

# PSYCHOLOGY



**UNIVERSITY OF  
GEORGIA**  
Franklin College of  
Arts and Sciences

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Psychology is one of the most popular majors at UGA with over 1600 undergraduate students in the major. The Psychology major provides a strong background in psychological theory and research within the context of a liberal arts education. The program offers classes and research opportunities to study a wide range of issues including but not limited to clinical psychological problems and disorders, child development, self-esteem, social function, sensation & perception, memory, neuroscience, workplace violence, prejudice, health psychology, and even cognition in primates. Many students pursue graduate education to prepare for careers in clinical practice, counseling and therapy, psychiatry, academia, and research. Opportunities with a bachelor's degree include jobs in industry, mental health, government, human resources, and other organizational settings.

The Psychology major is relatively small in terms of required major courses compared to other majors. This means that the Psychology major is an excellent second major option. If students do not wish to double major, they can take extra elective courses or choose a minor or certificate program.

## DESIGN OF CLASSES

Most intro and major courses are taught by Psychology faculty, but some Psychology courses are taught by students in the graduate Psychology program. Psychology class sizes vary greatly. While intro courses and 3000 level courses often have 150 to 300 people in them, once students begin taking their major courses the class sizes begin to go down. Major courses can range from about 15 to 100 students with an average of about 35 students.

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Psychology students are able to work as undergraduate research assistants in Psychology research labs under the supervision of faculty members and graduate students. Students can browse the Psychology Research labs on the UGA Psychology Department website and discover labs studying topics they are interested in. Working as an undergraduate research assistant generally consists of becoming familiar with the relevant research literature, understanding and formulating hypotheses, participating in the design of experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and writing reviews and reports. Students often have opportunities to present research at UGA's annual Psi Chi Convention of the Behavioral Sciences. Students are also able to get course credit in PSYC 4800 by working as a research assistant. Working as a research assistant provides valuable experience for advanced Psychology undergraduates wishing to pursue graduate education and is an excellent way to build relationships with faculty members.

## **Fast Facts**

- Current number of majors: over 1600
- Number of undergraduate faculty: over 30
- Can you minor in Psychology: No
- Are there any Psychology certificate programs: No
- Areas of emphasis within Psychology: Neuroscience
- Popular second majors: Biology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Cognitive Science, Statistics
  - Psychology is also a popular major for pre-health students
- Undergraduate organizations: Psi Chi, the undergraduate Psychology honor society. Students need have completed a certain number of Psychology courses and meet GPA standards to be initiated into Psi Chi. However, any Psychology students are welcome to attend the Psi Chi meetings without being initiated.
- Website: <http://www.psychology.uga.edu/>
- Location:  
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