# Psychology (PSYC)

## Student Curriculum Planner

For students following the 2011-2012 Undergraduate Bulletin

### Major Information

The mission of the Psychology Department is to help students develop a conceptual framework that will allow them to acquire the appropriate knowledge base within the discipline.

### Planning Notes

- Students majoring in psychology may earn the degree:
  - Bachelor of Arts
  - Bachelor of Science
- The B.A. degree prepares students for graduate study at the master’s level and higher and offers flexibility for those interested in combining psychology with another area of study.
- The B.S. degree emphasizes the rigor of scientific research and is best suited for students who plan to pursue a doctoral degree in psychology or a related field.
- Three credit hours in MATH or STAT, 3 credit hours in natural science, and 3 credit hours in philosophy are required and may also fulfill portions of the college core (Note: DEPT 199 RW courses may *not* be used to fulfill the major requirements).
- Entry into PSYC 201 requires a grade of C or better in PSYC 100C and PSYC 200.
- Entry into PSYC 290 requires a grade of C or better in PSYC 100C and PSYC 200.
- Entry into the psychology laboratory and capstone courses requires a grade of C or better in PSYC 100C, 200, 201, and (where applicable) the corresponding psychology perspectives course.
- Only one of PSYC 227C or 231C will be applied to the major.
- For the B.A. degree, either PSYC 411 or 415 must be completed *at Fisher*.
- All BA candidates must demonstrate completion of an appropriate two-course sequence in a single foreign language for graduation.

### Skills/Competencies for Success in the Major

- Oral and written communication skills are stressed in both lecture and laboratory classes.
- Scientific and quantitative skills are stressed in PSYC 200, 201, 204, and the PSYC laboratory courses, as well as in many of the other PSYC courses.
- The major requires independent investigation, computer, and library literacy.

### Related Programs & Suggested Minors

- Students pursuing a B.A. in Psychology are required to complete a minor in another area of study. Most minors require a minimum of 18 credits. Students may elect to complete a second major.

### Experiential Opportunities (Internships, Clinicals, Clubs & Organizations, etc.)

- Psychology majors are strongly encouraged to consider Field Experience (PSYC 490) during their junior or senior year.
- Students have the opportunity to pursue independent reading and/or research for course credit during their junior or senior year. PSYC496 (Fall) and PSYC497 (Spring) Independent Reading/Research are available by arrangement with a faculty mentor.
- Qualified students should consider the Honors Program in Psychology. For information, contact: Dr. Dawn Rager, drager@sjfc.edu
- Psychology majors may take advantage of The Washington Experience – a semester in Washington, D.C. Students interested in this program should consult with The Washington Center-Fisher Liaison: Dr. Monica Cherry, mcherry@sjfc.edu
- The Psychology Alliance and Psi Chi (a national psychology honor society) are active organizations that provide educational and social experiences for students.
- Majors may also get involved in the Student Government Association (SGA), and the Student Activities Board (SAB), as well as any of the campus clubs and organizations on campus. Check the Student Government website [http://home.sjfc.edu/sga](http://home.sjfc.edu/sga) for further information.

### Career Opportunities & Related Fields

- For information on career opportunities in psychology: [http://home.sjfc.edu/psychology/careers.asp](http://home.sjfc.edu/psychology/careers.asp) and/or What Can I Do With A Major In..., [http://home.sjfc.edu/CareerServices](http://home.sjfc.edu/CareerServices).

## Degree Requirements

Recommended progression of courses required for a **B.S. in Psychology**:

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*See other side for recommended progression of courses required for a **B.A. in Psychology** Major.

Note: Psychology majors must also complete 3 credits in MATH or STAT, 3 credits in natural sciences, and 3 credits in Philosophy. These courses may also apply to the college core (Note: DEPT 199 RW courses may *not* be used to fulfill the major requirements).

The following major courses also apply to the College Core:

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### GPA Requirement

Students must achieve a 2.00 average in the major and must have an overall cumulative GPA of 2.00 to earn a Bachelor’s degree.
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