

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (747E, 747)

Program Coordinator

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The Department of Psychological Sciences offers programs designed for students who are interested in a science-oriented degree that will prepare them for graduate study in psychology, neuroscience, or a related field (e.g., medical school, pharmacy, physical therapy) or for employment in jobs where strong quantitative and research skills are required.

Concentrations

- Applied & Social Psychological Science (PASP)
- Biobehavioral Psychology (PBBP)
- Clinical Psychological Science (PCPS)
- Cognitive Psychology (PCGP)
- Developmental Science (PDVS)
- Quantitative Psychology (PSQP) (Available to 747E Majors only)
- General (PGEN) (Available to 747 Majors only)

Program Requirements (37-52 hours)

The department provides two options for the Bachelor of Science degree. The non-extended option requires a minimum of 37 credit hours and a minor or second major is required. The extended option requires a minimum of 49 unduplicated credit hours and no minor or second major is required. For both options, students will complete a program of study that includes Core and Concentration components as well as a Laboratory Experience component.

To complete the Core requirement, students will select a total of 26 to 28 credit hours from the following categories: Foundations of Psychology, Developmental Processes, Learning and Cognition, Individual Differences and Social Processes, Biological Bases of Behavior and Mental Processes, Research Methods and Statistics, and Capstone Experience.

To complete the Laboratory Experience component, students will complete one PSYS lab course or one PSYS lecture / lab course at the 300-level or above.

To complete the Concentration requirement, students in the non-extended option will (a) complete 12 credit hours from one thematic concentration (applied & social psychological science, biobehavioral psychology, clinical psychological science, cognitive psychology, or developmental science) or (b), if in the general concentration, complete 12 credit hours of upper-level PSYS or PSY courses found in any of the thematic concentrations to study themes in psychological science more broadly. Students choosing the extended option (a) must choose a thematic concentration (applied & social psychological science, biobehavioral psychology clinical psychological science, cognitive psychology, or developmental science) but cannot choose the general concentration, and (b) will complete 24 credit hours (12 credit hours from the thematic concentration and 12 unduplicated credit hours of

upper-level PSYS or PSY courses found in any of the other thematic concentrations).

Students completing the extended major can select electives from the following: PSYS 300, PSYS 321, PSYS 331, PSYS 333, PSYS 346, PSYS 350, PSYS 352, PSYS 353, PSYS 357, PSYS 360, PSYS 363, PSYS 370, PSYS 413, PSYS 415, PSYS 423, PSYS 424, PSYS 425, PSYS 431, PSYS 433, PSYS 440, PSYS 442, PSYS 444, PSYS 450, PSYS 451, PSYS 453, PSYS 462, PSYS 463, PSYS 465, PSYS 473, PSYS 481, PSYS 482, PSYS 490, PSYS 499, PSY 355, PSY 412, PSY 470

Students who are in the quantitative concentration of the extended version of the major will complete 24-25 hours of concentration courses in addition to the 26-28 hours in the major's core.

Students must complete either

1. MATH 116 and MATH 117, or
2. MATH 118 or higher is required; MATH 183 is recommended.

Students who select the extended option with the quantitative psychology concentration must complete MATH 136.

Students in the non-extended option of the Psychological Science major can count no more than 3 credits of PSYS 490 toward the major. Students in the extended option, including the quantitative concentration, may count no more than 6 credits of PSYS 490 towards the major, with no more than 3 credits counting toward a single concentration's requirements. PSYS 300 is recommended to meet the Colonnade: Writing in the Disciplines requirement and can be used to satisfy major requirements in the 12 concentration hours of the general concentration, in the 9 elective hours of the quantitative concentration, or in the 12 upper-level elective hours majors complete in the extended version of the major.

The Psychological Science major includes laboratory experiences. In addition to completing a laboratory in research methods, students in the non-extended option of the major and in the extended option of the major (including the quantitative concentration) complete one additional laboratory experience.

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>. (<https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>)

Applied & Social Psychological Science Concentration

This thematic concentration emphasizes applying psychological science to investigate how social situations affect behavior and to explore the role of social factors in real-world problems.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100	Introduction to Psychology	3
or PSYS 160	Introduction to Biopsychology	
PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3

or PSYS 321	Child Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	3
or PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	3
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
or PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4
or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
Required Course:		
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	3
Select 9 hours from the following:		9
PSYS 346	The Psychology of Facing Death and Dying	
PSYS 352	Health Psychology: The Mind-Body Connection	
PSYS 353	Psychology of Prejudice and Stereotyping	
PSYS 357	Psychology and Film	
PSYS 370	Industrial / Organizational Psychology	
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences	
PSYS 433	Judgment and Decision Making	
PSYS 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYS 450	Psychology of Personality	
PSYS 451	Psychology of Religion	
PSYS 453	Psychology of Women	
PSYS 473	Training in Business and Industry	
PSYS 482	Psychology of Sexuality	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
PSY 355	Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology	
PSY 412	Psychology of Motivation and Emotion	
PSY 470	Psychology and Law	
Laboratory Experience		
Select one course from the following: (may use PSYS 413 from above concentration courses to satisfy requirement)		0-3
PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning	

PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences
Total Hours	37-40

Biobehavioral Psychology Concentration

This thematic concentration provides knowledge of the biological bases of behavior and thought.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100 or PSYS 160	Introduction to Psychology Introduction to Biopsychology	3
PSYS 220 or PSYS 321	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology Child Developmental Psychology	3
PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	3
PSYS 350 or PSYS 440	Social Psychology Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211 or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	3
Select 9 hours from the following:		9
PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 352	Health Psychology: The Mind-Body Connection	
PSYS 431	Psychology of Language	
PSYS 444	Psychology of Substance Use Disorders	
PSYS 462	Fundamentals of Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSYS 463	Evolutionary Psychology	
PSYS 465	Psychopharmacology	
PSYS 482	Psychology of Sexuality	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Laboratory Experience		
Select one course from the following:		1-3

PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning	
PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition	
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences	
Total Hours		38-40

Clinical Psychological Science Concentration

This thematic concentration focuses on mechanisms and etiologies of psychological health and dysfunction.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100 or PSYS 160	Introduction to Psychology Introduction to Biopsychology	3
PSYS 220 or PSYS 321	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology Child Developmental Psychology	3
PSYS 331 or PSYS 333	Principles of Human and Animal Learning Cognitive Psychology	3
PSYS 440	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYS 360 or PSYS 363	Behavioral Neuroscience Sensory and Perceptual Systems	3
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211 or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
Select 12 hours from the following:		12
PSYS 346	The Psychology of Facing Death and Dying	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	
PSYS 352	Health Psychology: The Mind-Body Connection	
PSYS 353	Psychology of Prejudice and Stereotyping	
PSYS 357	Psychology and Film	
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	
PSYS 423	Psychology of Adult Life and Aging	
PSYS 425	Developmental Psychopathology	

PSYS 442	Psychology of Suicide and Self-Injury
PSYS 444	Psychology of Substance Use Disorders
PSYS 450	Psychology of Personality
PSYS 451	Psychology of Religion
PSYS 453	Psychology of Women
PSYS 462	Fundamentals of Cognitive Neuroscience
PSYS 465	Psychopharmacology
PSYS 481	History of Psychology
PSYS 482	Psychology of Sexuality
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology

Laboratory Experience

Select one course from the following: (may use PSYS 413 from above concentration courses to satisfy requirement) 0-3

PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning
PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences

Total Hours **37-40**

Cognitive Psychology Concentration

This thematic concentration emphasizes the scientific study of mental processes such as attention, perception, memory, problem-solving, thinking, and language use.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100 or PSYS 160	Introduction to Psychology Introduction to Biopsychology	3
PSYS 220 or PSYS 321	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology Child Developmental Psychology	3
PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	3
PSYS 350 or PSYS 440	Social Psychology Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYS 360 or PSYS 363	Behavioral Neuroscience Sensory and Perceptual Systems	3
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211 or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	

PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
Select 12 hours from the following:		12
PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	
PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 423	Psychology of Adult Life and Aging	
PSYS 431	Psychology of Language	
PSYS 433	Judgment and Decision Making	
PSYS 462	Fundamentals of Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
PSY 412	Psychology of Motivation and Emotion	
Laboratory Experience		
Select one of the following courses:		1-3
PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning	
PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition	
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences	
Total Hours		38-40

Developmental Science Concentration

This thematic concentration addresses the physical, emotional, intellectual, social, perceptual, and personality growth of humans throughout the lifespan.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100	Introduction to Psychology	3
or PSYS 160	Introduction to Biopsychology	
PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3
or PSYS 321	Child Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	3
or PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	3
or PSYS 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
or PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4

or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
Select 12 hours from the following:		12
PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 321	Child Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 346	The Psychology of Facing Death and Dying	
PSYS 352	Health Psychology: The Mind-Body Connection	
PSYS 357	Psychology and Film	
PSYS 423	Psychology of Adult Life and Aging	
PSYS 424	Topics in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 425	Developmental Psychopathology	
PSYS 431	Psychology of Language	
PSYS 453	Psychology of Women	
PSYS 463	Evolutionary Psychology	
PSYS 482	Psychology of Sexuality	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	

Laboratory Experience		
Select one of the following courses:		1-3
PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning	
PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition	
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences	
Total Hours		38-40

General Concentration

This concentration offers students the opportunity to more broadly study themes in psychological science in general.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100	Introduction to Psychology	3
or PSYS 160	Introduction to Biopsychology	
PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3
or PSYS 321	Child Developmental Psychology	

PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	3
or PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	3
or PSYS 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
or PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4
or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
Select 12 hours of electives from upper-level PSYS courses not used to satisfy Core requirements or from upper-level PSYS or PSY courses in the thematic concentrations:		12
PSYS 300	Writing in the Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 321	Child Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	
PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 346	The Psychology of Facing Death and Dying	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	
PSYS 352	Health Psychology: The Mind-Body Connection	
PSYS 353	Psychology of Prejudice and Stereotyping	
PSYS 357	Psychology and Film	
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	
PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 370	Industrial / Organizational Psychology	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences	
PSYS 423	Psychology of Adult Life and Aging	
PSYS 424	Topics in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 425	Developmental Psychopathology	
PSYS 431	Psychology of Language	
PSYS 433	Judgment and Decision Making	
PSYS 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYS 442	Psychology of Suicide and Self-Injury	
PSYS 444	Psychology of Substance Use Disorders	
PSYS 450	Psychology of Personality	

PSYS 451	Psychology of Religion
PSYS 453	Psychology of Women
PSYS 462	Fundamentals of Cognitive Neuroscience
PSYS 463	Evolutionary Psychology
PSYS 465	Psychopharmacology
PSYS 473	Training in Business and Industry
PSYS 481	History of Psychology
PSYS 482	Psychology of Sexuality
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology
PSY 355	Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology
PSY 412	Psychology of Motivation and Emotion
PSY 470	Psychology and Law

Laboratory Experience

Select one of the following courses:	1-3
PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning
PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences

Total Hours **38-40****Quantitative Psychology Concentration**

This concentration focuses on the use of advanced data manipulation and statistical analysis techniques within psychological science to examine discipline-specific research questions. This concentration requires at least 49 hours, so students do not need a minor or second major. Also, students in this concentration do not select another concentration within the Psychological Science Major.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PSYS 100	Introduction to Psychology	3
or PSYS 160	Introduction to Biopsychology	
PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3
or PSYS 321	Child Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 331	Principles of Human and Animal Learning	3
or PSYS 333	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYS 350	Social Psychology	3
or PSYS 440	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYS 360	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
or PSYS 363	Sensory and Perceptual Systems	
PSYS 210 & PSYS 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4

or PSY 210 & PSY 211	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	
PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYS 481	History of Psychology	
PSYS 490	Independent Study in Psychological Sciences	
PSYS 499	Senior Seminar in Psychology	
Concentration Courses		
CS 146	Introduction to Programming	3
or CS 170	Problem Solving and Programming	
or CS 180	Computer Science I	
STAT 301	Introductory Probability and Applied Statistics	3
STAT 330	Introduction to Statistical Software	3
STAT 401	Regression Analysis	3
or STAT 402	Experimental Design	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	3
Select 9 PSYS upper-level elective hours selected in consultation with an advisor. Can include PSYS 300.		9
Laboratory Experience		
Select one course from the following: (may use PSYS 413 from above concentration courses to satisfy requirement)		0-3
PSYS 322	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology	
PSYS 332	Laboratory in Human and Animal Learning	
PSYS 334	Laboratory in Cognition	
PSYS 365	Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience	
PSYS 413	Psychological Measurement	
PSYS 415	Programming for Social Sciences	
Total Hours		49-52

Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP)

The Department of Psychological Sciences offers a Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP) which provides academically outstanding students the opportunity to complete both an undergraduate and graduate degree in an accelerated timeframe. Contact the graduate program coordinator for additional information.

This JUMP program allows students to start working toward their MS in Psychology with a concentration in Psychological Science (Ref: 0469) while completing their bachelor's of science degree in Psychological Science (Ref: 747 and 747E). Undergraduate students admitted into JUMP may take graduate courses that count toward both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Up to 12 credit hours can be double-counted toward both degrees, and up to 15 hours of graduate courses can be taken while a student is completing the undergraduate degree. The key benefit of the JUMP program is that it allows students to earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in an accelerated timeframe. For more information, see <https://www.wku.edu/psychological-sciences/>.

To be considered for admission to the JUMP program to earn a BS in Psychological Science and a MS in Psychology in an accelerated timeframe a, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Be a Psychological Science major (includes programs with reference numbers 747 and 747E)
- Have completed at least 60 hours total, with at least 24 hours earned at WKU;
- Have at least 15 or more credit hours remaining to complete the bachelor's degree;
- Have a minimum 3.25 overall GPA and 3.25 GPA in the Psychological Science major;
- Have completed or be enrolled in 16 credit hours in Psychological Science, including PSYS 100 (or PSYS 160), and PSYS 210, and PSYS 211, and PSYS 313 or the equivalent of these classes;
- Have completed at least one semester long research experience with a faculty member in the Department of Psychological Sciences.

Admissions are competitive and dependent upon graduate program capacity. The MS in Psychology with a concentration in Psychological Science uses a research mentorship approach to prepare students to be competitive applicants for admission into a Ph.D. program and/or for positions where strong research and methodological skills are needed.

Finish in Four Plans

Psychological Science, General

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSYS 100		3 PSYS Foundation Course	3
MATH 183		3 PSYS 160	3
ENG 100		3 PSYS 210	3
COMM 145		3 PSYS 211	1
Elective or Minor Course		3 Colonnade	3
		Elective or Minor Course	3
		15	16
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSYS 313		3 PSYS Foundation Course	3
ENG 200		3 PSYS Foundation Course	3
Colonnade or Elective Course		3 Minor Course	3
Minor Course		3 Colonnade or Elective Course	3
Colonnade or Elective Course		3 Colonnade or Elective Course	3
		15	15
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PSYS Concentration Course		3 PSYS Concentration Course	3
PSYS Foundation Course/Lab Course		3-4 ENG 300	3
Minor Course		3 Minor Course	3
Minor Course		3 Minor Course	3
Colonnade or Elective Course		3 Colonnade or Elective Course	3
		15-16	15

Total Hours 121-122

Psychological Science, Extended

15
16

15
15

	15-16	15
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Course	Course
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