

University of Missouri–St. Louis
Office of Admissions
1 University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400
314-516-5451
Toll-free: 888-GO-2-UMSL
Office of Career Services: 314-516-5111
Department of Psychology : 314-516-6020
umsl.edu/divisions/artscience/psychology/index.html

UMSL Psychology

Why UMSL?

The Department of Psychology is the largest in the College of Arts and Sciences, serving approximately 600 undergraduate majors and 70 PhD students. Approximately 130 students graduate from the Department each year. To date, the Department of Psychology has conferred over 3,300 undergraduate and nearly 200 PhD degrees.

The undergraduate psychology program ranks in the top 15% in the U.S. and the PhD programs are ranked in the top 50 programs nationwide. The psychology faculty has earned numerous prestigious awards for exemplary research productivity and excellence in teaching. The psychology faculty at UMSL are more than just award-winning teachers; they are also researchers who generate new knowledge in psychology and bring this expertise into the classroom. In addition to the general areas of Clinical Psychology, Behavioral Neuropsychology and Industrial/Organizational Psychology, UMSL's psychology faculty has further expertise in trauma studies, aging, endocrinology and nonverbal communication.

Career Outlook

Many of the top psychology students go on to graduate study in psychology, social work, counseling, education and other fields. The baccalaureate degree in psychology also provides the rigorous liberal arts background necessary for entry-level positions in many fields such as business, human services, social services, sales, marketing, teaching, communication and health care. To function specifically as a psychologist, a graduate degree is required. Students with such an interest should plan for this additional training. Much of this preparation must take place during the student's undergraduate studies. For more information on career planning and graduate study preparation, please schedule an appointment with an advisor in the Psychology Academic Advising Office (Room 322 Stadler), by calling 314-516-4561 or by e-mailing psy_advising@umsl.edu.

Undergraduate Studies

The Department of Psychology offers work leading to the BA degree in psychology. In conjunction with course work in the Department, students have the opportunity to learn about and assist with research in a wide variety of areas, including animal and human learning, physiological, industrial-organizational, cognitive processes, personality-social, developmental, clinical and community psychology. Students

should consult with a psychology academic advisor for information on course selections and opportunities for research.

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Psychology Advising Office

Undergraduate psychology majors and other students interested in majoring or minoring in psychology are encouraged to visit the Psychology Academic Advising Office (322 Stadler) to receive specific information on degree requirements and course offerings, discuss questions about career options and receive information about graduate work in psychology. Students will minimize waiting by calling to schedule an appointment ahead of time at 314-516-4561 or by emailing psy_advising@umsl.edu.

General Education Requirements

Majors must satisfy the university and college general education requirements. Courses in psychology may be used to meet the social sciences requirement.

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

At least 34, but no more than 45, hours must be completed in courses taught by or cross-listed with the Department of Psychology. In order to meet psychology residency requirements, a minimum of 24 hours in psychology must be completed at UMSL. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in the major overall and must earn a C- or above in each of the courses comprising the core 34 credits required of all psychology majors. Psychology courses taken on a satisfactory/ unsatisfactory basis may not be applied to the major.

The following courses (34 credit hours) are required for all majors:

PSYCH 1000, Careers in Psychology

PSYCH 1003, General Psychology

PSYCH 2160, Social Psychology, or PSYCH 2270, Developmental Psychology (I, C, & A)

PSYCH 2201, Psychological Statistics

PSYCH 2211, Introduction to Biological Psychology

PSYCH 2219, Research Methods

PSYCH 2245, Abnormal Psychology

PSYCH 4999, Integrated Psychology

At least four additional Psychology courses (12 credit hours) at the 3000/4000 level

Note: Psychology majors must satisfactorily complete 13 credit hours in a foreign language. Students must satisfy the current university mathematical skills requirement before taking PSYCH 2201, Psychological Statistics. PSYCH 2201 is a prerequisite for PSYCH 2219 and hence, PSYCH 2201 must be completed with a grade of C- or above PRIOR to enrollment in PSYCH 2219. PSYCH 2201 and PSYCH 2219 cannot be taken concurrently. A maximum of 3 credits of 3390 (Directed Studies) can be used to meet the 12 credit hour requirement at the 3000/4000 level.

Psychology Minor

Candidates must take at least 15 hours of course work taught by or cross-listed with the Department of Psychology, including at least six hours of 3000 or 4000-level course work in Psychology. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher in the minor. Psychology courses taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis may not be applied to the minor.

Neuroscience Certificate

The undergraduate Certificate Program in Neuroscience is an interdisciplinary program requiring 20 credits of training in Neuroscience. The Program provides a group of related courses capped by a research experience. This certificate is likely to be of particular interest to students who want to pursue graduate or professional training, but it is intended to appeal to any student interested in Neuroscience.

2+3 BA in Psychology and M.S. in Gerontology

This is an accelerated program, which allows students to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and Master of Science degree in Gerontology after completing 138 credit hours in a carefully prescribed program. A full description of program requirements and procedures is available from the Gerontology Program office.

Preparation for Graduate Studies in Psychology

In addition to the required courses listed above, students interested in applying to graduate school in psychology are strongly encouraged to become involved in a research project with a psychology faculty member by enrolling in PSYCH 3390, Directed Studies. These positions are available on a limited and competitive basis. Please consult the Psychology Academic Advising Office for more information.

Graduate Studies

The Department offers three Ph.D. programs: Clinical Psychology, Behavioral Neuroscience and Industrial/Organizational Psychology.

The Department has several animal and human experimental laboratories equipped with a wide range of psychophysiological equipment. The Department also operates three clinics (Community Psychological Services, the Center for Trauma Recovery and Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis), which provide training opportunities for the doctoral students in the Clinical Psychology program as well as providing psychological assessment and treatment services for citizens in the region.

Trauma Studies Certificate

The Department offers a Trauma Studies Certificate designed for students who are interested in a focused specialty in trauma studies or victim services in addition to their own major.