

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/faculty advisor.

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

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

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

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CLAS Advising website [here](#)
North Classroom (NC) Building 1030
303-315-7100

Professor Mitch Handelsman

mitchell.handelsman@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)
North Classroom Building Room 5002
303-315-7050

Office of Admissions

admissions@ucdenver.edu

Visit the Admissions website [here](#)
Student Commons 1007
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 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

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

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester 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/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Psychology B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 37 PSYC credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 16 upper division (3000-level and above) PSYC credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C-(1.7) in all major courses taken at CU Denver and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. All graded attempts in required and elective courses are calculated in the major GPA. Students cannot complete major or ancillary course requirements as pass/fail.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 16 upper division (3000-level and above) PSYC credit hours with CU Denver faculty.
5. PSYC 3939, Internship/Cooperative Education, does NOT count toward the 37- hour minimum or the 16-hour upper-division requirement, but it does count as elective psychology credit. For topics courses (PSYC 3600): See your PSYC advisor to determine if they count as Group A or Group B courses.

FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

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 www.transferology.com. **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 121	
ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3	ENG 122	
Mathematics	3 - 4	MAT 135 <i>recommended</i> or GT-MA1	
Arts	3	GT-AH	
Humanities	3	GT-AH or GT-HI	
Behavioral Sciences	3 - 4	PSY 101 or GT-SS	
Social Sciences	3 - 4	PSY 102 GT-SS or GT-HI*	
Natural/Physical Science with lab	4 - 5	GT-SC1	
Natural/Physical Science without lab or Math	3 - 5	PSY 255 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>	---
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29		
CLAS Communicative Skills	3	COM 115 or PHI 113	
CLAS Foreign Language	0 - 10	e.g., SPA 112 or ASL 122 Students have several options to fulfill this requirement. Please consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor.	
CLAS Humanities	3	Any transferrable LIT, HIS, HUM, or PHI course	
CLAS Behavioral Sciences	3 - 4	Any transferrable ANT, COM, or PSY course (<i>except GT-SC courses</i>)	
CLAS Social Sciences	3 - 4	Any transferrable ECO, ETH, GEO, POS, or SOC course (<i>except GT-SC courses</i>)	
CLAS Biological/Physical Science with lab	3 - 5	GT-SC1 If students complete only one science course with a lab for the CU Denver Core Curriculum, this course must have an associated lab.	
PSYC Major Courses	9		
PSYC 1000 Introduction to Psychology I	3	PSY 101 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Behavioral Sciences</i>	
PSYC 1005 Introduction to Psychology II	3	PSY 102 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Social Sciences</i>	
PSYC 2220 Biological Basis of Behavior	3	PSY 255 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Science without lab</i>	
Minimum Applicable Transfer Credits Recommended:	60	<i>Students completing less than 60 applicable transfer credits will have additional credits to complete at CU Denver. Students needing general elective credits should consult a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor.</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.

FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

SAMPLE PLAN – COURESWORK 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 minors or double-majors.

Note: this plan assumes students have completed the CLAS Foreign Language proficiency requirement. Students must demonstrate foreign language proficiency through a 2nd semester college-level course equivalent (e.g., SPA 112 or ASL 122), proficiency testing through CU Denver’s Department of Modern Languages, or submitting their high school transcript demonstrating completion of a 2nd year (Level II) high school course with a minimum grade of “C-” (1.7) in the 2nd semester of the 2nd year. **Students who have not fulfilled this requirement must work with a CU Denver CLAS Academic Advisor to modify this plan.**

Students must not exceed 56 hours in their major prefix.

Year Three	Fall	CRS
	PSYC 2090 ^{PE}	4
	PSYC Upper Division elective (B)	3
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M	3
	General Upper-Division Elective	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	16

Spring		CRS
PSYC 3090 ^{PE}		3
PSYC Upper-Division elective (A)		3
PSYC Upper-Division elective(B)		3
General Upper-Division Elective		3
General Elective		3
Total Credit Hours		15

Year Four	Fall	CRS
	PSYC Upper-Division elective (A)	3
	PSYC Upper-Division elective (B)	3
	General Upper-Division Elective	3
	General Upper-Division Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15	

Spring		CRS
PSYC 4511 ^{PE}		3
PSYC Upper-Division elective (A or B)		3
General Upper-Division Elective		3
General Upper-Division Elective		3
General Elective		2
Total Credit Hours		14

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