

PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR CONCENTRATION (B.A.) (36 CREDITS)

Offered by: Psychology (Faculty of Arts)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Arts and Science

Program credit weight: 36

Program Description

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behavior. The B.A. Major Concentration in Psychology (36 credits) provides students with a basic overview, covering the core areas of psychological science as well as more advanced courses in specialized content areas. Students also have the option to complete a research course(s) (see Program Requirements for details). Note: this program may not provide sufficient undergraduate background preparation for certain graduate programs. Students who wish to go on to graduate training in psychology, and those who wish to complete the undergraduate credits in psychology as specified by the Ordre des Psychologues du Québec (which are required by some graduate psychology programs), are advised to take the supplementary Minor Concentration Behavioural Science. This specialization option will give students the space to take the additional courses they may need for such applications.

Degree Requirements — B.A. students

To be eligible for a B.A. degree, a student must fulfil all Faculty and program requirements as indicated in Degree Requirements for the Faculty of Arts.

We recommend that students consult an Arts OASIS advisor for degree planning.

Degree Requirements — B.A. & Sc. students

This program is offered as part of a Bachelor of Arts & Science (B.A. & Sc.) degree.

To graduate, students must satisfy both their program requirements and their degree requirements.

- The program requirements (i.e., the specific courses that make up this program) are listed under the Course Tab (above).
- The degree requirements—including the mandatory Foundation program, appropriate degree structure, and any additional components—are outlined on the Degree Requirements page.

Students are responsible for ensuring that this program fits within the overall structure of their degree and that all degree requirements are met. Consult the Degree Planning Guide on the SOUSA website for additional guidance.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

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Program Prerequisites (0-6 credits)

Students planning to enter the Major Concentration Psychology program should have completed an introductory course in general psychology and biology in CEGEP. Otherwise, they can complete them in their first year of study at McGill University (see below).

Introduction to Psychology or General Psychology in CEGEP is equivalent to PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology. at McGill. Students who have not completed either of those courses are advised to take PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology. in their first year.

Students who have completed Human Biology or General Biology 1 or 2 in CEGEP would have the recommended biology background. Students who have not completed one of those courses are advised to complete BIOL 115 Essential Biology. or BIOL 111 Principles: Organismal Biology. or BIOL 112 Cell and Molecular Biology. during their first year.

McGill Freshman students are recommended to complete the following courses in their U0 year:

Course	Title	Credits
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology.	3

And

3 credits from:

Course	Title	Credits
BIOL 111	Principles: Organismal Biology.	3
BIOL 112	Cell and Molecular Biology.	3
BIOL 115	Essential Biology.	3

Required Courses (18 credits) U1

Course	Title	Credits
PSYC 204	Introduction to Psychological Statistics. ¹	3
PSYC 211	Introductory Behavioural Neuroscience.	3
PSYC 212	Perception.	3
PSYC 213	Cognition.	3
PSYC 215	Social Psychology.	3

U1 or U2

Course	Title	Credits
PSYC 305	Statistics for Experimental Design. ¹	3

¹ Students who wish to apply to the Honours program in Psychology must complete the required courses above, including PSYC 305 Statistics for Experimental Design. in their U1 year to be eligible for admission. Also, all students must complete a minimum of 27 graded credits in the academic year prior to applying (fall and winter terms).

For additional information about applying to Honours, please refer to the Honours program description.

Advising note for PSYC 204 Introduction to Psychological Statistics.: CEGEP students are exempt from PSYC 204 Introduction to Psychological Statistics. if they have completed, with a minimum grade of 75%, the following two courses:

1. Quantitative Methods and either
2. Advanced Quantitative Methods or Statistics for Social Science.

CEGEP students are also exempt from PSYC 204 Introduction to Psychological Statistics. if they have completed Probability & Statistics or Statistics with a minimum grade of 75%.

Bachelor of Arts students exempt from PSYC 204 Introduction to Psychological Statistics. replace this course with 3 credits at the 300 level or above in Psychology (PSYC), Anthropology (ANTH), Linguistics (LING), or Sociology (SOCI).

Complementary Courses (18 credits)

3 credits in Psychology from List A - (Behavioural Neuroscience, Cognition and Quantitative Methods)

3 credits in Psychology from List B - (Social, Health and Developmental Psychology)

6 credits in Psychology at the 300 level or above.

6 credits in Psychology at the 400 or 500 level.

List A - (Behavioural Neuroscience, Cognition and Quantitative Methods)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
NSCI 201	Introduction to Neuroscience 2.	3
PSYC 301	Animal Learning and Theory.	3
PSYC 302	Pain.	3
PSYC 306	Research Methods in Psychology.	3
PSYC 310	Intelligence.	3
PSYC 311	Human Cognition and the Brain.	3
PSYC 315	Computational Psychology.	3
PSYC 317	Genes and Behaviour.	3
PSYC 318	Behavioural Neuroscience 2.	3
PSYC 319	Computational Models - Cognition.	3
PSYC 329	Introduction to Auditory Cognition.	3
PSYC 340	Psychology of Language.	3
PSYC 341	The Psychology of Bilingualism.	3
PSYC 342	Hormones and Behaviour.	3
PSYC 352	Research Methods and Laboratory in Cognitive Psychology.	3
PSYC 353	Research Methods and Laboratory in Human Perception.	3
PSYC 403	Modern Psychology in Historical Perspective.	3

PSYC 406	Psychological Tests.	3
PSYC 410	Special Topics in Neuropsychology.	3
PSYC 413	Cognitive Development.	3
PSYC 415	Electroencephalography (EEG) Laboratory in Psychology.	3
PSYC 427	Sensorimotor Neuroscience.	3
PSYC 433	Cognitive Science.	3
PSYC 439	Correlational Techniques.	3
PSYC 443	Affective Neuroscience.	0-3
PSYC 444	Sleep Mechanisms and Behaviour.	3
PSYC 470	Memory and Brain.	3
PSYC 502	Psychoneuroendocrinology.	3
PSYC 506	Cognitive Neuroscience of Attention.	3
PSYC 513	Human Decision-Making.	3
PSYC 514	Neurobiology of Memory.	3
PSYC 522	Neurochemistry and Behaviour.	3
PSYC 526	Advances in Visual Perception.	3
PSYC 529	Music Cognition.	3
PSYC 531	Structural Equation Models.	3
PSYC 537	Advanced Seminar in Psychology of Language.	3
PSYC 538	Categorization, Communication and Consciousness.	3
PSYC 541	Multilevel Modelling.	3
PSYC 545	Topics in Language Acquisition.	3
PSYC 560	Machine Learning Tools in Psychology . ¹	3
PSYC 562	Measurement of Psychological Processes.	3

¹

1. Students who have taken COMP 202 Foundations of Programming. or COMP 204 Computer Programming for Life Sciences. and who have taken freshman linear algebra and calculus might instead consider taking COMP 551 Applied Machine Learning..
2. Students in both psychology and computer science are strongly encouraged to take COMP 551 Applied Machine Learning. over PSYC 560 Machine Learning Tools in Psychology ..

List B - (Social, Health and Developmental Psychology)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
PSYC 304	Child Development.	3
PSYC 309	Positive Psychology: Science of Well-Being.	3
PSYC 328	Health Psychology.	3
PSYC 331	Inter-Group Relations.	3
PSYC 332	Introduction to Personality.	3
PSYC 333	Personality and Social Psychology.	3
PSYC 337	Introduction to Psychopathology.	3
PSYC 339	Introduction to Applied Psychology.	3

PSYC 351	Research Methods and Laboratory in Social Psychology.	3
PSYC 408	Principles and Applications of Psychotherapy.	3
PSYC 409	Positive Psychology.	3
PSYC 411	Discrimination & Wellbeing in Marginalized Communities.	3
PSYC 412	Child Development: Psychopathology .	3
PSYC 414	Social Development.	3
PSYC 436	Human Sexuality and Its Problems.	3
PSYC 471	Human Motivation.	3
PSYC 473	Social Cognition and the Self.	3
PSYC 474	Interpersonal Relationships.	3
PSYC 475	Neuroscience of Social Psychology.	3
PSYC 483	Seminar in Experimental Psychopathology.	3
PSYC 491D1	Advanced Study: Behavioural Disorders.	3
PSYC 491D2	Advanced Study: Behavioural Disorders.	3
PSYC 507	Emotions, Stress, and Illness.	3
PSYC 509	Diverse Clinical Populations.	3
PSYC 512	Advanced Personality Seminar.	3
PSYC 528	Vulnerability to Depression and Anxiety.	3
PSYC 530	Applied Topics in Deafness.	3
PSYC 535	Advanced Topics in Social Psychology.	3
PSYC 539	Advanced Topics in Social Psychology 2.	3

Unclassified Courses

Students may also select complementary courses from the research and topics courses below:

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
PSYC 385	Independent Research Project 1.	3
PSYC 450D1	Research Project and Seminar.	4.5
PSYC 450D2	Research Project and Seminar.	4.5
PSYC 484D1	Independent Research Project 2.	3
PSYC 484D2	Independent Research Project 2.	3
PSYC 485	Independent Research Project 3.	3
PSYC 492	Special Topics Seminar 1.	3
PSYC 493	Special Topics Seminar 2.	3
PSYC 499	Reading Project.	1