Psychology Change of Major Process and Course Selection

The Department of Psychology accepts change-of-major students in fall, spring, summer semesters. Current Clemson students interested in changing their major to Psychology must meet specific criteria to be eligible.

- Students must have a 2.4 Clemson GPA
- Students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours at Clemson or in the Bridge Program. No other transfer credits will count for this process
- Students must have completed the following courses:
  - PSYC 2010 (Introductory Psychology)
  - PSYC 2030 (Fundamentals of Psychological Science)
  - PSYC 3090 (Introductory Experimental Psychology)
  - PSYC 3100 (Advanced Experimental Psychology)

Becoming a Psychology major may impact the fees that you pay. Please refer to Clemson tuition and fee calculator as well as additional major course fees.

If you are interested in learning more about Psychology and the process to change your major, please make an appointment for Explore Psychology in CU Navigate.

PSYC 2030, 3090, and 3100 need to be taken sequentially - that is, taken in the order in which they are presented. There are a variety of other Psychology courses that non-majors can take while working through this sequence. Non-majors will need to request an override for PSYC 2030, 3090, and 3100.

PSYC 2030 will be available to all Clemson students - non majors need to request an override. Due to capacity limitations, only current Psychology majors will be able to enroll in PSYC 3090 and PSYC 3100 during the initial registration period in both the Fall and Spring semesters. After the current majors have had an opportunity to enroll, there may be a small number of additional seats available to non-majors (although likely not many, given our large number of continuing majors).

PSYC 3090 and PSYC 3100 can be completed in the summer. We will be greatly increasing the number of available seats for these two courses in the summer of 2023, and registration for these summer classes will be open to both majors and non-majors at the same time.

If these two options are insufficient, a third possibility to complete these courses would be to take comparable courses at another institution. Note that if not already on the approved list of courses within TCEL, such transfer credits will need to be evaluated and approved prior to taking the class at the other institution.

Additional notes:

Students need to complete PSYC 3100 before they will be able to officially change into the Psychology major (and be able to sign up for 4000-level Psychology classes). Students who are currently taking PSYC 3100 will not have the same access to Psychology classes as Psychology majors until after they have completed PSYC 3100.

Change of major students will need to develop a multi-semester plan to complete the sequence of major-specific courses (which also includes the required 4000-level credits). We will not make exceptions to the
course sequence for students who have already completed numerous other credits (including Psychology classes) and want to complete the psychology degree in a couple of semesters.

Psychology does not currently have constraints on our minor. Students who start down the path towards a change of major to Psychology, but do not complete it (for whatever reason) should still be able to complete a Psychology minor.

**Taking Psychology Courses**

Students interested in changing to or adding a major in Psychology can use Degree Works and the Catalog to develop a potential graduation plan. Please use the following notes as they may help you in deciding if majoring in Psychology fits with your desired graduation date. **We strongly encourage students to continue their designated major’s curriculum while incorporating the courses outlined in the Psychology curriculum when possible.**

**Steps For Degree Planning:**

1. Use the “What-If” function of Degree works – iRoar > Student Self-Service > Degree Works
   a. Click “What-If”
   b. Choose Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) under “Degree”
   c. Choose Psychology under “Major”
   d. Choose a potential minor under “Minor”
   e. Click “Process”
2. Refer to the [Clemson Catalog](https://catalog.clemson.edu/)
   a. Go to [https://catalog.clemson.edu/](https://catalog.clemson.edu/)
   b. Choose the current or newest academic year’s Undergraduate Catalog in the dropdown
   c. Choose “College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences”
   d. Choose your desired Psychology Major degree program (BA or BS)

**Notes about Psychology Course Progression**

All majors are required to take a sequence of research-based courses that will require a minimum of four semesters to complete. This is true even if it extends your planned graduation date.

1. PSYC 2010 is required to take the majority of future psychology courses. Ideally, it is taken before 2030 but can be completed at the same time.
2. A minimum grade of a C is required in PSYC 2030 to be able to progress to PSYC 3090/3091.
3. A passing grade is required in PSYC 3090/3091 to be able to progress to PSYC 3100/3101.
4. A passing grade is required in PSYC 3100/3101 to be able to take 4000-4890 level PSYC courses.
5. Students are required to take a minimum of three credits from the 4000 – 4890 level and three credits from the 4000 – 4999 level.
6. Changing to Psychology as a first semester junior or later will most likely result in extending your desired graduation date due to prerequisite sequencing of PSYC 2030, 3090, 3100, and most 4000-level classes. This sequence cannot be completed in fewer than four semesters.

**Course options major that will meet Psychology Requirements prior to declaring the major:**

- PSYC 2010
- General Education Requirements
  - Note: PHIL 1020 is required for BS degree-seeking students to meet General Education Non-Literature requirement
- Any courses that meet the departmental math or science requirement
- Modern Language through the 2020 level (BA Only)
Psychology as a Non-Major

- Any courses towards your desired minor
- Any Psychology courses open to Psychology minors if you have declared a PSYC minor appearing in iROAR or any Psychology courses open to all students.
- Electives

Students are encouraged to use the What-If feature in Degree Works and the Catalog to look at the required courses. Students can also work with their current academic advisor, if they are willing, to determine if the change of major to Psychology is the best decision for the student.

Alternatives to the Psychology major
If you are interested in learning more about or working with people, there are a variety of other majors to consider as well. For more information about these majors, please contact the specific department(s) you are interested in directly.

- Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice
  - Anthropology Major
  - Sociology Major
  - Criminal Justice
- Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management
  - Recreational Therapy Concentration
  - Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Concentration
    - Community Recreation and Sport Management Emphasis
    - Park, Conservation, and Outdoor Recreation Emphasis
    - Tourism and Event Management Emphasis
- Human Capital Education and Development in the College of Education
- Department of Philosophy & Religion
  - Health, Medicine, and Human Values
  - Law, Liberty, and Justice
  - Philosophy
  - Religious Studies
- Department of Political Science
- Department of History