

PSYCHOLOGY USEFUL INFORMATION

Psychology B.A.: A psychology BA is a valuable degree that relates to a variety of fields and careers. It is an attractive option for those interested in pursuing careers in the health professions, business, education, administration, and law among many others. Those interested in pursuing careers within the psychology field (such as in counseling or research) will most certainly need additional education such as a Master's or a Doctoral degree.

Important Information about the major

Declaring as a Psychology Major: It might surprise you to know that you are not yet a psychology major! In fact, no student enters BU as a declared major. The declaration of the major process is explained here: www.binghamton.edu/psychology/advising/. Read the explanation carefully and then select the online form that is right for you. In order to complete the major, one is required to complete both PSYC 111 and 243 with a grade of C or better. There is no minor in psychology.

Please note: Due to significant course overlap, it is **not** possible as a Psychology major to double major with Integrative Neuroscience.

Grade Requirements: You must earn a C or higher in PSYC 111 and PSYC 243, and the minimum grade requirement for all other psychology courses is a C-.

Pass/Fail: One of the four elective courses required outside of the department in the Division of Science and Mathematics may be taken pass/fail. Additionally, a Pass grade is accepted for Independent Study courses (PSYC 395 and 397). Other courses taken as pass/fail will NOT fulfill requirements for the major.

Transfer courses: Make sure that you have all of the transcripts for your previous college credit sent to Binghamton. Once these are processed the credit will appear on BU Brain. Use the transfer table to determine if a course you have taken or plan to take is equivalent to a BU course (www.binghamton.edu/admissions/apply/transfer/coursework.html). Courses found on the course-to-course equivalency table will automatically transfer as listed. If there is a course that did not transfer as a direct equivalent to one of our requirements you may petition for those credits to count. Please obtain a full copy of the syllabus and submit it for faculty review using our [Course Evaluation form](#). Our undergraduate director will review the course and determine if it is equivalent. Those not posted on course-to-course transfer table will need additional review. It is always better to get permission **BEFORE** taking courses elsewhere to ensure that your time, effort, and money are not wasted on courses that will not count. **AP Statistics or other credit for MATH 147/148 is not accepted as an equivalent for PSYC 243*

Petitions: If a psychology department course is closed, generally the only way to enroll is if another student drops the course and a seat becomes available. However, you may be able to put yourself on a waitlist if there is a blue "W" next to the course on BU Brain. For more information regarding waitlist procedures for courses offered by the Psychology department, visit the Psychology Advising webpage (www.binghamton.edu/psychology/advising/) and look under the heading "Advising Resources." If you are otherwise restricted from registering, please check BU Brain (click the CRN # and then the course title to see what the restriction is: "Need instructor permission," "Class standing," "Major restriction," etc.).

Honors Program: Outstanding students are urged to consider the honors program in psychology. To graduate with honors in psychology, the student must attain a 3.5 GPA for all courses attempted that count toward satisfaction of the psychology major requirements and for all psychology courses taken, as well as a 3.0 GPA for all courses necessary for graduation. Students in the psychology honors program must propose a research project in conjunction with a faculty adviser who will sponsor the work. For more information, see www.binghamton.edu/psychology/advising/resources.html

Psi Chi: Psi Chi is the national honor society in psychology. Information about membership criteria and an application can be found here: www.binghamton.edu/psychology/advising/resources.html

Academic Advising in Psychology

The Academic Advisor for Psychology is available during walk-in advising hours to assist you with any questions, concerns, or problems you may be experiencing. This can include questions about requirements, procedures, or other information about the major, as well as questions about career plans and further study beyond the bachelor's degree. We highly recommend that you check in with the advisor at least once per semester (if not more!) to ensure that you are progressing through the major. For concerns about your Gen Ed or Harpur requirements please see Harpur Advising.

Undergraduate Academic Advisor

Dr. BJ Luka
ugpsyc@binghamton.edu

Advising Office: Science 4, Rm 175
*Advising is currently being conducted remotely (through Zoom) and in person.

Advising Hours

Check for the updated advising schedule.
www.binghamton.edu/psychology/advising/

Login through B-Successful to schedule your appointment.

Degree Audit: Degree Works is your best friend when it comes to understanding where you stand in completing the major. Be sure to check it at the *beginning* and *end* of each semester to make sure your courses have been registered and applied properly and that you are on track. If you don't know how to read your degree audit or think it contains an error, visit the Academic Advising office for help.

**The person ultimately responsible for your graduating is YOU.
Be sure you are fully aware of all requirements and deadlines.**

Other Helpful Contacts and Links

Psychology Department Website: www.binghamton.edu/psychology/undergraduate/

Undergraduate Director: Dr. Richard Mattson

Harpur Advising: www.binghamton.edu/harpur/advising/

Registrar: www.binghamton.edu/registrar/student/

Transfer Equivalencies: www.binghamton.edu/admissions/apply/transfer/coursework.html