

# Psychology (B.A.) School Psychology Track

*This document has been created for advising purposes only. Please contact the department for major and/or graduation requirements.*

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## Potential Career Paths

- Licensed School Psychologist (EdS, CAGS, CAS, PhD, PsyD, EdD)

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## What is School Psychology?

School psychology is a subfield of psychology that focuses on the application of psychological principles to learners of all ages and to the school setting. Some of the goals of school psychologists are to promote high academic achievement, increase positive social skills and behavior, promote respect for others, as well as competence, self-esteem, and resiliency.

The training school psychologists receive prepares them to provide a wide range of services, such as assessment, consultation, prevention, intervention, education, research and program development, mental health care, and advocacy.

School psychologists may work in a variety of settings, including schools, private practice, colleges and universities, community mental health centers, institutional or residential facilities, pediatric clinics and hospitals, criminal justice system, and public agencies.

According to the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), a specialist degree (e.g., Master's Degree totaling 60 semester credits or more) is considered the entry level position for school psychology. Some states also require attainment of the

NCSP and/or graduation from a NASP-approved graduate program regardless of the degree awarded or hours completed.

The purpose of the school psychology track is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of psychology while providing students who want a central focus on the interplay of psychological and mental factors in the school setting.



## Additional Resources

To become more involved in school psychology or to learn about the profession, here is what you can do.

- 1 Visit the websites of professional organizations, such as Division 16 (School Psychology) of the American Psychological Association, [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org), and the National Association of School Psychologists, [www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org)
- 2 Schedule a meeting with a school psychologist to discuss the profession.
- 3 Read professional journals, such as the School Psychology Quarterly, Journal of School Psychology, Journal of Educational Research, and School Psychology Review.

If you are interested in pursuing a career in school psychology be sure to work with an advisor to develop an academic plan that is tailored to your interests. Your plan should lead to the completion of coursework that is useful for admission to a graduate program in school psychology.

## University and College Requirements

In addition to the requirements for the school psychology track, which are listed below, be sure to complete all other university and college requirements, including the foreign language requirement. If you are planning to start college-level foreign language with a course beyond 111, you are advised to begin foreign language in your first year. If you are starting foreign language with 111, begin language courses no later than the junior year.

### Required Courses in Psychology

<b>PSY 101</b>	<b>General Psychology (5)</b>	Developmental—at least two of the following:	Social/Organizational—at least two of the following:
<b>PSY 221</b>	<b>Statistics (5)</b>	<b>PSY 273</b>	<b>PSY 261</b>
<b>PSY 226</b>	<b>Research Methods (4)</b>	<b>PSY 315</b>	<b>PSY 310</b>
<b>PSY 321</b>	<b>Advanced Statistics (5)</b>	<b>PSY 374</b>	<b>PSY 336</b>
		<b>PSY 376</b>	<b>PSY 337</b>
Biological—at least one of the following:		<b>PSY 378</b>	<b>PSY 361</b>
<b>PSY 201</b>	Sensation & Perception (4)	<b>PSY 470</b>	<b>PSY 362</b>
<b>PSY 203</b>	Learning (4)		
<b>PSY 312</b>	<i>Physiological Psych (4)</i>	Clinical—at least two of the following:	Note: Courses in <b>bold</b> are required for the school psychology track and courses in <i>italics</i> are recommended.
<b>PSY 314</b>	Comparative Psych (5)	<b>PSY 233</b>	
<b>PSY 327</b>	Human Psychophys (4)	<b>PSY 332</b>	
<b>PSY 380</b>	Psy of Health & Ill (4)	<b>PSY 341</b>	
Cognitive—at least one of the following:		<b>PSY 351</b>	
<b>PSY 304</b>	<i>Learning &amp; Cog Proc (4)</i>	<b>PSY 430</b>	
<b>PSY 305</b>	Human Memory (4)		
<b>PSY 307</b>	Psycholinguistics (4)		
<b>PSY 308</b>	Human Judgment (4)		

### Fieldwork and Research in Psychology

PSY 489 (1-5, 5 max)—Credit for volunteer work in a mental health or health care setting.

PSY 390 (1-5, 15 max)—Credit for participating in research under the supervision of a faculty member.

### Extra-Departmental Required Courses

Psychology majors in the school psychology track must complete three courses in ONE of the following natural science areas: Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Environmental and Plant Biology, Geography, Geology, or Physics.

Courses that fulfill this requirement are listed under the Natural Sciences Area Requirement in the College of Arts and Sciences section of the catalog. The three courses that you choose must have the same departmental prefix, with the following exception: BIOL 101 may be combined with either two Environmental/Plant Biology (PBIO) courses or two Biological Sciences (BIOS) courses.

Psychology majors in the school psychology track must complete two courses in either mathematics or computer science. Students may select any two courses in Mathematics (MATH) 113 or above except (251) OR any two courses in Computer Science (CS) 200 or above. You may choose MATH 250, but only if completed BEFORE you take PSY 221.

The following course is required of students in the school psychology track:

EDTE 150 Intro to Teacher Ed (4)

*Students in the school psychology track are encouraged to complete the three courses in Biological Sciences.*

### Additional Recommended Courses

EDTE 400	School, Society, and the Prof Educator (4)
HCCF 170	Intro to Early Childhood Education (3)
SOC 327	Sociology of Education (4)
HSLs 108	Introduction to Communication Disorders (5)
HSLs 310	Language Development (4)

Note: Be sure to check prerequisites for coursework.