Will doing research help me when I apply to graduate school or post-graduate plans?*

Definitely. Schools look for distinctive characteristics among their applicants and place an emphasis on your research experience. If you can tell your research story to the graduate schools in a way that shows how much you learned, you will look more qualified and more interesting. Moreover, professors get to know students with whom they do research. Hence, professors' letters of recommendation to graduate schools are often more detailed and interesting when students have worked in their research labs. Starting to get involved with research is often the beginning of the process leading to a capstone Senior Honors thesis in the department.

- *Is research fun?*

Yes. The playing with ideas behind research is great fun and figuring out the results is like your own personal puzzle. Sure, there is a lot of effort involved in running a study. You often have to perform the same task many times with skill and dedication, but the rewards are outstanding. Developing and understanding a particular research problem is one of the most exciting things you can do in your academic career and we in the Psychology Department are excited to get you involved.

- *Can I get course credit for doing research?*

Yes, you can get course credit for independent research at three levels. PSY 91/92 is for students just getting involved in research and PSY 191/192 is a more advanced course in which a greater amount of independence and productivity is expected. However, no more than two independent study type courses (Psychology 91 and 92, 97 and 98, 99, 191 and 192, 199) may be counted toward the major. Note that these options are available during the summer, but registration for them requires Tufts Summer School enrollment and coordination in advance with a supervising faculty member.

- *Do I have to be a psychology major to do research?*

No. All you need to do is take the courses required for the research and enjoy yourself while learning.

- *Is laboratory work the only type of research a student can do in the Psychology Department?*

No. Scoring clinical tests often requires multiple people in order to get reliabilities. Coding conversations, interviews, and social interactions are tasks many psychologists do as part of their

research. Undergraduates have conducted naturalistic observations of children in playgrounds and museums. They've also conducted archival analyses of pre-existing data.

- *Do I have to do research in which the professors in the department are interested?*

Yes and No. It can be helpful, but courses like PSY 91/92 and PSY 191/192 can be based on using your interests, your design, and your execution. Just make sure you ask a professor who's interested in the general area of your research concern to sponsor you.

- *I worked in a psychology research lab at another university last semester/summer without receiving credit, so can I get retroactive credit for PSY 91 for this? What about for a research-based internship and PSY 99 credit?*

University policy is that students should only get credit for work as it is being done.

- *Can I earn course credit for research conducted on a different college campus?*

Yes. If the research is to be conducted during the Fall or Spring Semesters and directly supervised by a Tufts faculty member, simply sign up for either PSY 91/92 or PSY 191/192 with permission of your Tufts faculty supervisor as described above. If the research is being supervised remotely by non-Tufts faculty member, you must first find a Tufts faculty member who is willing to serve as your Research Coordinator; this individual is responsible for evaluating your research activities through communications with your off-campus Supervisor. Once a faculty Research Coordinator is obtained, sign up for PSY 99. These options are also available during the summer, but require Tufts Summer School enrollment and advanced coordination with a Tufts faculty member. Students are responsible for finding their own off-campus research opportunities.

- *Can I earn course credit for research (or an internship) for which I am paid?*

Almost always no. Independent study credits such as these are usually earned via voluntary positions undertaken for educational purposes directly related to Psychology. An exception may be granted by the Tufts instructor/faculty supervisor if the off-site experience has an explicit policy that *requires* financial compensation (i.e., the placement requires that the student receive compensation in order to receive the training/experience), the off-site experience fulfills exactly the same educational criteria specified in the course description, and the off-site supervisor confirms with the Tufts instructor/supervisor the understanding that the student is participating for course credit.

DOING A SENIOR HONORS THESIS OR INDEPENDENT STUDY

Students interested in any form of independent study must find a supervising faculty member before registering for the course via SIS. Those registering for a Senior Honors Thesis (PSY 199) must also fill out and submit to Dowling by early October a Senior Honors Thesis Candidate form that can be found here: http://uss.tufts.edu/registrar/SS_StudentForms.asp.

Completing a year-long Senior Honors Thesis is one of the most rewarding as well as time-consuming and challenging endeavors a Psychology major can undertake. The process requires designing, executing, and analyzing the data from an original empirical research investigation, writing a comprehensive APA-format report, and then presenting and defending this work before a committee of two faculty members (one of whom, the committee chair, must be from the Psychology Department). Because chairing a Senior Honors Thesis also requires a great deal of time and effort on the part of faculty members, only a small number of seniors can complete a thesis in a given year. Students are therefore encouraged to contact potential thesis chairs no later than the end of their junior year, and preferably even earlier. Because of the high demand for thesis supervision, some faculty may only agree to supervise theses for students who have spent multiple previous semesters working in their lab.

Per University rules, students must appear on the Dean's List for at least two semesters in order to be eligible to complete a thesis. As mentioned above, our faculty often have additional requirements for thesis students, including previous experience in their research lab (PSY 91/92 or PSY 191/192). In sum, students interested in a Senior Honors Thesis should plan ahead by obtaining independent research experience and by speaking with potential thesis advisors as early as possible during the course of their study in the Department. For students already registered to complete a thesis, additional information regarding expectations for your project and the bases on which it will be evaluated are best obtained from your committee chair.

Students who complete an honors thesis receive a letter grade for their year's work in PSY 199, as well as a determination of thesis honors. The letter grade is not assigned until the end of the second semester and is determined by the thesis chair; students are therefore encouraged to discuss their progress with their chair at various points during the year. This grade is intended to reflect a student's lab performance and consistency of effort over the course of seeing a research project through to completion. The thesis committee makes the determination of thesis honors, choosing from among the following designations: no honors, honors, high honors, and highest honors. This assessment is based on the final written product and oral defense, and is intended to reflect the quality, originality, independence, and potential impact of the work.

- Completed undergraduate theses are housed in the Digital Collections and Archives. These papers must be used in the DCA offices, Level G, Tisch Library. For complete listing: http://dl.tufts.edu/view_text.jsp?urn=tufts:central:dca:UA069:UA069.001.DO.UA005
- More information on all library services related to the completion of a senior honors thesis can be found at: <http://www.library.tufts.edu/tisch/ra/undergraduateTheses.html>



PSI CHI
THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN PSYCHOLOGY

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology whose purpose is to recognize, encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship of students of psychology. To achieve these goals, Psi Chi offers a wide range of local, regional, and national programs to enhance the learning experience of its members. Membership in Psi Chi is open to all undergraduates who meet the eligibility criteria for their local chapter. The criteria for the Tufts chapter are:

1. You must have a declared major in Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Biopsychology, Engineering Psychology, or Cognitive and Brain Sciences.
2. You must be at least a second-semester sophomore.
3. You need to have completed at least 3 courses in psychology at Tufts and have a Psychology GPA of at least 3.50.
4. You must have an **overall** GPA of at least 3.65.

If you would like to be considered for membership in Psi Chi please complete the application form, which can be found in the Psychology Department or on the department website. Return the completed form to the mailbox of Professor Queen by *October 15* for Fall semester induction or *February 15* for Spring semester induction. In addition, you must also complete the application form on the Psi Chi website here:

<http://memberapp.psichi.org/cfamember/applicationform.aspx>.

FAQ • PROSPECTIVE AND DECLARED PSYCHOLOGY MAJORS

1. How do I pick an advisor?

There is no one way to do this. You should look through the departmental website to see the type of research each faculty member conducts and think about classes and instructors that you have particularly enjoyed. But you may ask any full-time member of the faculty to serve as your advisor. Psychology is a very large major and you may find that the person you would like to choose does not have space for additional advisees. Do not take this personally! In fact, it is a good idea to identify 2 or 3 potential advisors and then contact them—again, we have a very big major and it is not unusual to have to ask multiple faculty members before finding an advisor.

2. What courses should I take?

This is a good question to ask your advisor as well as fellow students. Majors should take PSY 31 as early as possible since it is the first in a two-semester sequence of PSY 31 and PSY 32. Majors are also urged to take 10- and 20-level requirements as soon as possible since this will give them greater flexibility in signing up for 100-level courses, which have prerequisites.

3. Can I count Psychology courses for different areas of the distribution requirement?

Yes, but keep in mind that students may only count two courses from any one department towards the distribution requirement (Note: beginning with the Class of 2022, this number is three, and not two). So if a student counts PSY 31 towards the math distribution and PSY 32 towards the natural sciences, she must have two non-psychology courses to count towards the social sciences requirement.

4. How does my Psychology AP score affect my major requirements?

A score of 4 or 5 places students out of PSY 1. The difference is that a score of 5 completely substitutes for the PSY 1 requirement, meaning that students need 1 fewer course to complete the major. Students with a score of 4 must take an additional course in Psychology (i.e., an elective) to complete their major in lieu of taking PSY 1.

5. Can I count CSHD 1 towards the major instead of PSY 1?

CSHD 1 can substitute for PSY 1 in a similar manner as a score of 4 on the Psych AP, as described above.

6. Can I count a course taken for the requirements of my second major towards the Psychology major as well if it appears on the related field list?

Yes, a course can count towards both majors if it is on our related field list.

7. What are the requirements to minor in Psychology?

We do not offer a minor in psychology; students may minor in Cognitive & Brain Sciences.

8. I have already taken a statistics course in another department; do I still need to take PSY 31?

Double majors in Biology, Community Health, Economics, and Math have alternative options to PSY 31. These students should bear in mind that their stats course may not have covered ANOVA, a technique with which they will need to familiarize themselves before taking PSY 32.

9. Can I receive transfer of credit for PSY 31 if I took statistics at another institution? What about a combined statistics/methods course—can I get transfer credits for both PSY 31 and 32?

Only statistics courses taken in a psychology department and which include at least one week of coverage of ANOVA can be transferred as PSY 31. A one-semester course that is a mixture of methods and stats does not cover either topic thoroughly enough to receive transfer of credit for

either PSY 31 or 32. A two-semester combination course may be able to transfer as PSY 31 credit only, pending review of the syllabus.

10. How do I petition the Department to include a new course on the related field list?

Students may petition to count a non-listed course towards the related field requirement on a one-time basis or as a permanent addition to the related field list. This petition (form available on our department website) should include a syllabus and explain why the student believes the course should be considered an upper-level class related to psychology. Keep in mind that introductory courses (or other courses without prerequisites) are unlikely to be approved. Courses cross-listed with our department are ineligible, as are courses taken pass/fail.

11. How do I petition for credit for the courses I took abroad or at another university?

These petitions go through SIS. Students need to provide a syllabus and course description, translated into English if necessary. Students specify whether they are asking for a general credit from a department (i.e., “a History credit”) or credit for a specific course in a department (i.e., History 102). Courses taken in departments other than psychology will not be approved for transfer of credit from our department.

12. How can I petition for transfer of credit for a related field course?

Use SIS to petition the department in question. If you think that the course you took was equivalent to History 102, petition the History Department for credit for this specific course. If granted, the course will be listed as HIST 102 on her transcript and no action is needed from the Psychology Department because we already include HIST 102 on our related fields list.

13. I took a Psychology course cross-listed with the Music Department. Can I petition to use this as a related field course?

A course cross-listed with Psychology may not be used as a related fields course, regardless of which department the student originally enrolled in.

14. How and when do I fill out a senior degree sheet?

Seniors graduating in May or August must complete the multi-step degree sheet process starting in early November once spring courses are published on SIS (February graduates must complete this process in September): 1) Apply for a graduation date on SIS. 2) Complete and print the Student Degree Audit form from SIS. 3) Complete a major concentration form (available in the Forms & Resources section of the Department website or in hard copy in the Department lobby. 4) Set up a meeting in early November with your advisor who will review the degree audit and sign the major concentration form (and approve you for spring registration). 5) Submit these signed forms to the staff assistant, Cynthia Goddard, Room 101, who will then obtain the signature of the degree sheet committee. Your signed degree paperwork will be ready to be picked up from Room 101 approximately one week later. 6) While you wait for that form to be ready, complete the on-line Senior Exit Survey via the link sent to you by your advisor. 7) *After you have registered for Spring classes*, print a new, updated version of your degree audit. Then take that updated audit and your signed degree paperwork to Student Services by the early December deadline. *NOTE:* Biopsych or CBS majors with an advisor in another department should contact that advisor to learn about that department’s degree sheet process. The second signature on that degree sheet will come from a representative of that department, not from Psychology.