

Archived: August 8, 2022

Science and Technology Programs

Psychology Honours (BSc)

Location Offered:

Nanaimo

Credential:

Bachelor Degree

Options:

Honours

Program Length:

4 Years

The Program

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. The goal of the program is to cultivate a broad and multidisciplinary perspective on human behaviour spanning levels of analysis from the molecular and cellular to broad external factors, including the social and natural environment, as well as growth in general intellectual skills including communication, numeracy, critical thinking, and learning ability. The program prepares students well for graduate studies in psychology, professional programs in health-related disciplines such as medicine, dentistry, occupational therapy, etc., and a wide range of potential careers that benefit from an improved understanding of human behaviour (e.g., human services, counseling, banking, retail, law, business, education, management, etc.).

Students will attend an “Honours seminar” which takes place weekly in the fall semester. In the spring semester, the group typically meets for the first few weeks and then disband until ready to practice their presentations.

Program Outline

Students must fulfill all Institutional B.Sc. Degree Requirements, including Degree English Requirements and courses listed below:

Core Courses

The Core component of the degree, combined with appropriate electives, gives students sufficient knowledge and experience in their field to facilitate entry into graduate or professional schools, or into employment in their field. Students must complete PSYC 204 with a minimum (“C+”) grade; and all first year core courses before registering for any upper-level Psychology courses unless permission is obtained from the instructor.

Year 1	Credits
BIOL 121 - (Introductory Zoology) or, BIOL 123 - (Introduction to Cellular and Molecular Biology)	4
Select <i>one</i> of the following pairs: CHEM 140* - (Chemistry Fundamentals I) <i>and</i> , CHEM 141* - (Chemistry Fundamentals II) <i>or</i> CHEM 142* - (Chemistry Fundamentals II)	8
MATH 121 - (Calculus I) <i>and</i> , MATH 122 - (Calculus II) <i>or</i> , MATH 100 - (Calculus for Engineering and Physical Sciences I) <i>and</i> , MATH 101 - (Calculus for Engineering and Physical Sciences II)	6
PSYC 111 - (Contemporary Psychology I) <i>and</i> , PSYC 112 - (Contemporary Psychology II)	6
Degree English Requirements	6

Year 2	Credits
BIOL 200 - (Principles of Cell Biology)	3
BIOL 201 - (Principles of Biochemistry)	3
CHEM 231 - (Organic Chemistry I) <i>and</i> , CHEM 232 - (Organic Chemistry II)	6
PHYS 111 - (Physics for the Life Sciences I) <i>or</i> , PHYS 121 - (Physics for the Physical Sciences I) <i>or</i> , CSCI 160 - (Computer Science I)	4
PSYC 204 - (Research Methods)	3
PSYC 205 - (Introduction to Biopsychology I)	3

Note: PSYC 210 - (*History and Systems of Psychology*) is recommended as an elective.

Years 3 and 4	Credits
BIOL 212 - (Genetics)	3
PSYC 300A* - (Statistical Methods in Psychology I)	3
PSYC 300B** - (Statistical Methods in Psychology II)	3
PSYC 305 - (Introduction to Biopsychology II)	3
PSYC 315 - (Introduction to Neuropsychology I)	3
PSYC 323 - (Experimental Neuroscience)	3
PSYC 345 - (Drugs and Behaviour - Basic Principles) <i>or</i> , PSYC 445 - (Clinical Neuropharmacology and Therapeutics)	3
Select <i>six</i> of the following electives: PSYC 307 - (Introduction to Evolutionary Psychology) PSYC 313 - (Cognitive Psychology) PSYC 318 - (Sensation and Perception) PSYC 324 - (Experimental Neuroscience II) PSYC 326 - (Learning Theory and Behaviour Change) PSYC 345*** - (Drugs and Behaviour - Basic Principles) PSYC 365 - (Sleep and Biological Rhythms) PSYC 400 - (Applied Methods in Psychology) PSYC 415 - (Introduction to Human Neuropsychology II) PSYC 419 - (Cognitive Neuroscience) PSYC 445*** - (Clinical Neuropharmacology and Therapeutics) PSYC 498A - (Selected Topics in Psychology: Human Brain Disorders)	18
PSYC 490 - (Honours Proposal)	3
PSYC 491 - (Honours Thesis)	3

* Students with credit for MATH 211 may seek a waiver for PSYC 300A.

*** Students with credit for MATH 203 may seek a waiver for PSYC 300B.*

**** At least one of PSYC 345 or PSYC 445 is required.*

Completion Requirements

Honours students need an average GPA of 3.33 (B+) in all 3rd and 4th year courses taken within the psychology discipline in order to graduate from an Honours program. Further, a minimum grade of B- must be obtained in PSYC 490 and PSYC 491 to fulfill requirements for completion of the Honours program in psychology.

Admission Requirements

- Minimum "B+" average on the most recent 30 credits attempted and completed.
- A minimum combined average of a 3.33 ("B+") in the following courses: PSYC 204, PSYC 300A, and PSYC 300B.

Notes on Admission

- To apply to the Psychology Honours program, an application form is submitted to the Psychology Chair on or before March 31st of the year preceding the student's final year of study. An Honours Committee comprised of three faculty members, including the Chair, will ascertain whether the student has completed the application requirements including grade requirements.
- The Degree Advisor will be notified in the fall semester, likely the second week, when students have completed their Registration form which must be signed by the Chair. This will allow the Chair to collect the list of students who actually begin the Honours program.

Start Date and Application Deadline

Applications are to be submitted on or before March 31st of the year preceding the student's final year of study. Late applications may be accepted on a case by case basis.

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