

Psychology Major and Minor Handbook

Fall 2014

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INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

Welcome to Psychology Undergraduate Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago! There are numerous course, research and internship opportunities in the Psychology Department at UIC. These opportunities will prepare you for the worlds of work and learning. In conjunction with regular advising, this guide is designed to help you work your way toward graduation and beyond.

Please read this guide in its entirety. It will help you progress toward your goals as a Psychology major or minor and learn about various opportunities. The beginning section explains how to declare the major and seek advising. This is followed by what the major and minor involve and various research, internship and career opportunities. A section on frequently asked questions is a quick guide to some of the questions or concerns you may have. Finally, the closing addresses the graduation process and beyond. All psychology course descriptions and prerequisites are listed in the catalog at <http://www.uic.edu/ucate/courses/PSCH.html>. The requirements for the psychology major are described in the catalog, which is available via the Psychology website (<http://www.uic.edu/ucate/catalog/LAPSYCHOLOGY.shtml>).

DECLARING THE MAJOR

To declare the major, you must be admitted to UIC and have an LAS college classification. Please contact the Office of Admissions (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/oar>) if you are contemplating applying to UIC and becoming a psychology major. You must apply and be accepted to UIC before declaring a major in psychology. If you are in another college at UIC and wish to transfer to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, contact LAS via phone at 312-996-3366 to attend a college transfer session. If you meet all of the aforementioned classifications, you can declare the psychology major by meeting with an advisor in room 1070 or 1074 BSB and completing a major declaration form. Once accepted into the major, students will be added to the UIC psychology major listserv. Important information is sent over the listserv; students who apply and are accepted to UIC as freshman or are transfer students majoring in general or applied psychology will be added to the listserv at that time.

SEEKING ADVISING

This handbook, the department website (<http://home.psch.uic.edu/>), the online catalog, and your DARS report are aids to assist you in the process of degree completion. However, these are supplemental to advising, not replacements for advising. It is recommended that you especially seek advising upon declaring the major and when you are close to graduation. In between each semester, it is recommended that you seek advising prior to your registration time. Be sure to schedule advising appointments well in advance as appointment hours fill quickly during peak periods. UIC employs a two-tiered advising philosophy, meaning you should seek advising in the department, as well as from LAS. LAS Advising is located at 309 University Hall, phone (312) 996-3366. It is recommended that you explore the LAS website (www.las.uic.edu).

SCHEDULING AN APPOINTMENT OR ATTENDING A WALK-IN

To schedule an appointment with the psychology department advisor, please phone Rita Gray-Marsh at 312-996-3036 between the hours of 9AM-5PM (Rita takes lunch from 1PM-2PM). In general, student appointments are available Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Walk-ins are available on Tuesdays. During the summer and peak advising times hours will fluctuate, with additional walk-ins during peak periods. All office hours are subject to change.

REGISTERING

Ideally, you will have scheduled a **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** appointment early and/or attended a less recommended 5-10 minute walk-in **BEFORE** your registration time. Remember to plan early. However, if you haven't had a chance to meet with an advisor, still register at your earliest registration date and time. You can always drop/add courses later. Please be aware that registration for summer/fall occurs in the spring of the year and registration for spring occurs in the fall of the preceding year. After they have been assigned, registration times can be viewed at my.UIC.edu.

COURSE APPROVALS

To request approval for a psychology course, please go online to <https://intranet.psch.uic.edu/approval>. There are several reasons why you may need a course approval, including prerequisite, major restriction, department approval, and contact the instructor. Each is outlined below:

Prerequisite

If you took the prerequisite for a course at another institution or in another department, you may need approval to be able to register for a subsequent course.

Major Restriction

The following courses are restricted to currently declared PSCH majors:

- PSCH 343 (Prerequisites C or better in each of: PSCH 242, ENGL 161, MATH 090, 118 or equivalent).
- All PSCH Lab courses (Prerequisites PSCH 343 and one other associated course)
- PSCH 381 (Prerequisites one of PSCH 210, 231 OR 312; AND a C or better in 242).
- PSCH 382 (Prerequisites one of PSCH 210, 231 OR 312; AND 270 AND a C or better in 242).
- PSCH 385 (Applied Psychology only; Prerequisites PSCH 340, 343 AND one of PSCH 330, 381, 382, 383, OR 386).

Please request permission to take the course if you just declared the psychology major two weeks or less prior to your registration time.

Departmental Restriction

The following courses require departmental approval:

- PSCH 303 (Prerequisites C or better in each of: PSCH 242, ENGL 161, MATH 090, 118 or equivalent).
- PSCH 381 (Prerequisites one of PSCH 210, 231 OR 312; AND a C or better in 242).
- PSCH 382 (Prerequisites one of PSCH 210, 231 OR 312; AND 270 AND a C or better in 242).
- PSCH 385 (Applied Psychology only; Prerequisites PSCH 340, 343 AND one of PSCH 330, 381, 382, 383, OR 386).

Contact the Instructor

Several courses require instructor permission. Please contact the instructor via e-mail before registering to get permissions to register. These courses include:

- PSCH 394
- PSCH 386 (Application available online at http://www.uic.edu/depts/counseling/intouch_hotline.shtml)
- PSCH 396
- PSCH 397
- PSCH 399 (Application available on the bulletin board outside the PSCH Advising offices).

Other questions: PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST AND MAKE COMMENTS ON THE APPROVAL PAGE.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Here are some important contact numbers and people for Psychology Undergraduate Studies. **Contact the advisors first for all of your concerns.**

Academic Advisor: Stuart W. Robinson, MA Department of Psychology (MC 285) 1074 Behavioral Sciences Building 1007 W. Harrison Street Chicago, Illinois 60607 (312) 413-2147 Fax (312) 413-4122 Email: stuartr@uic.edu	Academic Advisor: Catlin Michael Wojtkowski Department of Psychology (MC 285) 1070 Behavioral Sciences Building 1007 W. Harrison Street Chicago, Illinois 60607 (312) 413-2147 Fax (312) 413-4122 Email: catlinw@uic.edu
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The advisors may also refer you to the Department Head and/or Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Department Head: Michael Ragozzino, PhD Department Head Department of Psychology (MC 285) 1066B Behavioral Sciences Building 1007 W. Harrison Street Chicago, Illinois 60607 (312) 413-1314 Fax (312) 413-4122	Director of Undergraduate Studies: Evelyn Behar, PhD Associate Professor Department of Psychology (MC 285) 1050B Behavioral Sciences Building, 1007 W. Harrison Street Chicago, Illinois 60607 (312) 413-5564 Fax (312) 413-4122
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WHY PSYCHOLOGY?

Students interested in a liberal education that emphasizes an understanding of the why's and how's of people's behavior should consider a major in psychology. Psychology is a popular major/minor and can lead to a broad range of career possibilities. An education that focuses on behavior principles is valuable for anyone whose future involves interacting with others.

People with psychology undergraduate majors and advanced psychology degrees pursue careers in such areas as clinical services, business, health care, law, industry, testing, education, and behavioral research. Career opportunities in some specializations may require a bachelor's degree, while others require a master's degree or doctorate. Students should therefore take time to examine their own interests, values, abilities and goals in addition to job requirements and career options in their area of interest before embarking on an educational journey in psychology. There are plenty of career opportunities for students with a bachelor's degree in psychology, particularly in the areas of social work, health care, and human resources; just take a look in the Sunday paper and on-line.

Which Concentration—General or Applied?

The Department of Psychology offers two concentrations leading to the Bachelor of Arts with a major in psychology. A student has the option of completing a general or applied psychology program. Both options require students to take an introductory course in psychology, as well as courses in research methods, writing and statistics. Consider the following as it relates to your educational and career goals in choosing the appropriate concentration:

General	Applied
1. For students who have a pre-health or pre-law educational goal. For instance, pre-medicine, pre-law, pre-pharmacy, pre-occupational therapy, pre-nursing, pre-physical therapy, pre-dentistry, and pre-chiropractic.	1. For students who plan to work immediately following graduation in human services or business.
2. For students who plan to double major in Psychology and another field.	2. For students who plan to go on to graduate school in applied psychology, including social work, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school counseling, school psychology, and public health.
3. For students who plan to attend graduate school in an area of general psychology, including developmental, cognitive, behavioral, personality/social, community, neuropsychology, testing/measurement, and educational psychology.	
4. For students who are unclear on their career goals.	
5. For students who plan to work in a field outside of psychology when they graduate.	
6. For students who have placed a "time-limit" on their education such that requirements for the Applied major cannot be fulfilled.	
7. For students who are already working full-time in a field related to psychology.	
If you are still unsure, feel free to contact a department advisor.	

In the following pages are a summary and worksheets with our major and minor requirements. However, you must read the full catalog to understand the major. The catalog is the definitive guide to the psychology major and minor. This handbook is a supplement to the catalog, not a replacement.

PSYCHOLOGY GENERAL CONCENTRATION

The general psychology major encompasses a minimum of **28 hours**, half of which must be earned at UIC. Therefore, you must earn at least **fourteen hours** in residence (at UIC). **Twelve** hours of advanced coursework must be completed in residence. Advanced coursework at UIC is 200 level and above.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A GPA of a 2.0 in the major is required at all times, including UIC major GPA and UIC major plus transfer major GPA.

PREPARATORY COURSES

The following preparatory courses are required for the general psychology major, with a minimum of a 2.40 GPA and no less than a "C" in all courses:

- A. Math 090 or 118 or the equivalent
- B. English 161
- C. Psychology 100
- D. Psychology 242

CORE COURSES-CATEGORY 1

All of: Psychology 100, 242, 343

WRITING IN THE DISCIPLINE-CATEGORY 2

Select 1: Psychology Laboratory 313, 321, 331, 333, 351, 353, 361, 363, 367

CATEGORY 3

Select 1: 262, 350, 351, 352, 353, 360, 361, 363, 366

CATEGORY 4

Select 1: 210, 231, 270, 312, 313, 320, 321, 324, 331

Additional Psychology Electives to complete the hours for the major.

Distinction in the Major: Note: UIC plus transfer GPA will be used for all classifications.

In order to graduate with **DISTINCTION**, a student must have met all post-2009 requirements for the major with a 3.5 in psychology and a 3.4 Overall GPA. In order to graduate with **HIGH DISTINCTION**, a student must have met all of the requirements for Distinction and must have completed the following: PSCH 443; and one additional Psychology Lab OR 396. In order to graduate with **HIGHEST DISTINCTION**, a student must have met all of the requirements for Distinction and must have completed the following: PSCH 443; and PSCH 399. Please see an advisor if you have questions.

PSYCHOLOGY APPLIED CONCENTRATION

The general psychology major encompasses a minimum of **36 hours**, half of which must be earned at UIC. Therefore, you must earn at least **eighteen hours** in residence (at UIC). **Twelve** hours of advanced coursework must be completed in residence. Advanced coursework at UIC is 200 level and above.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A GPA of a 2.0 in the major is required at all times, including UIC major GPA and UIC major plus transfer major GPA.

PREPARATORY COURSES

The following preparatory courses are required for the general psychology major, with a minimum of a 2.40 GPA and no less than a "C" in all courses:

- A. Math 090 or 118 or the equivalent
- B. English 161
- C. Psychology 100
- D. Psychology 242

CORE COURSES-CATEGORY 1

All of: Psychology 100, 242, 340, 343, 385

CATEGORY 2

Select 1: 262, 350, 351, 352, 353, 360, 361, 363, 366

CATEGORY 3

Select 1: 210, 231, 270, 312, 313, 320, 321, 324, 331

CATEGORY 4

Select 1: 330, 381, 382, 383, 386*

***It is HIGHLY recommended that you see an advisor to explore which course best matches your internship and professional goals, to ensure that you can complete an internship in your area of interest.**

Additional Psychology Electives to complete the hours for the major.

Distinction in the Major: Note: UIC plus transfer GPA will be used for all classifications.

In order to graduate with **DISTINCTION**, a student must have met all post-2009 requirements for the major with a 3.5 in psychology and a 3.4 Overall GPA. In order to graduate with **HIGH DISTINCTION**, a student must have met all of the requirements for Distinction and must have completed the following: PSCH 443; and one Psychology Lab OR 396. In order to graduate with **HIGHEST DISTINCTION**, a student must have met all of the requirements for Distinction and must have completed the following: PSCH 443; and PSCH 399. Please see an advisor if you have questions.

Behavioral Sciences Building, Rooms 1070 and 1074
1007 West Harrison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607

Psychology Undergraduate Advising (MC 285)
Phone (312) 413-2147
Fax (312) 413-4122

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with General Concentration

Preparatory Courses

The first courses students should complete are the following preparatory courses with an overall GPA of 2.4 in these courses with no grade in any of these courses lower than a C.

_____	Psychology 100
_____	Psychology 242 (prereq-PSCH 100)
_____	English 161 (prereq-English 160 or placement test)
_____	Math 090 (prereq-Math 075 or placement test) or Math 118 or equivalent or higher level math (prereq-Math 075 or placement test)

General Major Requirements

The general major is 28 hours. A 2.0 GPA must be maintained in the major at all times.

Required Courses

_____	Psychology 100 -Introduction to Psychology	(4)
_____	Psychology 242 -Introduction to Research in Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 100)	(3)
_____	Psychology 343 -Statistical Methods in Behavioral Science (prereq-PSCH 242 and ENGL 161 with a minimum grade of C; MATH 118 (or equivalent) with a minimum grade of C or Math 090; or consent of the instructor)	(4)
_____	<p style="text-align: center;">ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: (PRE-Summer 2008)</p> <p>Psychology 303-Writing in Psychology (prereq-PSCH 242 and ENGL 161 with a minimum grade of c: Math 118 (or the equivalent) with a minimum grade of C or MATH 090; or consent of the instructor)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR (POST-Fall 2008)</p> <p>Psychology 313-Laboratory in Social Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 312)</p> <p>Psychology 321-Laboratory in Developmental Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 320)</p> <p>Psychology 331-Laboratory in Community and Prevention Research (prereq-PSCH 231 and PSCH 343)</p> <p>Psychology 333-Laboratory in Clinical Psychology (prereq-PSCH 210 or PSCH 270; and PSCH 343)</p> <p>Psychology 351-Laboratory in Perception (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 350)</p> <p>Psychology 353-Laboratory in Cognition and Memory (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 352)</p> <p>Psychology 361-Laboratory in Learning and Conditioning (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 360)</p> <p>Psychology 363-Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 262)</p> <p>Psychology 367-Laboratory in Cognitive Neuroscience (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 366)</p>	(3)

	ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	(3)
_____	Psychology 262 -Behavioral Neuroscience (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 350 -Sensation and Perception (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 351 -Laboratory in Perception (PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 350) Psychology 352 -Cognition and Memory (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 353 -Laboratory in Cognition and Memory (PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 352) Psychology 360 -Learning and Conditioning (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 361 -Laboratory in Learning and Conditioning (PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 360) Psychology 363 -Laboratory in Physiological Psychology (PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 360) Psychology 366 -Cognitive Neuroscience (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242)	
_____	ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	(3)
_____	Psychology 210 -Theories of Personality (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 231 -Community Psychology (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 270 -Abnormal Psychology (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 312 -Social Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 313 -Laboratory in Social Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 312) Psychology 320 -Developmental Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 321 -Laboratory in Developmental Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 320) Psychology 324 -Cultural Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 331 -Laboratory in Community and Prevention Research (prereq-PSCH 231 and PSCH 343)	
	ADDITIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ELECTIVES	
_____	Psychology _____ - _____	(3)
_____	Psychology _____ - _____	(3)
_____	Psychology _____ - _____	(3)
	TOTAL HOURS	(28)

OPTIONAL: DISTINCTION IN THE MAJOR	
Distinction	Completed all post-2009 requirements for the major 3.5 overall GPA in Psychology 3.4 overall cumulative GPA
High Distinction	Have met all of the requirements for Distinction PSCH 443
	AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: -1 additional PSCH lab (PSCH 313, 321, 331, 351, 353, 361, 363) OR -396
Highest Distinction	Have met all of the requirements for Distinction
	PSCH 443
	PSCH 399

This form does not substitute for receiving regular advising and consulting with your DARS report.

Students are STRONGLY encouraged to seek advising from a Psychology AND LAS advisor at least once a semester.

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1007 West Harrison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607

Psychology Undergraduate Advising (MC 285)
Phone (312) 413-2147
Fax (312) 413-4122

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with Applied Concentration

Preparatory Courses

The first courses students should complete are the following preparatory courses with an overall GPA of 2.4 in these courses with no grade in any of these courses lower than a C.

_____	Psychology 100
_____	Psychology 242 (prereq-PSCH 100)
_____	English 161 (prereq-English 160 or placement test)
_____	Math 090 (prereq-Math 075 or placement test) or Math 118 equivalent or higher level math (prereq-Math 075 or placement test)

Applied Major Requirements

The applied major is 36 hours. A 2.0 GPA must be maintained in the major at all times.

Required Courses

_____	Psychology 100 -Introduction to Psychology	(4)
_____	Psychology 242 -Introduction to Research in Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 100)	(3)
_____	Psychology 340 -Psychological Testing (prereq-Grade of C or better in PSCH 242)	(3)
_____	Psychology 343 -Statistical Methods in Behavioral Science (prereq-PSCH 242 and ENGL 161 with a minimum grade of C; MATH 118 (or equivalent) with a minimum grade of C or Math 090; or consent of the instructor)	(4)
_____	Psychology 385 -Field Work in Applied Psychology (prereq-Restricted to Applied Concentration of Psychology. Students must have completed PSCH 340 and PSCH 343; and PSCH 330 or PSCH 381 or PSCH 382 or PSCH 383 or PSCH 386)	(6)
_____	ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: Psychology 262 -Behavioral Neuroscience (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 350 -Sensation and Perception (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 351 -Laboratory in Perception (PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 350) Psychology 352 -Cognition and Memory (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 353 -Laboratory in Cognition and Memory (prereq-PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 352) Psychology 360 -Learning and Conditioning (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 361 -Laboratory in Learning and Conditioning (prereq-PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 360) Psychology 363 -Laboratory in Physiological Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343, and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 262) Psychology 366 -Cognitive Neuroscience (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242)	(3)

	ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	(3)
	Psychology 210 -Theories of Personality (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 231 -Community Psychology (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 270 -Abnormal Psychology (prereq-PSCH 100) Psychology 312 -Social Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 313 -Laboratory in Social Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 312) Psychology 320 -Developmental Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 321 -Laboratory in Developmental Psychology (prereq-PSCH 343 and credit or concurrent registration in PSCH 320) Psychology 324 -Cultural Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 331 -Laboratory in Community and Prevention Research (prereq-PSCH 231 and PSCH 343)	
	*ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:	(3)
	Psychology 330 -Industrial and Organizational Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 242) Psychology 381 -Psychology of Interviewing (prereq-PSCH 210 or PSCH 231 or PSCH 312; and a grade of C or better in PSCH 242) Psychology 382 -Psychological Interventions (prereq-PSCH 210 or PSCH 231 or PSCH 312; and PSCH 270; and a grade of C or better in PSCH 242) Psychology 383 -Psychology of Groups (prereq-PSCH 210 or PSCH 231 or PSCH 312; and a grade of C or better in PSCH 242) Psychology 386 -Crisis Counseling Techniques (prereq-Grade of C or better in PSCH 242; and PSCH 210 or PSCH 231 or PSCH 270; and consent of the instructor) *It is HIGHLY recommended that you see an advisor to explore which course best matches your internship and professional goals, to ensure that you can complete an internship in your area of interest.	
	ADDITIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ELECTIVES	
_____	Psychology _____ - _____	(3)
_____	Psychology _____ - _____	(3)
_____	Psychology _____ - _____	(3)
	TOTAL HOURS	(36)

OPTIONAL: DISTINCTION IN THE MAJOR	
Distinction	Completed all post-2009 requirements for the major 3.5 overall GPA in Psychology 3.4 overall cumulative GPA
High Distinction	Have met all of the requirements for Distinction PSCH 443
	AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: -1 PSCH lab (PSCH 313, 321, 331, 351, 353, 361, 363) OR -396
Highest Distinction	Have met all of the requirements for Distinction
	PSCH 443
	PSCH 399

This form does not substitute for receiving regular advising and consulting with your DARS report.

Students are STRONGLY encouraged to seek advising from a Psychology AND LAS advisor at least once a semester.

SECTION 3: MINOR REQUIREMENTS

PSYCHOLOGY MINOR

The minor in psychology encompasses a total of **18 hours**, half of which must be earned at UIC. Therefore, you must earn at least **nine hours** in residence (at UIC).

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A GPA of a 2.0 in the minor is required at all times, including UIC minor GPA and UIC minor plus transfer minor GPA.

CORE COURSES

Both of: PSCH 100, 242

ELECTIVES

Additional psychology courses at the 200-level or above for a minimum of 18 total semester hours

Psychology Minor		
The minor is 18 hours. A 2.0 GPA must be maintained in the minor at all times.		
<i>Required Courses</i>		
	Psychology 100 -Introduction to Psychology	(4)
	Psychology 242 -Introduction to Research in Psychology (prereq-Grade of C of better in PSCH 100)	(3)
	Psychology electives -Additional courses at the 200-level or above for a minimum of 18 semester hours. Psychology ____ - _____ Psychology ____ - _____ Psychology ____ - _____ Psychology ____ - _____	(11)
TOTAL HOURS		(18)

This form does not substitute for receiving regular advising and consulting with your DARS report.

Students are STRONGLY encouraged to seek advising from a Psychology AND LAS advisor at least once a semester.

LABORATORY COURSES

Lab courses are open to any psychology major who has passed Psychology 343 and has credit or concurrent registration in the prerequisite lecture course. Beyond filling the Writing in the Discipline requirement, serious students who are interested in graduate school should be interested in labs for several reasons. First, these lab courses give students first-hand experience with conducting research. Second, the lab courses provide the opportunity for more individualized work with your professor. A professor can serve as a mentor to various career options, research possibilities, and serve as a recommender during the job search or graduate school process. Finally, as a result of the lab courses, students often further involve themselves in research. Research classes include 396, 397, and 399, which are explained below.

396/397/399

Students often describe involvement with research as among the most defining experiences they have at UIC to shape their career path. Research involvement can help students acquire stronger quantitative, verbal and analytical skills. Students who have conducted research have a developed understanding of how to be critical consumers of research. These skills are essential whether or not you make the decision to apply to graduate school. Further, involvement in undergraduate research can be a strong indicator of whether graduate school is a good match for you.

PSCH 396-Directed Research (1-3 hours) is the most frequently taken psychology research course. Students in this class serve as research assistants to a professor. Professors at UIC conduct cutting edge research in collaboration with their graduate students. Often, students experience mentorship from both the faculty and their graduate students. Please note that this course is graded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory.

PSCH 397-Independent Reading (1-3 hours) often serves as a precursor to PSCH 399-Independent Research (1-3 hours). At other times, it is an opportunity for a student to research a topic of interest in more detail.

PSCH 399-Independent research (1-4 hours) provides an opportunity for students to conduct a research project of their own under the direction of a faculty member.

Important information if you are doing 396/397/399

- **PLEASE GET INSTRUCTOR PERMISSION TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE CLASSES; IT'S REQUIRED.**
- A combined maximum of 8 hours of 396/397/399 can be applied toward the degree.
- **Students must register for credit(s) during the normal drop/add period for the semester.**
- Please see our website for more details (<http://home.psch.uic.edu>).

HIRSCHBERG PRIZES

The psychology department has two awards established in memoriam of Nancy Hirschberg, a former faculty member. Both awards are available to Psychology majors.

Paper Prize

The first is an annual prize for the best paper or report written by an undergraduate in Psychology 397 (independent study), 399 (independent research), or in one of the laboratory courses. Nominations for the Hirschberg Prize are made by faculty members. Eligible papers should be the work of one undergraduate (that is, projects planned and/or carried out by groups of students are not eligible) and may be either reports of empirical research or literature reviews of previously published research.

Research Prize

The second is the Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Grant for Undergraduate Research. It is awarded annually to support excellent undergraduate research in the field of Psychology. Each year, the target deadline for applications is typically November 1. The application will consist of (a) a letter of support from the faculty advisor, and (b) a research proposal, budget, and budget justification of 1500 words or less. Award decisions will be made by a committee of two faculty members appointed by the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The committee will have discretion over the number and dollar amount of grants awarded in any given year. That decision, however, shall be guided by the principle of encouraging high quality research from the largest number of undergraduates.

For more information see our website (<http://home.psch.uic.edu>).

PSI CHI -MATCHMAKER

The UIC chapter of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology, holds lectures, discussions, social events and other programs throughout the year. Membership is open to undergraduates who are making the study of psychology one of their major interests. Acceptance criteria vary slightly by semester and are available on the chapter website (http://www2.uic.edu/stud_orgs/hon/psichi/join.html), but generally include having taken at least three semesters of undergraduate study, completed nine hours of psychology, have a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 3.25, and have a minimum psychology grade point average of 3.40. Graduate students and professors seeking psychology majors to be members of their research team speak at Matchmaker on the first Friday of the fall and spring semesters. Many students get involved with research through Matchmaker. Further, record numbers of students have been attending these meetings and joining research teams. Students interested in Psi Chi or Matchmaker should see faculty advisor Professor Jennifer Wiley or the website for more information.

LASURI

LASURI is the UIC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Initiative. Money from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences can be sought to support student-faculty collaborative research. This funding could supplement a project done in the 396/397/399 courses. See the website for more information (<http://www.las.uic.edu/students/current-undergraduate/opportunities/lasuri>).

PRESENTING YOUR RESEARCH

Student Research Forum

The Student Research Forum provides an opportunity for students to present research they have conducted. Information is available on the website (<http://tiger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/forum/index.html>).

MPA

The Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA) is a regional conference where undergraduates often present their research. There is a PSI CHI poster session and award session which allow students from across the Midwest and country to present the scholarly work they have undertaken with the collaboration of faculty and graduate students. Read more about it on the MPA website (<http://midwesternpsych.org>).

PSCH 385-APPLIED CONCENTRATION

Employers are often looking for new graduates with an internship experience during their undergraduate career. If you are interested in field work in psychology, you should consider the applied psychology concentration with its required PSCH 385 course. This course supplements students' classroom experiences with hands-on applications of psychological principles. For example, students interested in the business or an industrial organizational emphasis should take PSCH 330 and are strongly urged to also take 381 as prerequisites for a business focused internship. Other students focusing on mental health, developmental disabilities, children, or forensics are recommended to take one or a combination of PSCH 381, 382, 383, or 386. There are numerous opportunities for students in the Chicago area. Roughly two-thirds of students wanting employment are able to continue their experience beyond completion of the course, frequently as a paid position. One reason the UIC 385 interns are so highly regarded in the Chicago community is the integration of the scientist-practitioner approach to internship work. As part of the internship, students also complete an extensive applied evaluation project that meets the Writing in the Discipline requirement for the major.

Interested students should consult with the instructor, Kathryn Engel (engel@uic.edu), for more information. Attendance at an orientation at least the semester before taking PSCH 385 is required. Orientation dates will be publicized via the psychology department listserv. Please note that PSCH 385 is offered in the fall and spring, but NOT in the summer.

LAS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Another option for completing an internship is through the LAS internship program. Students in the applied psychology concentration considering an internship to prepare for PSCH 385 or students in the general psychology concentration may benefit from completing an internship in LAS. LAS 289 is an internship course where students with the applied psychology or general psychology concentration can earn general elective graduation credit through completion of an internship. For more information check out the website at <http://www.las.uic.edu/students/current-undergraduate/las-internship> or contact Robin B. Hursey, LAS Senior Academic Advisor-Internship Program at (312) 996-0425.

IN-TOUCH CRISIS HOTLINE

The InTouch Crisis Hotline undergraduate paraprofessional program helps students develop and apply counseling skills. The two courses, PSCH 386-387, provide a two-semester opportunity to learn about counseling and crisis work. During the first semester, students have the opportunity to hone basic counseling and interviewing skills and practice applying them to address a range of concerns common to crisis hotlines. Students subsequently volunteer on the InTouch Hotline for a period of 8 months and have the option of enrolling in a 1-credit course during part of their volunteer commitment. Many students enjoy this experience so much that they opt for continued professional growth by continuing to work on the hotline as a "Big Sib," gaining valuable supervision and mentoring experience. Use the application on the website (http://www.uic.edu/depts/counseling/intouch_hotline.shtml) to apply for the InTouch paraprofessional program. Contact Dr. Yoko Mori (yokomori@uic.edu) for further details.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? UIC GRADUATES

What do psychology majors do after they get their degree? Results from UIC surveys indicate that the great majority take full-time jobs or go on to graduate studies in psychology-related master's or doctoral programs or to health related or law schools. Immediately after graduation, or after further studies, many have found work closely related to their studies as psychologists, therapists, or social workers. Others have become lawyers, public administrators, physicians, health administrators, or educational specialists. Many have gone into human resources or sales. Others have become computer programmers, lab technicians, researchers, designers, editors, and purchasing agents. In short, our majors have undertaken a wide variety of careers.

UNDECIDED ABOUT CAREER OR MAJOR

If you are undecided about career paths related to psychology or unsure if you want to major in psychology, meeting with a psychology advisor can be helpful. Two other offices, Counseling Services and Career Services, can be particularly helpful in deciding if a psychology major or a career in psychology is the path for you. These offices can help you conduct self-assessment related to your values, skills, abilities, and interests and explore various occupations.

Counseling Center

The therapists at the Counseling Center are available both to help you with any personal issues you may be dealing with, and to help you figure out what career may best suit you. They offer individual career counseling and assessment, as well as career development groups. Contact the Counseling Center at (312) 996-3490.

Office of Career Services

As a psychology major, you may have questions about what you can do with your major, how to start planning for a summer job or internship, graduate school, or jobs available for psychology majors. You may need a trained professional to look at your cover letter, resume or vita. The Office of Career Services (OCS) is available to assist you in planning your career. Appointments may be arranged by visiting the office or calling (312) 996-2300. OCS is located in room 3050 of the Student Services Building and hours are typically 8:30-4:45 Monday through Friday.

CAREERS WITH A DEGREE IN LAS MAJORING IN PSYCHOLOGY

Careers for students who have completed their major in psychology include business, sales, human resources, case management, probation and parole officer, educational assistants, and in-home health care workers, to name a few. Presentations in collaboration with career services are focused on assisting psychology majors with the career search and application process after graduation. Notice of event, time, day, and place will be distributed via the psychology major listserv. If you need assistance with the career exploration process, see a psychology advisor and see the sections above on both the Career and Counseling Center.

GRADUATE SCHOOL IN HEALTH OR LAW

Advisors in the College of LAS are able to assist you with your pre-professional educational goals. Students may seek advising in appointments or attend various workshops offered each semester. Additional information may be found on the LAS web site <http://www.las.uic.edu/students/prospective-undergraduate/preprofessional> or by calling 312-996-3366 to make an appointment.

GRADUATE SCHOOL IN PSYCHOLOGY

If you're thinking about attending graduate school, look over our website (<http://home.psych.uic.edu>). Among other things, you'll find that following helpful experiences: completing the program for distinction, taking labs, participating in the internship program, and getting involved in research. Many of the answers to your questions regarding graduate school can be found at the link above. Also, read this handbook's section on research and internships. For more specific information on the process of applying to graduate programs in psychology and related fields see the psychology department advisors.

In addition, announcements of graduate programs are posted on the bulletin boards near room 1074 BSB. For your convenience, a small library referencing graduate school in psychology is maintained in the advisor's office, 1074 BSB. Materials such as catalogs and books may be checked out for one week. During each academic year, the Department of Psychology holds advising sessions and presentations for students interested in graduate study in the field of social services in conjunction with the In-Touch Crisis Hotline and Psi Chi. Notice of event, time, day, and place will be distributed via the psychology major listserv.

GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESS

There are four important components to applying to most graduate programs.

- 1) Your transcripts and GPA
- 2) Your statement of purpose
- 3) Your letters of recommendation
 - a. Most graduate schools require three letters. Recommended appropriate people to write letters are:
 - i. Two from professors
 - ii. One from an internship supervisor or other related supervisor
- 4) Your corresponding test for the type of program to which you are applying:

Table of Tests for Graduate School Admissions and Beyond

Area of Study/Practice	Tests			
Law	LSAT	Bar Exam		
Business	GMAT			
Graduate/PSCH	GRE	MAT	PSCH subject	
Medical	MCAT	USMLE		
Dental	DAT	NBDE		
Nursing	NCLEX-RN	NCLEX-PN		
Pharmacy	PCAT	NAPLEX		
Education	GRE	PRAXIS	NYSTCE (NY)	MTEL (MA)
English	English Language	TOEFL		
Optometry	OAT			

To learn about any of these use your favorite search engine to find information on how to take the tests. For more in-depth information on the graduate school process, please see the bulletin board outside of the PSCH Advising offices. In the future, the information available there will also be available on-line.

What do I take after I complete Psychology 100 (Introductory Psychology)?

The most important course to take after completing PSCH 100 is PSCH 242 (Research Methods in Psychology). PSCH 242 must be completed as a prerequisite to any 300-level PSCH course, so taking 242 early in your academic career in the department will provide you with additional flexibility in choosing courses. You must earn a C or better in PSCH 242 to continue in the major. There are several other courses that you can take as soon as you have completed PSCH 100, including PSCH 210 (Theories of Personality), PSCH 231 (Community Psychology), PSCH 262 (Physiological Psychology), and PSCH 270 (Abnormal Psychology).

Where can I find out more information about the different fields of psychology?

There are many resources for finding out more about the fields of psychology. For instance, speaking with a professor or an advisor in the psychology department can be helpful. The American Psychological Association (APA) website provides useful information on various careers (<http://www.apa.org/education/undergrad/psych-career.aspx#c>). In addition, the office has a library of books on various careers and majors that you can check out for one week at a time.

What courses do I take to prepare for graduate school in psychology?

See the Research, Internships, and Careers sections of this handbook for information, and go see an advisor.

How do I get into graduate school in psychology?

See the Careers and Graduate School section of this handbook for information, and go see an advisor.

Where can I get information about graduate schools?

Most libraries have a copy of Graduate Study in Psychology, published by the APA. That book gives important information about all the psychology graduate programs in the country. The PSCH Advising office has several hand-outs about graduate school. Talking to your professors or advisor about your interests is another way to learn about graduate programs. Finally, the web is a great resource. Once you identify programs you are interested in, refer to their websites and/or write to them directly to ask for additional information and for application materials. Note that many programs now have all of their information available on-line. For information about UIC's graduate program in psychology, call (312) 996-2434, or contact the graduate studies coordinator, Jennifer Vaisnoras (jvais@uic.edu).

How do I take the Graduate Records Examination (GRE)?

For some graduate programs the GRE is the most important admissions criteria. Start studying early! Visit the ETS homepage (www.ets.org) and click on GRE. There you will find information on how to register for the GRE, as well as self-study materials that you can download. Some students who have a history of not doing well on standardized tests or would like additional help opt to take a preparatory course. In addition to the courses offered privately by organizations such as Kaplan or Princeton, UIC offers a GRE prep course on the weekends. Contact gre@uic.edu for more information.

Transfer credit articulation

Transfer is mediated through Admissions at UIC (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/oar/undergrad/transfer.html>). However, if you believe a Psychology course did not articulate correctly, email one of the psychology advisors about the discrepancy along with a copy of the course syllabus so we can look into it.

Course Adds, Drops, Etc.

Courses may be added or dropped online by students through the second week of classes. Students may not add courses after the second week of classes. In the 3rd – 10th weeks of classes, students may utilize one of their four late drops by meeting with an LAS Advisor. For registration help contact (312) 996-4385. For questions about departmental approval, prerequisites, and psychology courses, contact the Psychology Advising Office.

Can I take a class over to boost my GPA?

This may be an option for courses in which you earned a D or F. Meet with an LAS advisor to discuss your options before retaking any course.

Grade Recalculation

Classes since Fall 2009 are eligible for grade recalculation (for up to one year) if you earned a D or F. The deadline to request Repeat/Recalculate is the tenth day of the fall/spring term, the 3rd day of the 1st summer session, and the 5th day of the 2nd summer session. NO exceptions. For grade recalculation questions, contact LAS advising at 312-996-3366.

Incomplete

An incomplete in a course (grade of 'I') is given only rarely at the discretion of the instructor, usually when a student has suffered some personal tragedy. See the LAS catalog for details.

If I get a D in a course, does it count toward my major?

You do get credit for courses in which you receive a D, but you must earn a C or better in each of the preparatory courses (PSCH 100, PSCH 242, ENGL 161, MATH 090 or MATH 118).

How many D's can I get in my major?

There is no limit to the number of D's you can get in your major. However, you must maintain a 2.0 GPA overall in your psychology classes here at UIC at all times. You must also have a 2.0 to graduate. For every D you receive in your major, you need to have at least one B or higher so that your GPA in your major will be at least a 2.0.

How do I get into a course that is closed?

If all the seats are filled, then the course is closed and we cannot add seats. You should continue to try to get into the course throughout the drop/add period. Spots will open up, so check the website often (even several times a day). Students will still be changing their schedules and dropping classes during the first week of the term. Be persistent! If you need one final course to graduate and have not been able to get in the course by the first Friday of the semester, see a psychology advisor right away.

400-Level Courses

Undergraduates may enroll in some 400-level courses. However, 400-level courses often require the consent of the instructor; this insures you will be fully informed about the level of work involved in 400-level courses. Most 400-level courses are specifically intended for graduate students, but some are extensions of 300-level courses. You should note that many 400-level courses are offered only every other year.

Grievances

If you feel you have a legitimate grievance concerning your treatment in any course and if you cannot resolve the issue by discussing your concerns with your instructor, please see one of the psychology advisors or Professor Behar (behar@uic.edu).

Program Requirement Changes

From time to time, there are changes in the requirements for a degree in psychology. You have the option of any set of rules published in a UIC Undergraduate Catalog that was in effect while you were a registered student. However, you may apply only one set (a single catalog) for all your graduation requirements. If you have any questions, consult an undergraduate advisor.

What about my other unanswered questions?

If you ever have any questions concerning your academics in the past, present, or future, please see an advisor in 1070 or 1074 BSB. The advisors can also answer questions concerning graduate school. This office has a wealth of information available to students, including appropriate referral to other popular resources on campus such as Career Services, the Cooperative Education Program, and the Study Abroad Office. We are here to help, so please stop by.

Congratulations! You have made your way through the major handbook and have much useful information to assist you in the process of completing your psychology major or minor. Now that you have completed these steps there are a few important considerations to assist you with the graduation process and beyond.

DECLARING YOUR INTENT TO GRADUATE

You can file your intent to graduate either online through my.uic.edu. This should be done sometime after you have registered for your last semester of coursework, and before the **third** Friday of your final semester.

ATTENDING GRADUATION

Attending the commencement ceremony is one of the most time honored and exciting processes of being a college graduate. Friends and family value the opportunity to celebrate your achievements with you. Furthermore, at UIC we enjoy celebrating this achievement with you also. The LAS website (<http://www.las.uic.edu/students/current-undergraduate/las-commencement>) is updated yearly and provides all of the information you need to attend the graduation ceremony. Be sure to attend to deadlines.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Alumni Association provides an opportunity for you to stay in touch with your alma mater UIC, once you have graduated. The professionals there can help you build connections around the world with other University of Illinois graduates. Please explore their website (<http://www.uiaa.org/uic/>) or the LAS Alumni and Friends website (<http://www.las.uic.edu/alumni-friends>) for further information.