

FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Psychology is an extremely broad discipline, studying everything from brain and neurologic functions to social and environmental influences on behavior and thought. Here at CU Denver, our undergraduate programs cover aspects of all the following: experimental psychology, biopsychology, animal behavior, developmental psychology, social psychology, cognitive psychology, personality, industrial/organizational psychology, and abnormal psychology. The psychology major is designed to help students achieve the following learning goals:

- **Knowledge Base of Psychology:** Students will recognize, explain, and distinguish the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in Psychology.
- **Research Methods in Psychology:** Students will demonstrate the statistical, organizational, writing, and analytical skills necessary to interpret and conduct meaningful and valid research in Psychology.
- **Critical Thinking Skills:** Students will use skeptical inquiry and scientific thinking skills to interpret and solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- **Application of Psychology:** Students will apply psychological principles to solve personal, social, and/or organizational problems.
- **Values in Psychology:** Students will evaluate evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, recognize and respect diversity, and/or reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a discipline.

The Department of Psychology strives to provide the highest quality, state-of-the-art educational experience for our undergraduate students. Our faculty members bring alive for students the subject matter and methodologies of psychology and prepare students to become sophisticated consumers and evaluators of information. Our students can collaborate with our faculty members on research projects at the intersection of psychological science and areas such as health and wellness, drug abuse, aging, stress, depression and child development, and marital relationships—research that is often focused on problems of contemporary urban life.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas.advising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CLAS Advising website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Psychology Major Advising

[CLAS Major Advisor Contact Information](#)

Visit the program website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 5002

303-315-7050

For questions about admission requirements, transfer policies, applying, and the transfer process contact:

Office of Admissions

admissions@ucdenver.edu

Visit the Admissions website [here](#)

Student Commons Building (SCB) 1005

303-315-2601

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 credit hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 30 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) credit hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS credit hours with letter grades at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** credit hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 credit hours required for graduation:*

- 16 credit hours Pass/Fail
- 12 credit hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 credit hours of internship credit
- 8 credit hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

The following program requirements are based on degree requirements for the current Catalog year at CU Denver and are subject to change. Students are responsible for completing degree requirements based on the Catalog year for which they are admitted.

Students are responsible for meeting with the major advisor to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Psychology B.S. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a total of 54 credit hours, including a minimum of 31 PSYC credit hours and a minimum of 23 credit hours in ancillary course work.
2. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- (1.7) in all courses that apply to the major and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to major requirements.
3. Students must complete a minimum of 16 upper division (3000-level and above) PSYC credit hours with CU Denver faculty.
4. An experiential learning component is required and must be approved by the PSYC B.S. major advisor. To fulfill the experiential learning requirement a student must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 or higher. Fulfilling this requirement with a project outside of the Psychology Department requires prior approval by the PSYC B.S. major advisor. Independent study or internship credit hours taken outside of the Psychology Department will not count as Psychology credit hours. PSYC 4111 Senior Seminar in Psychology: Career Capstone, or PSYC 3939 Internship, can fulfill this requirement, and student does not need 2.5 GPA.
5. Successful (final grade of B or better) completion of PSYC 4680 Behavioral & Biomedical Sciences Research Seminar, PSYC 4681 Behavioral & Biomedical Sciences Research Seminar II and PSYC 4780 Behavioral & Biomedical Sciences Research: Ethics & Issues fulfills the experiential learning requirement for the Bachelor of Science in Psychology dept. core graduation requirement. It is required for students to have instructor permission to enroll in both PSYC 4680 Behavioral & Biomedical Sciences Research Seminar and PSYC 4681 Behavioral & Biomedical Sciences Research Seminar II.
6. Students with transfer credit for PSYC 1005 that was awarded zero credit hours will need to take an additional three credit Psychology Elective course to reach the minimum credit hours required for the Psychology Major.

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COURSEWORK THAT CAN BE COMPLETED AT PREVIOUS INSTITUTION

The following is a “bucket” of requirements students can complete prior to transferring to CU Denver, including equivalent Colorado Community College System (CCCS) courses. To determine the equivalencies of courses to be completed at non-CU Denver institutions, students can visit <https://transferology.com/school/ucdenver>. **It is critical students connect with a CU Denver academic advisor to ensure planned courses will transfer and apply to CU Denver degree requirements.** All non-CU Denver coursework must be completed with a C- or better to be eligible for transfer.

Students interested in completing an Associate (A.A. or A.S.) Degree or a [Colorado Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement or Degree with Designation \(DWD\)](#) must work with their community/junior college academic advisor to create an academic plan that accounts for all degree or transfer articulation agreement requirements. Colorado Community College Students may also explore the option to complete [Reverse Transfer](#) at CU Denver.

CU Denver Requirements	CU Denver Credits	CCCS Equivalent Courses & Notes	CCCS Credits
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40		
ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	ENG 1021	
ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3	ENG 1022	
Mathematics	3 - 4	MAT 1340 <i>recommended</i> or GT-MA1	
Arts	3	GT-AH	
Humanities	3	GT-AH or GT-HI	
Behavioral Sciences	3 - 4	PSY 1001 or GT-SS	
Social Sciences	3 - 4	PSY 1002 GT-SS or GT-HI*	
Natural/Physical Science with lab	4 - 5	BIO 1111 or GT-SC1	
Natural/Physical Science without lab or Math	3 - 5	PSY 2661 or PSY 2662 or GT-SC2 or GT-MA1 (<i>except the course used for Core Math</i>) or GT-SC1	
International Perspectives	3	Additional GT-AH, HI, SS* (<i>see note below</i>)	
Cultural Diversity	3	<i>To be completed at CU Denver. This requirement must be completed with an upper-division course and CCCS courses will not apply.</i>	---
PSYC Major Courses	26		
PSYC 1000 Introduction to Psychology I	3	PSY 1001 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Behavioral Sciences</i>	
PSYC 1005 Introduction to Psychology II	3	PSY 1002 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Social Sciences</i>	
PSYC 2220 Biological Basis of Behavior	3	PSY 2661 or 2662 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Science without lab</i>	
BIOL 2010 & 2011 Organisms to Ecosystems (Gen Bio) with lab	4	BIO 1112 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Science with lab</i>	
BIOL 2020 & 2021 Molecules to Cells (Gen Bio) with lab	4	BIO 1111	
CHEM 2031 & 2038 General Chemistry I with lab	4	CHE 1111	
CHEM 2061 & 2068 General Chemistry II with lab	5	CHE 1112	
Minimum Applicable Transfer Credit Hours Recommended:	60	<i>Students completing less than 60 applicable transfer credits will have additional credits to complete at CU Denver. Students are highly encouraged to explore and complete additional programs including certificates, minors, double-majors, and dual-degrees. Students needing general elective credits should consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor to plan for additional programs.</i>	

*The applicability of Guaranteed Transfer (GT Pathways) courses to specific CU Denver Core Curriculum requirements requires completion of a block of five courses: two GT-AH courses; one GT-HI course; one GT-SS course; and one additional GT-AH, GT-HI, or GT-SS course.

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SAMPLE PLAN – COURSEWORK TO BE COMPLETED AT CU DENVER

Based on successful completion of 60 applicable transfer credits and the complete “bucket” of requirements outlined above, students would have the following remaining to complete at CU Denver. At CU Denver, students must tailor this plan based on the evaluation of previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, individual preferences related to course load, summer term courses, part-time or full-time student status, or add-on programs such as certificates, minors, double-majors, or dual-degrees.

Year 3 - Fall	CRS
PSYC 2090 ^{PE}	4
PSYC Group A Elective	3
Upper-Division Biology/Chemistry Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16

Year 3 - Spring	CRS
PSYC Group A Elective	3
Upper-Division Biology/Chemistry Elective	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 4 - Fall	CRS
PSYC 3090 ^{PE}	3
PSYC Group B Elective	3
CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 4 - Spring	CRS
PSYC 4054 ^{PE}	3
PSYC 3939 ^{PE} or 4111 ^{PE} or 4840 ^{PE} or 4880 ^{PE}	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

^M Major Course Available ^C CU Denver Core Course ^{PE} Prerequisite Enforced ^{PR} Prerequisite Recommended