

# Psychology

## The Field of Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes and the application of the resulting knowledge to a variety of areas: mental and physical health, education, business, and many others. Psychology covers topics such as the biological bases of behavior, perception, learning, thinking, motivation, personality, abnormal psychology and adjustment, and social behavior. Psychology is an area for students interested in studying human behavior from a scientific perspective and is appropriate for students pursuing careers in psychology, social services, business, law, medicine, and many other fields.

## The Department of Psychology

The Psychology Department provides an undergraduate major that can be tailored as a strong liberal education, as a pre-professional degree, or as preparation for graduate study in psychology. The program gives considerable emphasis to psychology as an empirical science, including research design, data analysis and interpretation, and computer skills.

All full-time and some part-time members of the department hold Ph.D. degrees in psychology and some are licensed as psychologists for private practice by the state of California. The faculty represents a wide range of theoretical orientations and interests.

The department maintains a comprehensive test library and complete video facilities. Computer, observation, autism treatment, EEG, and testing laboratories are also available.

## Careers in Psychology

Graduates in psychology find employment in business, education, clinical, and counseling vocations. Job categories include employment interviewer, personnel manager, market researcher, probation officer, and mental health worker.

Professional psychologists are employed by local, state, and federal governments as well as colleges and universities.

Other career opportunities are found in school systems, industry, or in private practice.

## Future Education

A career as a community college teacher requires a master's degree. The master's degree can meet the educational requirements for many jobs in mental health, public schools, and other agencies.

The Ph.D. is necessary for private practice as a licensed psychologist and other careers in professional and industrial psychology.

## High School Preparation

Students should meet California State University's admission requirements in terms of college preparatory course requirements, grade point average, and test scores.

## College Program

Students should consult the university's *General Catalog* for specific major and university requirements. Community college transfers should consult their catalogs to ensure that courses taken are CSU transferable (baccalaureate level).

## General Education

Students should complete as many of the Fresno State General Education requirements as possible during the freshman and sophomore years, whether they are attending Fresno State or a community college. Community colleges can certify up to 39 of the units required in Fresno State's General Education pattern.

## Special Programs

*Psychology Advising Services*  
-Assists students with course scheduling and planning and provides direction regarding career preparation.

*Psychology Honors Programs*  
-Provides students with professional development and advanced research experience.

*Applied Behavior Analysis Track* - Provides coursework in designing, implementing, and evaluating behavior change programs for children and adults; classes in the track meet coursework requirements for national certification as a Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst (BCABA).

California State  
University, Fresno

Department of  
Psychology

559.278.2691

B.A. in Psychology

Minor in Psychology

M.A. in Psychology

- *General Experimental Option*
- *Applied Behavior Analysis Option*

Ed.S. in Psychology

**Credential:**  
*Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) with Advanced Specialization in School Psychology*

FRESNO STATE

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# Psychology

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## Course Requirements

Because program changes may occur, students should consult the *General Catalog* and a Fresno State adviser prior to registering for courses

Students desiring to major in psychology must complete the following three courses before being permitted to enroll in restricted, upper-division courses.

### Pre-Psychology Major CORE courses

Introduction to Psychology  
Introductory Statistics  
Research Design and Experimental Methods

### Lower Division

Freshman-Sophomore level courses  
(may be taken at a community college)

Introduction to Psychology (PSYCH 10)

(This course is required preparation for advanced major coursework. The course is in the California State University General Education Program.)

Introductory Statistics (PSYCH 42)

Biological Psychology (PSYCH 36)

## Upper Division

Junior-Senior level courses  
(to be taken at Fresno State)

The psychology major consists of requirements from several areas. Examples of courses that meet area requirements are as follows:

### Basic Knowledge and Skills Area

Abnormal Psychology  
Computer and Information Skills

### Applications Area

Psychological Testing  
Human Learning and Behavior  
Field Experience  
Family Counseling

### Content Area

Developmental Psychology  
Personality  
Social Psychology

### Processes Area

Cognitive Psychology  
Learning and Memory  
Motivation  
Physiological Psychology  
Sensation and Perception

### Topics Courses

Health Psychology  
Multicultural Psychology  
Persuasion and Mind Control  
Psychopathology  
Evolutionary Personality

### Integration Area

History and Systems

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**For additional  
information, write**

**California State  
University, Fresno  
Department of  
Psychology**

2576 E. San Ramon  
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93740-8039

**Visit or call**

**Department of  
Psychology**

Science II, Room 312  
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**PLEASE NOTE:** This document is for general informational purposes only. The information is subject to change; consult the appropriate department or an academic adviser. Entering freshmen must follow the revised General Education program effective fall 1999 and thereafter. The university catalog and schedule of courses are available online at [www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule](http://www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule) and [www.fresnostate.edu/catalog](http://www.fresnostate.edu/catalog).

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