

## Advising Booklet for Undergraduate Psychology Majors

This curriculum applies to all students who are majors in the Department of Psychology. This booklet includes requirements for the B.A. and B.S. degree in Psychology.

---

### STUDENT INFORMATION:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ @mix.wvu.edu

Semester entered WVU \_\_\_\_\_ Expected date of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

B.A. or B.S.? \_\_\_\_\_ Minor, double major or dual degree \_\_\_\_\_

Career/graduate school plans: \_\_\_\_\_

\*ASSIGNED ADVISOR \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Students will find the name of their advisor listed on their DegreeWorks page.*

---

### Graduation Checklist

#### GEF Requirements

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 1 (English 101) and                   | <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 7 (Global Studies & Diversity) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 1 (English 102) OR                    | <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 8 (Focus)                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 1 (English 103)                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Focus 8 <sup>(1)</sup>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 2 A/B (Science and Technology)        | <input type="checkbox"/> Focus 8 <sup>(2)</sup>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 3 (Mathematics & Quantitative skills) | <input type="checkbox"/> Focus 8 <sup>(3)</sup>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 4 (Society & Connections)             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 5 (Human Inquiry & the Past)          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GEF 6 (The Arts & Creativity)             |   |

**University Requirements:**

- 120 Credit Hours Completed
  - First Year Seminar Class Completed
  - Academic Standing: Above 2.0 Grade Point Average
  - Residency Rule: 90 total credits or final 30 out of 36 consecutive credits must be taken at WVU's Main Campus. Courses taken at WVU branch campuses (e.g. Potomac State) do not count towards credits taken at WVU's Main Campus. (Psychology Residency Rule: At least 10 Psychology credits must be taken at the WVU Main Campus.)
- 

**College Requirements: Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS)**

**BA:**

- LANG. 101
- LANG. 102
- LANG. 203
- LANG. 204

**BS:**

- MATH 150 **OR** 155 **OR** MATH 153 and 154
- Science 1A
- Science 1B
- Science 2A
- Science 2B
- Science 3A
- Science 3B

**Major Requirements: Psychology**

- PSYC 101\***
- PSYC 203\*** and  **PSYC 204\***
- PSYC 301
- PSYC 302
- CLUSTER A/B
- CLUSTER C
- CLUSTER D
- CLUSTER E
- 300/400+ LEVEL ELECTIVE (2 courses)
- SPEAKWRITE DESIGNATED CURRICULUM
- CAPSTONE

***\*Psychology Credit Limit:** Students may not count more than 42 credits in Psychology towards their Bachelor of **ARTS** degree. Students who have earned more than 42 credits in Psychology must take additional credits above 120 to earn their degree (e.g. 43 Psychology credits earned = 121 total credits needed). Non-capstone PSYC 491 credits will not count towards the 42 PSYC credit limit for Bachelor of Arts degrees.*

**(Classes marked \* require a minimum grade of C- or better)**

**General Matriculation Plan:**

Each academic year (i.e. two semesters) students should complete the following courses:

<b>Freshman</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
PSYC 101	PSYC 203 & 204 (Research Methods & Data Analysis I & II)	PSYC 302	PSYC Cluster A/B
MATH 124/6 (or higher)	PSYC Cluster C/D/E	PSYC 301	PSYC Capstone
PSYC Cluster C/D/E	PSYC Cluster C/D/E	PSYC Elective or Enrichment Course	PSYC Upper-Level Elective
General Education Electives	General Education Electives	General Education Electives	General Education Electives
BA or BS Requirements	BA or BS Requirements	BA or BS Requirements	Electives (optional minor or second major)
Electives	Electives	Electives (optional minor or second major)	

**Advising Activities:**

Each year, Psychology majors are expected to progress through three tiers of degree requirements: University, Eberly College of Arts and Science, and Major Requirements. In addition, students should start forging out a post-graduation plan, meaning that they should explore how they want to apply their education to their future career or graduate school goals.

**Activities by Semester:**

Each semester, students should:

1. **Review** their DegreeWorks page.
2. **Review** their Plan of Study and the classes they will take in the next term.
3. **Explore** minor degrees in areas that supplement their career goals and interests.
4. **Develop** questions for their advisor.
5. **Attend a group advising session before enrolling in courses.**

Activities by Year:

<p><b>Freshman Advising Activities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attend First Year Seminar with Freshman Advisor.</li> <li>2. Research majors and minors and explore electives (use <a href="http://catalog.wvu.edu">http://catalog.wvu.edu</a>).</li> <li>3. Map out a 4-year plan to complete degree(s).</li> <li>4. Consider joining the Psychology Club.</li> <li>5. Seek out mentoring with upper classmen/graduate students/faculty.</li> <li>6. Work on GPA (overall and in Major).</li> </ol>	<p><b>Sophomore Advising Activities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ask faculty and graduate students about internships &amp; research opportunities.</li> <li>2. Explore career options.</li> <li>3. Seek leadership and service experiences.</li> <li>4. Visit Career Services and attend a Career Fair.</li> <li>5. Seek out mentoring with upper classmen/graduate students/faculty.</li> <li>6. Work on GPA (overall and in Major).</li> </ol>
<p><b>Junior Advising Activities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete non-capstone internships/enrichment experiences.</li> <li>2. Prepare resume and attend a Career Fair.</li> <li>3. Seek leadership and service experiences.</li> <li>4. Learn about graduate programs or job openings, research opportunities to pursue capstone and enrichment experiences in a potential career.</li> <li>5. Work on GPA (overall and in Major)</li> <li>6. Plan how you will complete degree requirements with advisor.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Senior Advising Activities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete Capstone Experience.</li> <li>2. Update resume and attend Career Fair.</li> <li>3. Seek leadership and service experiences.</li> <li>4. Work on GPA (overall and in Major).</li> <li>5. Complete degree requirements.</li> <li>6. Apply for graduation!</li> <li>7. RSVP to the Commencement Ceremony and celebrate your accomplishments.</li> </ol>

## INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

This booklet is designed to aid you and your advisor in planning your undergraduate curriculum as a psychology major.

- You are responsible for scheduling your classes
- You are responsible for meeting all requirements and deadlines for your degree

### **YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR BOOKLET AND BRING IT TO ALL ADVISING MEETINGS**

#### **FOR GROUP ADVISING, FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:**

1. Sign up to attend a group advising session with an advisor. During the pre-registration period, advisors will post group advising sign-up sheets outside of the records office: room 1120. **YOU MUST ATTEND A GROUP ADVISING SESSION TO HAVE YOUR HOLD LIFTED.**
2. **Before your meeting, update your booklet.**
3. Bring a copy of your DegreeWorks page to your advising session. You can access your DegreeWorks page from your Student Portal with your laptop or smartphone or save the page as a PDF using the PDF tab at the top of the website and print from there.

#### **YOUR ADVISOR MAY DECLINE TO MEET WITH YOU IF YOU HAVE NOT UPDATED THIS BOOKLET PRIOR TO YOUR MEETING.**

Individual advising appointments should ONLY be used for advising questions, which cannot be answered in group advising or by using the Advising Booklet or the Advising FAQ located on our departmental website, <http://psychology.wvu.edu/students/current-undergraduate-students/advising>. **Advisors will NOT lift registration holds during individual advising meetings.** Students should attend group advising sessions to have their registration hold lifted for the following semester.

### **Completing Your Advising Booklet**

Please use the following instructions to complete your Psychology Advising Booklet:

#### **GENERAL EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS (Page 8):**

##### **University GEF Policies.**

The main purpose of the GEF curriculum is to ensure that all of graduates are exposed to a variety of fields, as well as developing skills to help them achieve in any work environment. Students will fulfill seven areas (GEF 01 – GEF 07) (22-28 credits) and choose three courses that fulfill GEF 08, the Focus. The Focus can be met by any additional three courses on the list, or the completion of a minor, a 2<sup>nd</sup> major, or a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree. A list of courses that meet the GEF Objectives can be found on the Office of the University Registrar website at:

<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef>

Current students may switch their catalog year forward to be in GEF in the fall semester of 2016 – but they cannot switch back later. Students entering into the GEF curriculum cannot switch into an earlier catalog year.

The Psychology Department is a SpeakWrite Certified Program. While completing the required courses in Psychology every student will complete enough courses to fulfill the SpeakWrite requirement.

##### **GEF Advising Booklet instructions:**

1. On the line for each objective, write in ONE course (including credit hours, semester, and grade) that you have completed that fulfills this objective.
2. There is no limit on how many courses in one subject may count
3. Course may overlap with other requirements.
4. There are two ways to meet the F2 requirement.
  - a. F2A Option – 6 credits of science: lecture courses without labs
  - b. F2B Option – 4 credits of science: lecture with linked lab
5. Focus (F8) can be met by any additional three courses on the list, a completion of a minor, 2<sup>nd</sup> major or 2<sup>nd</sup> degree. There is no limit to the number of GEF courses a student can take. Each course will count towards the total number of credit hours that are needed for graduation (120 hours).

#### **PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (Pages 10-12)**

1. Write in the semester/year and grade for any of the courses within this section that you have completed.
2. Research Methods requirements:
  - a. PSYC 203 and PSYC 204. *You will take PSYC 203 and 204 starting in your SECOND YEAR of the Psychology Program.* Both require a C- to progress in the major.
3. Note that if you are getting a B.A. degree, you will need to complete at least 78 non-Psychology credits in order to graduate. Non-capstone PSYC 491 credits count towards these 78 non-Psychology credits.

## B.A. REQUIREMENTS (Page 9)

### Eberly College of Arts and Sciences requirements for BA Degree

- A. World Language. Completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> semester of a world language (e.g. 200 or 204). Generally, requires two years of study of the same language. **These courses may NOT be used simultaneously to fulfill GEF Objective requirements.** These courses are **not required for B.S. degree.**

Students who studied French, German, or Spanish in high school within the past five years **must** take the placement exam in that language. Other students who wish to demonstrate proficiency in a language **may** take the placement exam. Students will receive credit for courses they test out of, provided they complete the course they test into with a grade of B or above. Visit <http://worldlang.wvu.edu/pExams> for information regarding the Foreign Language Placement Exam.

### BA Advising Booklet instructions:

1. List the world language classes that you have completed, including semester and grade (Ex: Span 101, 102, 203, and 204).
2. You may NOT count world language classes towards both GEF objectives AND B.A. requirements. You will want to use your world language classes here and choose other classes to fill your GEF objectives.

## B.S. REQUIREMENTS (Page 9)

### Eberly College of Arts and Sciences requirements for BS Degree

Students completing a B.S. degree must complete 3 disciplines of science courses, with a minimum of two of the specified courses (or course/lab combinations) in three of the disciplines listed below. Recommended disciplines for psychology majors are biology and statistics, but students may choose any three of the six listed disciplines. Students planning to attend medical school may wish to take coursework in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. **These courses may also be used to fill GEF requirements.** These courses are **NOT required for B.A. degree.**

### BS Advising Booklet instructions:

1. There are six available disciplines (BIOL, CS, GEOL, CHEM, PHYS, & MATH/STAT). You will need to choose and complete three of these six disciplines. You will normally complete two classes in each discipline. Write in these courses as well as their credit hours, semester taken, and grade received.
2. You will also need to complete MATH 150, MATH 155, or MATH 153 & 154. This math requirement will not count towards any of the three disciplines.
3. You may have to take courses with several different prerequisites. Please visit the catalog or department websites for the most current placement information.

## Major in Psychology at WVU

### A. General Education Foundations

GEF 1: English (6 Credits)

Credits Sem. Grade

<b>ENGL 101</b>	3		
<b>ENGL 102</b> <i>PR: ENGL 101</i>	3		
<b>OR ENGL 103</b> <i>(Replaces both 101 and 102)</i>	3		

GEF 2 A/B Science and Technology (4-6 credits)

2A: Two Lecture courses (6 credits)

	3		
	3		

OR

2B: One Lecture/Lab combination

	4		
--	---	--	--

GEF 3: Mathematics & Quantitative Skills (3 Credits) (\*see notes)

	3		
--	---	--	--

GEF 4: Society and Connections (3 credits)

	3		
--	---	--	--

GEF 5: Human Inquiry & the Past (3 credits)

	3		
--	---	--	--

GEF 6: The Arts & Creativity (3 credits)

	3		
--	---	--	--

GEF 7: Global Studies & Diversity (3 credits)

	3		
--	---	--	--

GEF 8: Focus (9 credits, normally 3 three-credit courses)

	3		
	3		
	3		

\*All students must take MATH 124 or higher. MATH 124 is the prerequisite for PSYC 203 and 204. BS students must take MATH 124 or higher to progress to MATH 150, or equivalent(s) such as MATH 155 or MATH 153 and 154.



**Choose either Bachelor of Arts OR Bachelor of Science:**

**Bachelor of Arts: \***

Language 101	3		
Language 102	3		
Language 203	3		
Language 204	3		

**Bachelor of Science:**

MATH 150	3		
MATH 155	4		
OR (MATH 153	3		
and MATH 154)	3		

Discipline 1: Class 1			
Discipline 1: Class 2			

Discipline 2: Class 1			
Discipline 2: Class 2			

Discipline 3: Class 1			
Discipline 3: Class 2			

**BS Disciplines:** Choose three different disciplines of the following six:

BIOL 115/116 AND 117/118

CS 110 AND 111

GEOL (101/102 or GEOL 110/111 or GEOG 110/111) AND (GEOL 103/104 or 203 or 230)

CHEM (111/111L AND 112/112L) OR (115/115L AND 116/116L) OR (117/117L AND 118/118L)\*\*

PHYS (101 AND 102) OR (111 AND 112) MATH 156 AND (MATH 251 or STAT 211 or STAT 215)

OR  
STAT 211 AND (STAT 312 or STAT 331, or STAT 421)

OR  
STAT 215 AND (STAT 312 or STAT 331, or STAT 421)

\*Completion of the 4th semester of a world language (e.g. 200 or 204) generally requires two years of study of the **same language**.

\*\*Taking both CHEM 111 and CHEM 115 will result in duplicate credits. So will taking CHEM 112 and CHEM 116.

C. Requirements for Psychology Majors

<b>101: Introduction To Psychology</b>	3		
--	---	--	--

<b>203: Research Methods &amp; Data Analysis I*</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101 and MATH 124 or higher**</i>	3		
---	---	--	--

<b>204: Research Methods &amp; Data Analysis II</b> <i>PR: PSYC 203</i>	3		
--	---	--	--

<b>301: Biological Foundations of Behavior</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
---	---	--	--

<b>302: Behavior Principles</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	4		
--	---	--	--

\*The mathematics pathways are subject to change based on the needs of the students.  
\*Start PSYC 203 in your second year of the program.

ONE\* from each of the following Clusters:  
\*Choose one course from Cluster A **OR** Cluster B

Cluster A: Learning and Cognition

<b>423: Cognition and Memory</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>424: Learning and Behavior</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>474: Applied Behavior Analysis</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		

**OR** Cluster B: Biological Bases of Behavior

<b>425: Perception</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>426: Physiological Psychology</b> <i>PR: PSYC 301</i>	3		
<b>427: Psychobiology of Sleep</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>428: Hormones and Behavior</b> <i>PR: PSYC 301</i>	3		

Cluster C: Clinical (choose one)

<b>281: Introduction to Abnormal Psychology</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101</i>	3		
<b>362: Psychological Assessment</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>363: Personality Theory</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>364: Psychology of Adjustment</b> <i>PR: ***See Below</i>	3		
<b>382: Exceptional Children</b> <i>PR: PSYC 241</i>	3		
<b>367: Introduction to Clinical Psychology</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		

\*\*\*ONE Prerequisite of the following: PSYC 203, 204, 241, 251, 281 **OR** 293.

Cluster D: Developmental (choose one)

<b>241: Introduction to Human Development</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101</i>	3		
<b>341: Child Development</b> <i>PR: PSYC 241</i>	3		
<b>342: Prenatal and Infant Development</b> <i>PR: PSYC 241</i>	3		
<b>344: Adolescent Development</b> <i>PR: PSYC 241</i>	3		
<b>345: Adulthood and Aging</b> <i>PR: PSYC 241</i>	3		

Cluster E: Social (choose one)

<b>231: Leadership and Human Relations</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101</i>	3		
<b>232: Sex Roles and Behavior</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101</i>	3		
<b>251: Introduction to Social Psychology</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101</i>	3		
<b>332: Multicultural Issues</b> <i>PR: PSYC 101</i>	3		
<b>351: Topics in Social Psychology</b> <i>PR: PSYC 251</i>	3		
<b>370: Emotions and Mood</b> <i>PR: PSYC 204</i>	3		
<b>379: Community Psychology</b> <i>PR:*** See Below</i>	3		

\*\*\* ONE Prerequisite of the following: PSYC 203, 204, 234, 241, 251, 281 or 293.

**\*\*\*\*STARTING IN 2020: ANY COURSE THAT IS USED AS A PSYCHOLOGY PRE-REQUISITE CLASS MUST BE COMPLETED WITH A C- OR BETTER. PLEASE PLAN AHEAD FOR THIS CHANGE!\*\*\*\***

D. Psychology Elective Courses

TWO additional 3 credit 300 or 400 level courses must be selected from the list below, or the table above. PSYC: Listed in Section C: 342, 343, 345, 351, 362, 363, 364, 365, 370, 379, 382, 423, 424, 425, 426, and 474. Other: PSYC 368: Ethics and Practice in Behavior Analysis (PR: PSYC 101), PSYC 331: History and Systems, and 493: Special Topics Courses.

**PSYC 304 DOES NOT COUNT AS AN UPPER LEVEL ELECTIVE FOR THE PSYC MAJOR, EVEN AFTER SWITCHING TO THE PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR FROM THE PSYCHOLOGY MINOR.**

E. Psychology Electives:

	3		
	3		
	3		

F. Capstone: Choose one of the following:

<b>490: Teaching Practicum</b>	3		
<b>491: Field Experience</b>	3		
<b>495: Independent Study</b>	3		
<b>498: Honors Thesis</b>	3		

### Recommended Psychology Courses

- Students interested in **graduate study in Psychology** (Masters of Science, Ph.D., etc.) should consider: PSYC 331, 362, 491, 495, 498, 423, 424, 425, and 426. A minor in Statistics is also recommended.
- Students interested in **graduate study in field OTHER than Psychology** (Masters of Social Work, Masters in Counseling, Master of Arts, Law School, MBA, etc.) should consider: PSYC 241, 251, 331, and at least one course from among PSYC 281, 362, 363, 364, 379, 382, 474, 491, 495, and 498.
- Students interested in entering a **career in mental health or applied psychology that require a Bachelor’s Degree** (Human Resources Management, High School Administrator, Public Relations, Professional Writing and Editing, Event Planning, etc.) should consider: PSYC 241, 251, 362, 474, 491, 495, 498, and appropriate courses from among PSYC 281, 343, 345, 363, 364, 365, 370, 379, and 382.
- Students interested in **Health Professions** (medical school, nursing programs, occupational therapy, physician’s assistant, etc.) should consider: PSYC 343, 345, 362, 363, 370, 382, 423, 426, 474, 491, 495, 498. Meet with your advisor to discuss courses outside PSYC needed for admission to health-related programs.
- Common electives and popular minors for psychology majors include biology, child development and family studies, human nutrition and foods, mathematics, communications, history, human services/counseling, business, philosophy, political science, social work, professional writing and editing, sociology, criminology, anthropology, addiction studies, women and gender studies, forensic and investigative sciences, and statistic

**Minor:** \_\_\_\_\_

More than one minor can be completed with a degree in Psychology. All minors are between 15 and 18 credit hours, per University policy.

	3		
--	---	--	--

	3		
	3		
	3		
	3		
	3		

**All psychology majors are encouraged to take upper-division enrichment courses that provide them an opportunity to apply basic principles of psychology.** For this purpose, PSYC 490, 491, 495, and 498 are recommended. Students must have instructor consent before enrolling in these courses.

### **Psychology Enrichment Courses Capstone Requirement and Non-Capstone Experiences**

***Students should start planning for their capstone and non-capstone courses at least one semester in advance: contact faculty, attend the Info Night, complete the signed contracts and register for the correct course.***

The Psychology Department offers several **Special Experience Courses**. Those students earning a B.S. degree are especially encouraged to participate in PSYC 495 or 498. Students earning a B.A. degree who expect to work in mental health and direct care are encouraged to gain career experience by participating in PSYC 491. All students are encouraged to participate in these practical experience courses, some of which can also meet the Capstone Experience requirement for the major.

Extracurricular academic experiences are critically important for baccalaureate graduates of Psychology for them to be accepted into graduate or professional programs, or to seek employment. The goal is for the student to become well-rounded in regard to their professional skills. Ideally, students will complete two semesters of their most essential contractual course, and one semester of an alternative course. For example, students interested in going to medical school after completing their Bachelor's degree should complete two semesters of PSYC 495: Independent Study, and then one semester of PSYC 491: Field Experience (both courses described on page 14).

Typically, Special Experience Courses and Capstones are taken in the third and fourth year of undergraduate study. They are offered every semester, including some summer terms.

**Upper-Level Psychology *Potential* Trajectory:**

- ➔ **Junior Year Semester 1:** Start contacting faculty to inquire about labs, research experience, teaching practicums, and field experience courses.
- ➔ **Junior Year Semester 2:** Consider completing one Special Experience Course. Go through the application process, meeting all of the correct deadlines for respective Capstone Course for the following semester.
- ➔ **Senior Year: Both Semesters 1 and 2--** Apply to jobs, internships, or graduate programs. Complete capstone within the twelve months prior to graduation. Graduate successfully!

**The Psychology Capstone Experience** is intended to provide the psychology student with an intensive exploration into an aspect (e.g. teaching, service, research) and area (e.g. clinical, developmental, behavioral analysis, behavioral neuroscience) of psychology as a means for enhancing learning and integrating the knowledge and experiences acquired as a psychology major. **Students must have completed PSYC 204 before they will be allowed to register for a capstone experience.**

At the end of every semester, Capstone students participate in the Departmental Capstone Poster Session. Non-capstone psychology students are encouraged to attend the poster session in order to gain information about the numerous options for their Capstone Experience and to speak with students who have completed the different types of projects.

**Additionally, all Capstone students MUST complete the ACAT, a standardized assessment of psychology content.**

**All psychology majors MUST complete a Capstone Experience within the 12 months prior to graduation.**

**For all Capstone and non-capstone Experiences, a contract must be completed** by the student, supervising faculty member, and graduate student, if appropriate. **The contracts for each Capstone Experience are located in the Student Records Office (LSB 1120), except for PSYC 491, for which all forms are online:**

<https://psychology.wvu.edu/students/current-undergraduate-students/field-experience>

Once the contract has been completed, signed, and turned in to Ms. Vee Lewis (LSB 1120A), Ms. Lewis will provide the student with the CRN to register for the course. **Students are responsible for meeting all deadlines, registering for the course and ensuring they are signed up for the correct number of credit hours.**

- See more at: <http://www.psychology.wvu.edu/undergraduate/the-psychology-major#sthash.L64gAXwl.dpuf>

At other times, students should visit the Student Records Office (LSB 1120A) for information.

**PSYC 490 (Teaching Practicum)** – PSYC 490, Teaching Practicum, is for students who wish to act as tutors or proctors for a course they have previously taken. Enrollment in PSYC 490 requires instructor consent and the completion of a contract (forms available in the Student Records Office, LSB 1120A).

*As a requirement of their Capstone Experience*, students also complete a pedagogy-related project. An example of previous project includes but is not limited to an examination of students' anxiety before exams and whether their anxiety is associated with their performance, or another topic that examines features of teaching.

Typically, PSYC 490 positions are only available in the fall and spring semesters. Interested students should approach the faculty supervisor for a class that they have already taken. Around registration, a list of available PSYC 490 positions will be posted in the Student Records Office (LSB 1120) and announcements will be made through PSYC news emails.

**PSYC 491 (Field Experience)** – PSYC 491, Field Experience in Psychology, involves on- or off-campus placement for a semester, or summer. This program works best for students interested in counseling psychology, school psychology, social work, mental health counselors, and business and marketing psychology. The program is offered for up to 15 hours of credit during the fall and spring semesters and for up to 12 hours of credit during the summer terms. PSYC 491 credits will not count towards the 42 PSYC credit limit for Bachelor of Arts degrees. PSYC 491 may be repeated for a maximum of 18 total credit hours. These credit hours count toward the 120 credits needed for graduation. In this experience, students complete an internship within the field of psychology. A current list of placements are listed on the Department of Psychology website: <https://psychology.wvu.edu/students/current-undergraduate-students/field-experience>

Open the **Field Experience** link for more information, and to complete the application materials. Once your placement is approved by Dr. McWilliams (you will get an email to confirm this) Vee Lewis will lift your hold. Please register carefully, because credits vary.

*As a requirement of their Capstone Experience*, students must report on their experience during their field experience, such as what they did and what they learned. Students must register for a minimum of three (3) credit hours if they are completing a 491 capstone.

Each semester, the department holds a PSYC 491 Info Night where information is provided about the PSYC 491, what application materials are required, and when applications materials are due. **Make sure that you are aware of the deadlines for all the applications. This Info Night occurs very early in the semester, so please check announcements and the PSYC News emails for important dates and times, and for application deadlines.**

**PSYC 495 (Independent Study)** – PSYC 495, Independent Study, is for students who are participating in group research, independent research, or independent projects. This program is best suited for students interested in clinical psychology, industrial/organizational psychology, and research-oriented graduate programs. Enrollment in PSYC 495 requires instructor consent and the completion of a contract (forms available in the Student Records Office, LSB 1120A). In this experience, students work in a research lab here in the Psychology Department with a faculty mentor and potentially one or more graduate students. Requirements vary by lab, but have previously included: attending lab meetings, working on literature reviews, recruiting participants for active studies, entering and/or coding data, and helping with data analyses.

*As a requirement of their Capstone Experience*, students must report on their experience as a research assistant, such as what they did and what they learned.

Faculty typically require that a PSYC 495 Capstone student first complete at least 1 semester of non-capstone PSYC 495 in their lab previously. Interested students should approach the faculty member(s) whose research interests them. Information about faculty members' research is available on the departmental website under "faculty member directory." Around registration, a list of available PSYC 495 positions will be posted in the Student Records Office (LSB 1120) and announcements will be made through PSYC News emails.

**PSYC 497 (Research)** - This *non-capstone enrichment experience course* can be worth between 1-6 credits, and is given a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) at the completion of the semester.

**PSYC 498 (Honors Thesis and Investigation)** – This *Capstone Option* is for students admitted to the Psychology Honors Program. (Note: this program is distinct from the Honors College.) Applications for the (psychology Honors Program are available in the Student Records Office – LSB 1120. In this option, students develop their own study, propose the study to their faculty member and the graduate students with whom they will be working, carry out the study, write up their findings, and then defend their study. PSYC 498 may be repeated for a maximum of 6 total credit hours. Information is available in the Student Records Office (LSB 1120A).

Completing a PSYC 498 experience generally requires 2 semesters. During the first semester, students typically register for the Writing ("W") section of PSYC 498. Then during the second semester, students will register for the Capstone section of PSYC 498. Faculty often require that the student work in their lab for PSYC 495 credit previously. PSYC 498 positions are primarily available in the fall and spring semesters. However, some faculty members will work with students completing a PSYC 498 Capstone Experience during the summer. Interested students should approach the faculty member(s) whose research interests them. Information about faculty members' research is available on the departmental website under the "Faculty Member" directory.

## Application and Certification for Graduation (3 steps)

Students should monitor DegreeWorks carefully to verify progress toward their degree. DegreeWorks will be used to certify that graduation requirements are met. If any requirements are not reflected correctly in DegreeWorks, a report can be filed in the Student Records Office (LSB 1120A) and action will be taken to resolve the issue.

1. Apply online for a **diploma review** with the Eberly College Office of Undergraduate Studies, in the Colson Hall Annex. The form is found at <http://eberly.wvu.edu/students/current-students/office-of-undergraduate-studies/student-resources>, or <https://forms.as.wvu.edu/ugrad/view.php?id=16274>.

*Students should apply **the semester before they anticipate graduating**. Ex: apply in Fall if you expect to graduate in Spring*

Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Complete an application for graduation (to **receive diploma**) through the link in their DegreeWorks account **the semester they intend to graduate**. Students will receive emails with instructions and deadlines. This will allow them to receive their diploma. Check your e-mail frequently for updates.

Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

3. To participate in the **Commencement** Ceremony, students must RSVP at <http://graduation.wvu.edu/>.\*

Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Students who plan to complete their degree in August, but wish to participate in May Commencement should complete the following steps by their deadlines:

1. Complete diploma review in Spring of Commencement Semester
2. RSVP to the Commencement Ceremony in Spring
3. Apply for graduation in *summer*. Do **NOT** apply for graduation in spring. You will be denied!

### **Additional graduation requirements:**

**Psychology Credit Limit:** BA students may not count more than 42 credits in Psychology towards their degree. Students who have earned more than 42 credits in Psychology must take additional credits above 120 to earn their degree (e.g. 43 Psychology credits earned = 121 total credits needed). Non-capstone PSYC 491 credits will not count towards the 42 PSYC credit limit for Bachelor of Arts degrees.

**Psychology Residency Rule:** At least 10 Psychology credits must be taken at the WVU Main Campus.

\*For information about life after graduation, take a look at <http://grad.wvu.edu/>, and <http://careerservices.wvu.edu/>