

# PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR PLAN WORKSHEET

Use as preparation for filling out The College's "Blue Form"

Important notes on the reverse side!

Put an X in the box if done, a ✓ if current, or the semester and year if planned.

[     ] **Gate:** (     ) PSY 101, Introduction to Psychology; or (     ) by examination<sup>a</sup> or (     ) by transfer credit<sup>b</sup>

[     ] **Statistics:** (     ) PSY/CSP 211; or (     ) PSY/BCS 200; or (     ) STT 211; or (     ) STT 212; or other acceptable course (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )

**IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, COURSES (INCLUDING TRANSFER COURSES<sup>b</sup>) THAT MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

**FOUR CORE COURSES:** As a rule, these courses should be taken at UR; exceptions must be approved. These courses lead into upper level courses and it is advisable to take them earlier rather than later in your program.

**Natural Science Core (both of the following):**

- [     ] PSY/BCS 110, Neural Foundations of Behavior
- [     ] PSY/BCS 111, Foundations of Cognitive Science

**Social Science Core (select 2):**

- [     ] PSY/CSP 161 Social Psychology & Individual Differences
- [     ] PSY/CSP 171 Social and Emotional Development
- [     ] PSY/CSP 181 Theories of Personality and Psychotherapy

**FIVE ELECTIVES:** These move the student's major toward the goals of increased coherence, often as specialization, and includes some advanced or specialized work in Psychology

- only two courses can be independent study, practicum, etc. (numbered 39x) courses.
- all may be psychology courses.

- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_
- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_
- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_
- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_
- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_

**TWO OF THE ABOVE MUST BE WRITING COURSES:** At least one of these must be at or above the 200 level. List the two courses from among those above that you will use to meet the Upper Level Writing requirement.

- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_
- [     ] PSY \_\_\_\_\_

**Double Major?** with \_\_\_\_\_

**Double degree:** BA in Psychology & BS in \_\_\_\_\_. (New York State rules require that both programs be "significantly augmented" CCAS audits this requirement. Be sure they are aware you are pursuing a double degree so your forms will be in order.)

## PLANNING A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

The major in Psychology is administered and supported by the Department of Clinical and Social Sciences in Psychology (CSP) and also includes courses from the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences (BCS). The CSP faculty who can sign off on major and minor declarations are listed, along with their office hours, in the main office of CSP in Meliora Hall and at: [psych.rochester.edu/undergrad/advising](http://psych.rochester.edu/undergrad/advising)

Students planning to pursue graduate studies in psychology are strongly advised to seek a broad foundation in psychology, an informed depth in their field of interest, and a working focus on the research literature and research methodologies. These students are particularly encouraged to take active roles in the ongoing research of faculty. The Honors Program is tailored to facilitate the success of these students.

CUSP publishes a brochure entitled, "Psychology Programs for Undergraduates" that details the requirements for the major and for the various minors in psychology. It also lists the clusters supported by CSP. Information about our psychology programs is also available at: [psych.rochester.edu/undergrad](http://psych.rochester.edu/undergrad)

### WORKSHEET NOTES:

**a** PSY 101, Introduction to Psychology, is a prerequisite to declaring the major in psychology. It may be waived for students who received a score of 3 or higher on the A.P. psychology examination. A score of 4 or 5 on that examination will earn college credit for PSY 101. Students may make arrangements with College Center for Academic Support for a placement exam that, if passed, will satisfy the PSY 101 requirement.

**b** Transfer Courses: As many as two psychology courses beyond the Introduction to Psychology and an acceptable statistics course may be used in the major plan. These courses need to meet the college rules for acceptability. **Caution:** Receiving college credit for a course does not automatically grant departmental/major credit. In most cases, courses should be reviewed and approved by the instructors of the comparable courses. A course description will sometimes suffice, but often a syllabus or a copy of the table of contents of the text is needed to provide sufficient information for a judgment. CCAS has *Course Approval Forms* to use.

**c** Writing courses will stress formal writing, including literature review papers, research reports, and critical reviews of articles. The form of the document will vary among courses, but should conform generally to the appropriate guidelines in the APA Publication Manual.

The criteria for significant writing are the following minimum set of assignments and activities:

- 1) At least three formal writing assignments (These could be linked components of a larger document. If so, the separate parts will be clearly identified.)
- 2) Each assignment is to be at least 5 pages in length.
- 3) Revision of at least one assignment with the benefit of instructor comments
- 4) Meet quality standards of clarity, conciseness, and completeness.

Independent study, laboratory courses, seminars, and small lecture courses in Psychology will generally be designated as 'W' courses and carry writing credit although there will be exceptions. Many large lecture courses will have small tagalong writing sections that carry 0.5 credits and are designated as W sections. Students who have decided to major in psychology may seek admission to tagalong writing when the courses begin and enrollments will be allotted on need and first-come-first-served bases.