

The Psychology Program @ UMUC

Program Outcomes and Curriculum Map

The psychology program, like all other programs at UMUC, developed program outcomes using an external board of representatives who either work in the field of psychology or in fields in which psychological knowledge is very important. The program outcomes focus on what you will need and can use once you finish the degree. Additionally, the program outcomes are aligned with the American Psychological Association's [Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major](#), in which the first category of learning goals and outcomes pertains to the Knowledge, Skills, and Values (KSV) Consistent with the Science and Application of Psychology. The second category of learning goals and outcomes pertains to the Knowledge, Skills, and Values Consistent with Liberal Arts Education That Are Further Developed in Psychology. To address these KSVs, we integrate School of Undergraduate Studies [hallmark competencies](#) into specific courses. The goal of this careful planning is to provide applicable skills that would help prepare you for graduate training or for careers in which knowledge of psychological foundations is necessary.

Upon completion of the psychology degree program, you should be able to

1. apply major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology to prepare for graduate studies or careers in which psychological training is relevant
2. apply basic knowledge of research methodology, statistics, measurement, guidelines, ethical standards, laws, and regulations to design, participate in, and evaluate research in a variety of contexts
3. apply knowledge of human behavior to inform personal growth, communicate effectively, solve problems, make decisions, and interact with individuals, communities, and organizations
4. use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and where possible appropriate technology, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to current and emerging trends within the domains of psychology
5. value diversity and different perspectives, tolerate ambiguity, and act ethically to communicate appropriately with various sociocultural and international populations

Program Map and Recommended Course Sequencing

The [Program Map](#) is provided to help show the alignment of the psychology program and a suggested flow of coursework. To see a course description and outcomes for a particular course, just click on the course number. This map will be useful as you design your journey and track your progress. Although the sequencing is recommended, we want you to consider it carefully, as it was designed by your faculty and the psychology department as a means of ensuring greater success for you. In addition to this strategy, here are other recommended sequences:

1. PSYC 100: *Introduction to Psychology* and STAT 225: *Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences* => PSYC 300: *Research Methods in Psychology* => two courses from each cluster (Bio, Social, Professional) => two supplemental courses => PSYC 495: *Senior Seminar in Psychology*
2. If you are interested in pursuing a career in education, you may want to take PSYC 342: *Foundations in Learning* before PSYC 442: *Educational Psychology*

3. If you are considering PSYC 432: *Introduction to Counseling Psychology*, you should first take PSYC 335: *Theories of Personality*.
4. If you are considering PSYC 436: *Introduction to Clinical Psychology*, you should first take PSYC 353: *Abnormal Psychology*.
5. If you are considering pursuing graduate studies in psychology, you should take PSYC 415: *History and Systems* and PSYC 451: *Test and Measurements*.