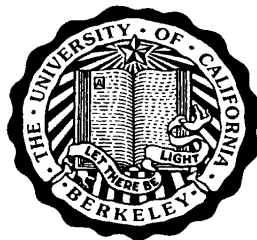


**PSYCHOLOGY**  
**UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM**  
**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**2008-2009**



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY**

**DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

## INTRODUCTION

Psychology represents an extremely broad discipline, ranging from the study of behavior of the simplest of organisms to the behavior of humans and groups of humans in complicated situations. Its “levels of analysis” span cells, brains, individuals, families, communities, and other large social groups. The Psychology major attempts to give basic and well-rounded coverage of most of the principal subfields of the broad field of psychology. The areas covered include social, developmental, behavioral neuroscience, comparative, industrial, clinical, and cognitive psychology, as well as learning (human and animal), perception, personality, and psycholinguistics.

The fact that psychology is so diverse means, however, that all areas of study cannot be represented within the expertise or primary interest of a single faculty or department. Our emphasis is on empirical research and theoretical analysis of fundamental aspects of animal and human behavior. Because, in our experience, students who are interested in the major often have been exposed to introductory courses with different emphases than are present at Berkeley—for example, those with strong orientations to counseling rather than basic science—prospective majors are strongly urged to examine closely our upper division course offerings to see if they are consonant with their interests in psychology.

*The major serves three purposes:*

- (1) For the liberal arts student, the study of psychology provides an avenue for increased self-understanding and insight into the behavior of others. The objective study of behavior is one of the major themes of intellectual history of the last hundred-plus years.
- (2) For students preparing for training in such professions as medicine, law, education, and business, psychology provides important basic knowledge and principles.
- (3) For students who plan on pursuing graduate work in psychology, the undergraduate major seeks to establish a sound foundation of research principles and knowledge of a variety of content areas.

## THE MAJOR PROGRAM

The primary goal of the major is to ensure that the student becomes aware of the diversity within the discipline and of the interrelationships among the different sub-areas of Psychology. For major requirements, please see below:

### *Lower Division Requirements*

#### Prerequisites

#### Courses and Options

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology 1 (or AP Psychology with a score of 4 or 5).

EVOLUTION

One course from: Molecular & Cell Biology 41 or 41X; Anthropology 1; Integrative Biology 35AC.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Two courses from: Molecular & Cell Biology 31, 32, 50, 61, 64; Biology 1A, 1B, 11; Integrative Biology 31 (AP Biology with a score of 4 or 5 will satisfy **one** Biological Science prerequisite).

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Two courses from two different departments: Anthropology 3 or 3AC; Sociology 3 or 3AC; Linguistics 5, Political Science 1, 2, or 4. (Appropriate AP exams with a score of 4 or 5 will satisfy **one** of these prerequisites, e.g. AP U.S. Government).

QUANTITATIVE

One course from: Statistics 2, 20, or 21; Math 54 or 55 (AP Statistics with a score of 4 or 5 will satisfy this prerequisite).

### *Upper Division Requirements*

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS

Psychology 101 (This course should be taken as soon as possible after admission to the major, preferably during the junior year.)

THREE DECADE COURSES

Three courses from Psychology 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 180 (these are introductory courses in the areas of specialization covered by the Department).

FOUR ELECTIVE COURSES

Four upper-division psychology courses numbered 104-182 and with approval, Psychology 192. Psychology 192 is reserved for new courses and may be taken multiple times (assuming different courses). **Note:** Psychology 194, 195, 197, 198, and 199 may not be counted as electives.

BREADTH

The seven upper-division courses other than 101 (i.e. three decade, four elective) must include one course from each of the four sub-areas

represented in the department organization: Cognition, Brain and Behavior (110-129); Clinical (130-139); Development (140-149); and Social/Personality (150-169, 180)

## **POLICIES GOVERNING THE MAJOR**

### ***Applying to the Major***

All students who apply to the major and meet the following criteria are guaranteed admission: (1) complete all seven prerequisite courses; (2) have a 3.2 GPA in prerequisite courses; (3) declare the major prior to the accumulation of 80 semester units (or in the case of transfer students, declare the major no later than their first semester at Berkeley); and (4) submit the application to the department by the posted deadline. If any of the above criteria are not met, students may still be admitted to the major; however, admission to the major is not guaranteed. Applications will be processed once *all* prerequisite courses are completed and final grades posted.

This may mean that you will not technically be admitted to the major until the beginning of the following semester. Be sure to place your name on the waitlists for courses you wish to take the following semester (AND indicate on the major application form TWO courses), as you will be enrolled from the waitlist *ONCE* your application has been approved or you may register directly in the course during Phase II, whichever comes first. To check the status of your application, please log on to Bear Facts.

Applications to the Major are available on the Psychology Department website, (<http://psychology.berkeley.edu/undergrad/index.html>) and the Psychology Majors bSpace page (<http://bspace.berkeley.edu/>). Please read the instruction page that accompanies the major application. *Incomplete applications will not be considered for admission.* Transfer students are encouraged to submit applications during CalSO if all prerequisites are satisfied or will be satisfied by the end of the summer. If prerequisites are not satisfied, please speak with an Undergraduate Advisor to discuss ways in which to complete all courses by the end of the first semester.

The Student Services Office does not accept applications from non-transfer students prior to their third semester at UCB. It is far more important to spread out your prerequisite courses and do well academically. Remember that as long as you declare prior to the completion of 80 semester units (not including AP credit or units earned in high school), you will be guaranteed admission with a 3.2 GPA.

### ***Note to pre-major students:***

Students who intend to declare the Psychology major are encouraged to visit the Student Services Office periodically during each semester to consult the Undergraduate Advisor and Peer Advisors, to obtain departmental literature, and to review the undergraduate bulletin boards for current information. Pre-majors are urged to participate in departmental student activities and events, such as:

- Join the Psychology Majors bSpace (<http://bspace.berkeley.edu/>) to receive email notifications about psychology related events and opportunities.
- Enroll in the Student Success at Cal Part I DE-Cal course periodically offered by the Association of

Psychology Undergraduates (APU).

- Become a fan of the UC Berkeley Psychology Page on Facebook: (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Berkeley-CA/UC-Berkeley-Psychology/9072139043>) to meet other UCB folks interested in Psychology.
- Take a freshman or sophomore seminar with a faculty member from the Psychology Department.

### **Registration in Upper Division Psychology Courses**

Psychology majors are given priority to ALL upper-division psychology courses. During Phase I, only *declared* Psychology majors will have the ability to register for UD psych courses (in addition to several seats that have been reserved for approved majors in select courses). Towards the end of Phase II, seats may open for non-majors and the waitlist will be processed automatically unless an instructor decides to manually monitor his/her waitlist. Be sure to attend the first day of class to learn how “Adds” will be determined for that class.

### **Granting Exceptions/Substitutions in the Major**

The Department will consider requests for exceptions, in terms of either: (a) courses and criteria required for admission to the major; or (b) the work done to complete the major. If a student would like to request an exception, s/he must complete the *Exception to the Major Petition* (available on the Department website and bSpace). Exceptions related to admission to the major must be submitted with the *Application to the Major* by the application deadline and will be reviewed during the month after the deadline. Exceptions related to completion of the major will be reviewed shortly after submission.

Please note that if you are requesting consideration for courses taken at another institution or during a term abroad, you will be asked to provide a detailed course description and course syllabus. A *maximum* of two Psychology courses from another institution may apply toward the major. Courses completed abroad must be the equivalent of upper division in the Psychology Department or closely related discipline at the host institution.

The following courses may be used towards upper division electives without the submission of a Petition:

- Anthropology 149: Psychological Anthropology
- Economics 119: Psychology and Economics
- Legal Studies 181: Psychology and Law
- MCB 165: Molecular Neurobiology (cannot also use Psych 119)
- Sociology 150 or 150A or 150B: Social Psychology (counts as Decade; cannot also use Psych 160)
- UGBA 105: Introduction to Organizational Behavior (counts as Decade; cannot also use Psych 180)

**Note:** All courses completed for the major will apply toward the major GPA, including EAP courses. A maximum of two courses of UCB non-Psych courses and EAP/off-campus courses may apply to the major.

### **Grading**

*Passed/Not Passed Option*

**All** prerequisite courses and upper-division courses that apply to the major *must* be taken on a letter grade basis.

*Minimum Grade Point Average in the Major*

The University requires that students maintain a 2.0 grade point average in all courses (lower and upper division) required in the major program, as well as a 2.0 grade point average in all upper division courses that apply toward the major. Any student who does not meet the minimum grade point average in the major will be placed on probation.

## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN PSYCHOLOGY

By their junior year, students are generally prepared to undertake an independent research project of original design under the supervision of a professor. This may take the form of preparation for a senior Honors thesis, which should begin in the fall of the junior year if at all possible. Before reaching that point, however, many students prefer to have experience working on a research project designed by either a faculty or graduate student. Information on departmental research opportunities will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Psychology Student Services Office and distributed via email to the Psychology listserv at the beginning of the semester. Generally Psychology 199 course credit is available for research assistant positions. Over 200 students per semester are enrolled in research for credit.

### *Independent Study*

The Department of Psychology offers four types of independent study courses: Psychology 99, 197, 198, and 199. Descriptions of the courses are listed below. Students interested in enrolling in one of these courses should come by the Student Services Office at the beginning of the semester, obtain an application, and refer to the list of studies on the website. The faculty will be available during regularly scheduled office hours to discuss independent study enrollment. An application form should be filled out by the student, signed by both the student and the instructor, and returned to the Student Services Office by the University deadline to add a course (generally the Friday of Week 3). Upon receipt of the completed application, the Undergraduate Advisors or Peer Advisors will give the student the course control number to be entered on Tele-BEARS.

- 99. Supervised Independent Study and Research**, 1-3 units, P/NP. Intended for freshmen and sophomores who wish to undertake a program of individual inquiry on a topic in Psychology. A final may be required.
- 197. Field Studies in Psychology**, 1-3 units, P/NP. Groups or individual students may volunteer or intern in an agency whose program relates to the discipline of Psychology. A final paper may be required. Although the Department does not place students in agencies, the Undergraduate Bulletin Board may have posters from agencies seeking volunteers and announcements may be sent out via the listserv.
- 198. Directed Group Study**, 1-3 units, P/NP. Group study of a selected topic or topics in Psychology. Generally this is a student-initiated seminar course (i.e. DE-Cal) that requires prior planning. If you are interested in planning such a course, you should begin the semester prior to enrollment. A final paper may be required.
- 199. Supervised Independent Study and Research**, 1-3 units, P/NP. Designed for junior and senior students interested in carrying out their own research (which may be linked closely to the research program of the mentoring faculty member) or review of the literature on a topic in Psychology. Research assistants normally receive Psych 199 credit. A final paper may be required.

**Unit Limits**

1. Students enrolled in 197, 198, and 199 courses must have completed at least 60 semester units of undergraduate study and must be in good academic standing (2.0 grade point average or better).
2. Credit for 97, 98, 99, 197, 198 and 199 courses in any department in a single term may aggregate no more than 4 units.
3. No more than a total of 16 units of courses numbered 97, 98, 99, 197, 198, and 199 in any department may be used to meet the requirements for a Bachelor's degree.

**Unit Designation**

For each of the courses 97, 98, 99, 197, 198, 199 a student must be involved in three hours of work per week for one unit of credit (maximum of nine hours per week for three units, for any one of these courses).

**Summer Research Opportunities**

Research and field work opportunities are available during the summer months at Berkeley and other institutions. Several universities have special research programs in Psychology for junior and senior Psychology majors. Recent examples have included research in language acquisition at Clark University and cognition and communication in marine mammals at the University of Hawaii.

**Katherine Craig Swan Undergraduate Research Award and Endowment in Psychology**

The Swan family has generously donated funds in memory of Katherine Craig Swan, a 1932 Berkeley Honors graduate in Psychology, which will support undergraduate research in the Psychology Department. The total budget of the proposal cannot exceed \$500. This money will be awarded to the most deserving applicants based on an annual competition. The faculty of the Undergraduate Awards Committee will review these proposals and award funding to the best proposals. Swan Research Awards will be acknowledged at the annual Commencement Ceremony of the Psychology Department.

**Campus wide Research Opportunities**

The Office of Undergraduate Research's web site is designed to highlight the diverse research opportunities available to undergraduates at Berkeley. You can access it through: <http://research.berkeley.edu>

## HONORS PROGRAM

### ***Overview of the Honors Program***

Students with a 3.5 grade point average overall in their major may apply for admission to the Honors program. Students must identify a faculty sponsor to supervise a thesis project. While the honors project is completed during the student's final year, most of the students in the program begin to prepare during their junior year, either by working as a research assistant under a potential sponsor or by contacting a potential sponsor to begin developing a project.

The award of departmental Honors is contingent upon submission of a thesis of high quality, based upon independent study with a member of the Psychology Department's faculty and marked by satisfactory completion of Psychology H195A-B. Evaluation of the thesis is the primary responsibility of the faculty sponsor, as well as second reader as assigned by the Chair or Vice Chair. The sponsor and second reader will decide whether the thesis is of Honors quality and if so, which level of Honors is to be assigned: *Honors* or *Highest Honors*. Departmental Honors designations will be included in the student's permanent UC Berkeley record. The Student Services Office maintains a file of completed Honors theses, which are available for review.

### ***Courses***

Students are required to enroll in Psychology H195A-B during their thesis year. Many honors students also enroll in Psychology 199 during their junior year as part of the preparation for a thesis project.

#### *Psychology H195A-B*

Psychology H195A-B is offered for 1-3 units per semester and is **mandatory** in order to receive Honors in the major. The course is sequential with a grade of *In Progress* for the "A" portion and the final grade assigned for both semesters at the end of the "B" portion.

#### *Psychology H194A-B*

We strongly suggest that Honors students also concurrently enroll in Psychology H194A-B (2 units per semester), the Honors Seminar, in their senior year, as this course provides excellent supplemental background for preparing the thesis. However, enrollment in H194 is **not mandatory** in order to obtain Honors. Students may enroll in H194A only in the fall, and each semester must be taken in sequence. During the fall semester, the seminar will concentrate on issues of research design, ethics, and data analysis using statistical packages. The spring semester will focus on oral and written presentations of the thesis projects and feedback on thesis drafts.

### ***Application***

Students must complete an application to enroll in Psych H195A-B units and Psych H194A-B. Applications may be obtained on the Department website: (<http://psychology.berkeley.edu/undergrad/honors.html>)

On the Psychology H195A-B application the student will outline the thesis proposal and submit it for approval to one of the full-time faculty of the Department who will serve as their faculty sponsor. The signed application is to be returned to the Student Services Office. Upon approval, a course control number will be given to the student to enroll in the course through Tele-BEARS. Applications should be submitted by the University deadline to add courses both semesters of enrollment (generally the Friday of Week 3).

### ***Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects Approval***

Students who are planning to use human subjects for the Honors thesis must apply for approval from the Committee for Protection of Human Subjects at the end of the junior year. This process can take up to six months. Faculty should be consulted for help in making the request.

### ***Faculty Sponsor***

Students should maintain close contact with their faculty sponsor to ensure clear communication on direction of the thesis project and expectations of the professor. It would be wise for the student to submit a draft of the honors thesis to the instructor mid-semester of enrollment in H195B for criticism and comments before the final copy is produced.

### ***Content***

The honors thesis may be an original, empirical study of a topic in psychology, or a critical analysis of the work of other researchers on a topic in psychology chosen by the student.

### ***Style***

The thesis should be organized and written according to APA style, found in the APA Publication Manual. The thesis must include an abstract of approximately 200 words or less. The title page should take the following format:



### ***Deadline***

The thesis should be submitted to the faculty sponsor no later than two weeks prior to the end of the semester in which the student files to graduate. A bound copy of the thesis must be submitted simultaneously to the Undergraduate Advisor for assignment of the second reader. If the student is not able to meet the above noted deadline date for submission of the thesis, s/he should confer with the Undergraduate Advisor.

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Psychology Department has a few very active student organizations. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the activities of all groups.

### ***Association of Psychology Undergraduates (APU)***

Founded in 1969, the APU is a student organization whose goals are to facilitate student-to-student and student-to-faculty interaction and to provide a forum for student ideas. Its goals are to assist undergraduates with all aspects of the major, from an introduction to the major designed for freshmen considering the major, to navigating the graduate school admission process for seniors. APU will assist you in understanding the various aspects of the Psychology Department and the major, keep you informed of current events, introduce you to professors and graduate students and provide you with peer mentors and peer counselors. Additionally, APU keeps you informed of events within the Department, as well as possibilities for research careers in Psychology. Information about events and activities is available via the APU mailing list and Student Services Office listserv.

For more information please write to: [calxapu@gmail.com](mailto:calxapu@gmail.com)

### ***Psi Chi***

The Berkeley Chapter of Psi Chi, the National Honors Society in Psychology, is located in the APU Office, 3330 Tolman Hall. Students who have achieved an honors level grade point average overall, as well as in the major (GPA of at least 3.5) are eligible for membership. There is a one time initiation fee, which covers life-time membership. Psi Chi is usually represented at the regional Western Psychological Association and the American Psychological Association meetings, through which student members can participate in convention activities.

For more information please visit the Phi Chi National Website: <http://www.psichi.org> or you may contact the Berkeley Chapter by dialing 510-642-7095 or emailing: [psichi@berkeley.edu](mailto:psichi@berkeley.edu).

### ***Psychology at Berkeley (Undergraduate Journal)***

Psychology at Berkeley is a journal that publishes undergraduate work in psychology. It is unlike most other publications at UC Berkeley, however, in that it mainly seeks to publish scientific studies that undergraduates have completed themselves. The purpose of Psychology at Berkeley is to disseminate the findings of students' studies, to further expose the Berkeley campus to the research and work being done by undergraduates all year long. In doing this, Psychology at Berkeley hopes to highlight the importance and excitement of studying psychology!

## ADVISING

The Department of Psychology's advising program offers students a variety of services of which students are encouraged to make full use.

### ***Student Services Office***

Undergraduate advisors in the Student Services Office are available to handle problems relating to rules and regulations of the Department of Psychology and the College of Letters and Science. If you have questions regarding major program scheduling, requirements for the B.A. degree, information on career opportunities in Psychology, or graduate school information, please visit the Student Services Office. Andrea Gutierrez, Undergraduate Advisor, and Emilie Dandan, Intake Advisor, are more than happy to meet with you.

The Student Services Office is located at 3305 Tolman Hall and with office hours from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Please be sure to visit our web-site as we may post hours in which we are only available by appointment or for drop-in advising only. Although we may be reached by dialing (510) 643-8114 it is MUCH easier to contact us via email. Undergraduate advisors may be reached at [psychsso@berkeley.edu](mailto:psychsso@berkeley.edu). Our website is <http://psychology.berkeley.edu>.

To make the most of your advising sessions, please be sure to bring with you a program planning worksheet. This may be obtained by visiting Letters & Science Undergraduate Advising web-site: <http://ls-advise.berkeley.edu/fp/fp.html>. Remember that the beginning of the semester is always the busiest. So, to ensure a shorter waiting period, please stop by *after* the first few weeks of the semester.

### ***Peer Advising***

Junior and senior Psychology students offer peer advising in the Student Services Office. They are a wonderful resource for students with questions about course selection, research, or general academic advice.

### ***Tele-BEARS & Advisor Codes***

Psychology majors must secure their Advisor Code (AC) in person from the Student Services Office each semester. (In most cases, your AC will not be given over the phone). This procedure is to insure that students review their progress in the major and receive up-to-date information on graduation requirements. Although AC numbers are not available until two weeks prior to the beginning of Phase I, we ask that students come in early to review their schedule. The advisors will then email an AC to the student once it becomes available. Students should start coming by during the fourth week of the semester.

### ***Change in Course Schedule***

Students may add and drop courses on Tele-BEARS until the fifth week of class unless the course is listed as an Early Drop Deadline (EDD) course. EDD courses must be dropped by the end of the second week. We encourage students to obtain an updated copy of their schedule each time a change is made on Tele-BEARS.

Exceptional changes in schedule (i.e., those requested after the posted deadlines) may be granted by the College of Letters & Science in only the most extraordinary circumstances. Very few, if any, students are permitted to add, drop or change grading options after the respective deadlines. Please be sure to stay vigilant of all deadlines.

***Receiving Incomplete Grades***

If a student receives an Incomplete Grade for a course, the instructor should fill out the *Instructor/Student Contract for Incomplete Coursework* and submit it to the Student Services Office to be kept on file until the course is completed. This ensures that if the instructor should leave the Department before the student completes the course that stipulations are clearly stated as to how to receive the final grade. The incomplete form must be completed by the end of the semester,

***Removal of Incompletes***

When a student has completed all work for a Psychology course in which an Incomplete was assigned, a *Petition to Remove an in Incomplete Grade* must be filled out by the student, a \$5.00 fee paid at the Cashier's Office, in 140 University Hall, and the form then completed by the instructor. Once the instructor has the form, the student no longer has access to the petition. Either the instructor or Student Services Office staff will submit the Petition to the Office of the Registrar.

***Summer school***

Psychology majors should have their Psychology course plans pre-approved by the Student Services Office before enrollment at another institution during the summer. Please refer to the section of the brochure titled "Policies Governing the Major" for information regarding the request of exceptions and/or substitutions.

***Faculty***

Another level of advising is provided by the permanent faculty of the Department. We encourage you to speak with faculty to discuss questions about your academic pursuits in the fields of psychology. All faculty of the Department serve as advisors. They are available to students during regularly scheduled office hours. A list of the faculty and their research interests will be found at the back of this brochure. Faculty office hours are posted outside the Student Services Office, 3305 Tolman Hall.

***Bulletin Boards***

There are four Undergraduate Bulletin Boards outside the Student Services Office. Information on special courses (e.g., seminars), jobs, volunteer/research opportunities, and important deadlines and events will be posted throughout the semester. Students should plan to check the Bulletin Boards periodically.

***Student Responsibility***

Although Undergraduate Advisors and Peer Advisors may assist students in selecting their programs of study, the advisor does not assume responsibility for students' understanding and compliance with the requirements for the degree.

***Students are required to assume responsibility for their own academic program and progress towards completion of degree requirements.***

## GRADUATION

### ***Filing for Candidacy***

The semester prior to the semester a student wishes to graduate, a request should be made at the College of Letters & Science, 113 Campbell Hall, for a Degree Check/Audit to insure that all requirements for the degree will be satisfied. Students should indicate their intention to graduate by responding to the Tele-BEARS inquiry when scheduling courses for the semester they plan to graduate. Please keep in mind that the College will only review overall degree requirements; please be sure to verify with the Psychology Undergraduate Advisors that all major requirements have been fulfilled.

### ***Commencement Ceremony***

The Department of Psychology's Commencement ceremony occurs once each year in May (a general L&S ceremony also takes place in the fall). All students graduating in fall, spring, or summer are eligible to participate. Summer and fall graduates should inform the Student Services Office of their intention to graduate and participate in the ceremony ***no later than the end of March***. Graduating seniors may be asked to participate in the planning of the ceremony. Junior majors are encouraged to attend as guests or volunteers so that they will have an opportunity to develop ideas and plans for their own graduation the following year.

### ***Graduation with Honors***

There are two types of Honors at graduation: 1) Honors in General Scholarship, which is based on your cumulative record; see the College of Letters & Science's announcement for information on this Honors level; and 2) Honors in the Major, which is based upon completion of the Honors Program in Psychology (see above).