

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, 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) Building 1030
303-315-7100

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

Associate Professor David Albeck
david.albeck@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)
North Classroom Building Room 5008 F
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 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.S. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a total of 54-58 credit hours, including a minimum of 31 PSYC credit hours and 23-27 credit hours in ancillary (supporting science) course work.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 16 upper division (3000-level and above) credit hours in the major.
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. An experiential learning component is required and must be approved by the Bachelor of Science academic 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 Bachelor of Science academic advisor. Independent study or internship credit hours taken outside of the Psychology Department will not count as Psychology credit hours.

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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 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 121 <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	BIO 111 or 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	BIO 112 or 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	26		
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>	
BIOL 2051 & 2071 General Biology I with lab	4	BIO 111 <i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Science with lab</i>	
BIOL 2061 & 2081 General Biology II with lab	4	BIO 112 <i>Course can fulfill CLAS Biological/Physical Science with lab</i>	
CHEM 2031 & 2038 General Chemistry I with lab	4	CHE 111	
CHEM 2061 & 2068 General Chemistry II with lab	5	CHE 112	
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.**

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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	3
	Upper-Division Natural Science	3
	General Upper-Division Elective	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	16

Spring	CRS
PSYC Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Natural Science	3
General Upper-Division Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year Four	Fall	CRS
	PSYC 3090 ^{PE}	3
	*PSYC 3205 ^{PE} , 3305 ^{PE} or 3415 ^{PE} (*if 3305 or 3415 are desired, take in spring)	3
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
	General Upper-Division Elective	3
	General Upper-Division Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15	

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

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