



Psychological Science (BS) Student Handbook 2019-2020

Department Information

Website: <https://academics.rowan.edu/csm/departments/psychology/index.html>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RowanPsychology>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RowanPsych>

Department of Psychology
Robinson Hall (first floor)
201 Mullica Hill Rd.
Glassboro, NJ 08028
856-256-4870 (t)

Table of Contents

The Department of Psychology.....	3
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychological Science	4
American Psychological Association (APA) Principles and Guidelines.....	6
APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Major.....	6
APA Principles for Quality Undergraduate Education in Psychology	6
Concentration and Minor Options.....	9
Psychology Student Organizations.....	10
Graduate School Planning.....	11

The Department of Psychology

Welcome to Psychology! The Psychology Department is housed within the College of Science and Mathematics and currently offers a BA in psychology (on the ground and online), BS in psychological science, minor in psychology, concentration in behavioral services for children and their families and minor in neuroscience. In conjunction with Rowan Global Learning and Partnerships, we also offer a fully online BA in Psychology and 3+1 BA in Psychology options with Rowan College at Gloucester County and Rowan College at Burlington County. The department administers the following graduate programs: MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, the MA in Applied Behavior Analysis, jointly administers the MA in School Psychology with the College of Education, and PhD in Clinical Psychology. The department also offers a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) in ABA, CAGS in Mental Health Counseling, and a post-baccalaureate certificate in ABA.

Mission Statement

The objectives of the Psychology Department are to provide its students with the opportunity to appreciate psychology as both a liberal academic science and as an applied art, to fulfill their professional ambitions, to develop integrity, to understand and appreciate diversity and multiculturalism in all that they learn and practice, and to learn the skills and values that will equip them to benefit others. Within the climate of a close knit academic community of learners and teachers, the Department offers coherent courses and programs of study in psychology at both the undergraduate and graduate level that are designed to give students the academic skills and knowledge they will need for reasoned inquiry, for the pursuit of advanced study, for a socially responsible service-oriented profession, for the development of a better understanding of social relationships and events, and for greater self-understanding.

Vision Statement

The Psychology Department endeavors to provide both its undergraduate and graduate students with an appreciation and understanding of the breadth and depth of the field of psychology so that they will learn to value both theoretical and empirical inquiry and develop the ability to critically evaluate new and existing knowledge in the discipline. With this in mind, we will continue to emphasize analytical reasoning and critical thinking in all academic pursuits while working to develop programming that addresses both current and future market demands, acknowledging the interdisciplinary nature of the academic and vocational milieu. Our pedagogical and research philosophy will continue to reflect an appreciation of human diversity, continue to reflect the value of experiential learning, and continue to provide students with the foundation they require for ultimately achieving a fulfilling, ethical, and generative role in their respective communities.

Our Students

We currently serve 1200 BA majors, 80 BS majors, and 60 graduate students. Our graduates are employed in a variety of professions. Some of our recent graduates were employed by the following organizations: AT&T, Bancroft, Foster McKay, Maxim Behavior Services, New Behavior Network, and Twin Oaks. Our graduates have also attended a variety of graduate schools to earn degrees in Social Work, Occupational/Physical Therapy, Experimental Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Applied Behavior Analysis. Also, some of our recent graduates have attended the following graduate schools: Bowling Green State University, Drexel University, Kean University, Kent State University, Montclair State University, Rowan University, Rutgers University, Stockton College, The College of New Jersey, and University of Idaho.

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychological Science

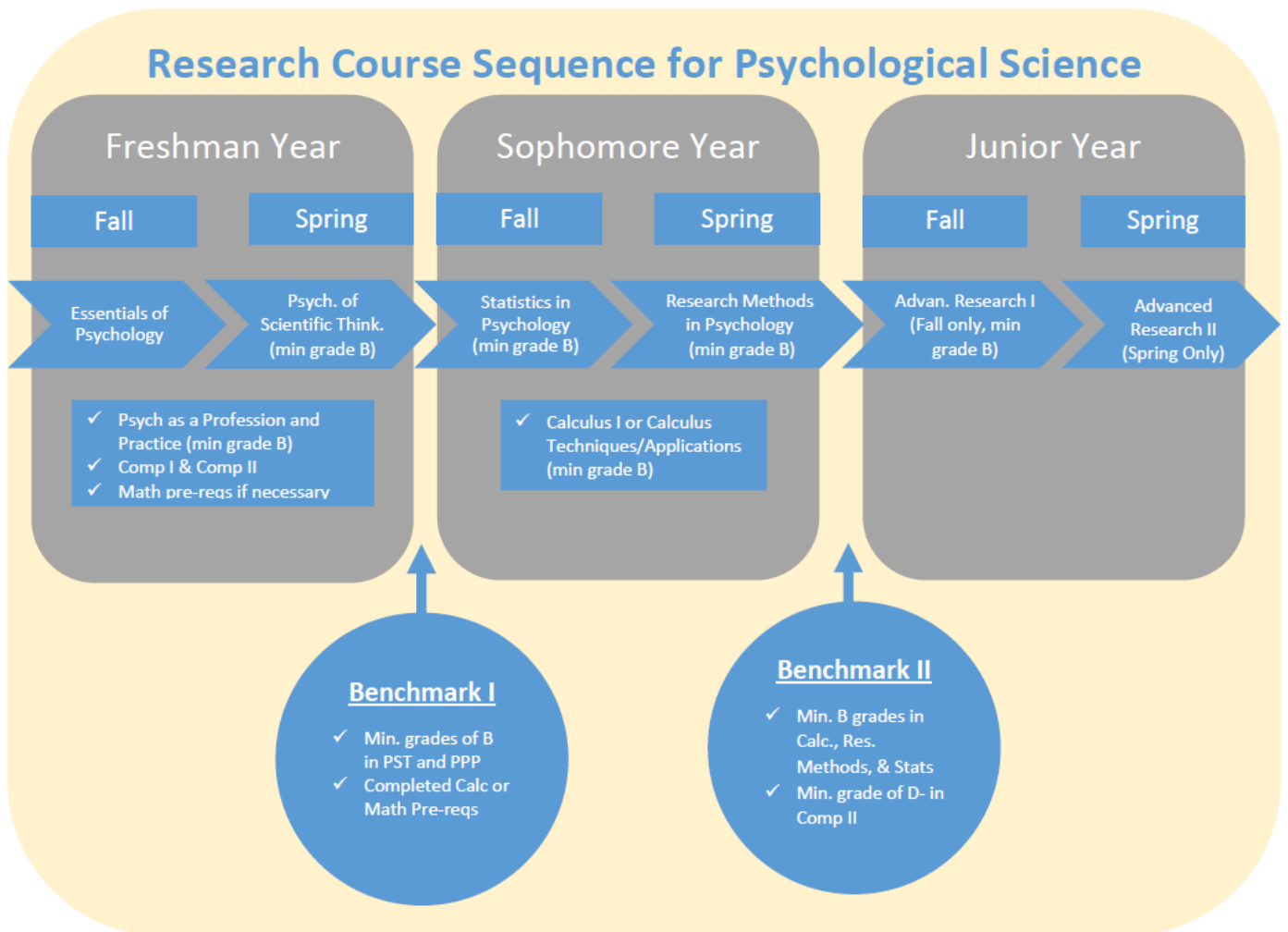
Curious about the science of the mind and behavior? Are you interested in conducting psychological research? Then the BS in Psychological Science degree is for you! The Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychological Science is a degree designed for students who are interested in pursuing **research-oriented careers** such as experimental psychology (e.g., human factors, developmental, I/O, neuroscience, social & personality, quantitative) and clinical psychology (PhD). We strive to make our students competitive for graduate school and industry by offering opportunities that will make them stand apart from the crowd.

Our curriculum is designed to provide our students with breadth and depth of knowledge in psychology as well as professional skills in research both inside and outside of the classroom. Along with other foundation courses, the degree requires a year-long research course sequence (i.e. Advance Research I and II) that provides students with the opportunity to conduct a human subjects research project from beginning to the end. The BS in Psychological Science major consists of 62 credits in psychology, 4 credits in Calculus, and 4 credits in Biological Science.

Students also have the opportunity to work closely with faculty mentors and peers to conduct research outside of the classroom either as a volunteer, for course credit (Research Clinic in Psychology) or paid through Federal Work Study funding. Our students have also presented their research at local, regional, national, and international conferences. We currently have 100 Psychological Science majors who often serve as our learning assistants, peer mentors, and tutors in the Psychology Department.

***Please note that this degree is only offered in a face-to-face traditional classroom setting. While the degree can be completed on a part-time basis, the coursework is not offered at night. If you are interested in an online psychology degree program please visit <https://rowanu.com/programs/ba-in-psychology-online>.*

It is important that students stay on track with the research sequence in order to complete the program in the standard four years. Students must keep in mind pre-requisite requirements that include courses inside and outside of psychology as well as minimum grade requirements. Students should meet with their academic advisor at least once/semester to ensure timely progress toward their degree. Students are also advised to get involved with research outside of the classroom by joining Rowan faculty research labs and participating in other research programs offered at other institutions (see <https://www.pathwaystoscience.org/>).



**Semester is suggested. Prereqs effective Fall 2019*

American Psychological Association (APA) Principles and Guidelines

We have aligned our BS program with the principles and guidelines put forth by the [American Psychological Association](http://www.apa.org) (APA) to ensure a quality undergraduate education in psychology.

APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Major

GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE IN PSYCHOLOGY

- 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology
- 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains
- 1.3 Describe applications of psychology

GOAL 2: SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY AND CRITICAL THINKING

- 2.1 Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychology phenomena
- 2.2 Demonstrate psychology information literacy
- 2.3 Engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving
- 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research
- 2.5 Incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry

GOAL 3: ETHICAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN A DIVERSE WORLD

- 3.1 Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice
- 3.2 Build and enhance interpersonal relationships
- 3.3 Adopt values that build community at the local, national, and global levels

GOAL 4: COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes
- 4.2 Exhibit effective presentations skills for different purposes
- 4.3 Interact effectively with others

GOAL 5: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 5.1 Apply psychological content and skills to career goals
- 5.2 Exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation
- 5.3 Refine project-management skills
- 5.4 Enhance teamwork capacity
- 5.5 Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation

American Psychological Association. (2013). *APA guidelines for the undergraduate psychology major: Version 2.0*. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/ed/precollege/about/psymajor-guidelines.pdf>

APA Principles for Quality Undergraduate Education in Psychology

Quality Principle 1	Students are responsible for monitoring and enhancing their own learning.
Quality Principle 2	Faculty strive to become scientist-educators who are knowledgeable about and use the principles of the science of learning.
Quality Principle 3	Psychology department and programs create a coherent curriculum.
Quality Principle 4	Academic administrators support and encourage quality practices in teaching and learning.
Quality Principle 5	Policymakers and the general public understand why psychological literacy is necessary for informed citizens and an effective workforce.

American Psychological Association. (2011). *Principles for quality undergraduate education in psychology*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/education/undergrad/principles.aspx>

Summary of Required Courses for BS in Psychological Science

BS majors are required to take at least 22 courses to fulfill the three major requirements below. Please note that we also specify the completion of certain non-psychology courses including Math and Biology.

I. Foundation Courses in Psychology (6 s.h. total)

- PSY 01107 Essentials of Psychology (3 s.h.)
- PSY 01199 Navigating Psychology (1 s.h.; taken first semester)
- PSY 02300 Psychology as a Profession and Practice (3 s.h.)
- PSY 01499 Psychology Senior Capstone (1 s.h.; taken last semester)

II. Non Program Course Requirements (8 credits total)

- MATH 01130 Calculus I OR MATH 03125 Calculus Techniques & Applications (courses have pre-requisites)
- BIOL 01104 Intro to Evolution and Scientific Inquiry OR BIOL 01113 General Biology: Human Focus

II. Research Sequence in Psychology (15 s.h. total): *Must be taken in the order below*

- PSY 01301 Psychology of Scientific Thinking (3 s.h., min grade of B)
- PSY 07301 Statistics in Psychology (3 s.h., min grade of B)
- PSY 07303 Research Methods in Psychology (3 s.h., min grade of B)
- PSY 01420 Advanced Research I-WI (3 s.h., min grade of B) – offered in Fall only
- PSY 01421 Advanced Research II-WI (3 s.h.) – offered in Spring only

III. Basic Areas of Psychology (21 credits total)

- PSY 09218 Lifespan Development (3 s.h.) OR PSY 09209 Child & Adolescent Development (3 s.h.) * *Students should not take both.*
- PSY 02310 Learning and Behavior (3 s.h.)
- PSY 01327 Cognitive Psychology (3 s.h.)
- PSY 10315 Physiological Psychology (3 s.h.)
- PSY 01326 Perception (3 s.h.)
- PSY 05206 Social Psychology (3 s.h.) OR PSY 01230 Personality (3 s.h.)
- PSY 03200 Abnormal Psychology (3 s.h.) OR PSY 09305 Developmental Psychopathology (3 s.h.)

III. Psychology Major Electives (18 credits total)

Electives include any other psychology course not previously taken except for Lifespan Development/Child & Adolescent Development. Psychological Science students are encouraged to take an additional research experience course (Research Clinic, Independent Study), PSY 07400 Advanced Statistics in Psychology and Field Experience. Students can also use these electives to complete the Neuroscience Minor or the Concentration in Behavioral Services for Children and their Families. Please see the Undergraduate Catalog for a complete list of Psychology course offerings.

Summary of Required Rowan Core Courses for BS in Psychological Science

Majors must also complete the Rowan Core requirements (24 sh total; effective for new students entering Fall 2018). Graduation requirements include: 2.0 overall GPA, successful completion of 120 credits, fulfillment of all major requirements, and completion of Application for Graduation.

- I. **Artistic Literacy (3 sh)**
- II. **Communicative Literacy (9 sh)**
 - College Comp I OR Integrated College Comp I
 - College Comp II
 - Public Speaking
- III. **Global Literacy (3 sh)**
- IV. **Humanistic Literacy (3 sh)**
 - PSY 01107 Essentials of Psychology satisfies this literacy
- V. **Quantitative Literacy (3 sh)**
 - Calculus I or Calculus T&A satisfies this literacy
- VI. **Scientific Literacy (3 sh)**
 - General Biology: Human Focus satisfies this literacy
- VII. **Rowan Experience Requirement**
 - Broad-based literature attribute (LIT)
 - Writing Intensive (WI)
 - i. Advanced Research I and II satisfies this Rowan Experience
 - Rowan Seminar (RS)
 - i. Waived for students transferring 24 or more of approved credits
- VIII. **Non-Program Courses (18 credits total)**
 - At least one course from Philosophy bank
- IX. **Free Electives (23-24 credits total)**

Concentration and Minor Options

Concentration in Behavioral Services for Children and Their Families

There is a national trend to provide cost effective services for children with behavior problems and/or developmental disabilities. Part of this trend includes the direct delivery of services by individuals with a bachelor's degree. Each state has begun to delineate the necessary training and experience required of the bachelor level individual. While the degree requirements for the Psychology major provide a broad overview of the science of psychology, the graduate who wishes to obtain an entry level position working with children and their families requires more knowledge and experience. The concentration curriculum emphasizes learning theory, the application of behavioral principles, knowledge of the types of problems and issues that for which children may need services, learning how to interview and interact with children and their families, and supervised experience working with children and their families in the community.

Students must meet eligibility criteria and apply to be enrolled in this concentration.

For more information please visit the website:

<https://academics.rowan.edu/csm/departments/psychology/sbsctf/index.html>

Neuroscience Minor

The Neuroscience Concentration is designed for students interested in the interdisciplinary study of molecular, structural, chemical, cognitive, physiological, and behavioral aspects of the brain and nervous system. This concentration is open to students in Psychology, Biological Sciences, or other majors with interest in this field. All students will receive personal advisement from the Concentration Coordinator (Dr. Hough, hough@rowan.edu).

For more information please visit the website:

<https://academics.rowan.edu/csm/departments/psychology/programs/neuroscience.html>

Psychology Student Organizations

Psychology Alliance

Psychology Alliance is a great way to get involved with the Rowan Psychology Department. It helps to connect students with Psychology department faculty, other students with shared psychology interests, and increases awareness about issues in various fields of psychology. Members do not need to be Psychology majors or minors; they merely need to demonstrate a genuine interest in Psychology. All are welcome!

Visit our website more information: <https://rowan.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/psychalliance>

Rowan University Psi Chi (International Honor Society in Psychology)

Psi Chi is an international honor society whose purpose is to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship of the individual members in all fields, particularly in psychology, and to advance the science of psychology (www.psichi.org)

Visit our website for more information:

https://academics.rowan.edu/csm/departments/psychology/studentsresources/student_organizations/PsyChi.html

Applied Behavior Analysis Club (ABA Club)

The purpose of the Applied Behavior Analysis Club is to give Rowan University students (undergraduate and graduate) information about the field of ABA through presentations, guest speakers, hands on projects and more. This club seeks to serve the community by giving back and allowing anyone interested in this field a chance to learn more about what it offers.

Visit our website for more information: <https://rowan.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/ABAclub>

Psychology Peer Mentors

Psychology Peer Mentors are upperclassmen psychology/psychological science majors who are trained to help first year freshman and transfer students' transition to the Rowan community and the Psychology major. Peer mentors are assigned to each incoming psychology major and serve as a bridge between Rowan psychology majors and their assigned faculty/professional academic advisor. They are majors who are well-informed of the Psychology requirements and Rowan Core Requirements. Interested in becoming a peer mentor? Be on the lookout for the application every spring semester.

Learning Assistants

Learning Assistants are upperclassmen psychology/psychological science majors that help facilitate small group learning in the classroom. Our LAs are typically assigned to Statistics in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology. LAs are typically volunteers or take as course credit which counts as a psychology elective.

Tutors

Students can serve as tutor within the department or at the Tutoring Center. Our tutors typically assist students in Statistics in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology.

Graduate School Planning

There are so many options for graduate school in psychology that students often get overwhelmed and don't even know where to begin. I recommend first deciding on what you ultimately want to do. Do you want to be a full-time therapist? Do you want to go into academia? Do you want to work in industry that would require some graduate training? Do you want to work with children involved with Child Protective Services? Do you want/need a PhD, PsyD, EdD, MA, MS, LPC, LSW, LCSW, MeD, MFT, MD, DO, PT, OT, JD and the list goes on...Graduate school could cost you a lot of money (e.g. PsyD, MA, MS) or you could get paid to go (e.g. PhD)...so you want to make sure that you're getting the degree you need that is appropriate for the career you want.

Getting accepted into graduate school is not like getting into undergrad. The process is different and **MUCH MORE COMPETITIVE!** Students often don't realize how competitive it is. For example, many of our students want to get a PhD in clinical psychology (a very common goal among our majors). However, most students don't realize that only about **2%** of students who apply actually get accepted into a clinical PhD program. That can be very discouraging! However, students also don't realize that there are other options and that a clinical psychology PhD may not be the degree that's actually necessary to do what you want to do.

Below are some links that discuss the various graduate degree options that students with a bachelor's in psychology may pursue. I also recommend touching base with a faculty mentor and/or academic advising to make sure that you're on the right track.

Resource	Description
<u>"Mitch's grad school advice"</u>	Excellent starting point for deciding if graduate school is right for you, what type of program you should apply to, and how to apply. Most of it is geared toward clinical psychology programs.
<u>Psychologycareercenter.org</u>	This is a fantastic website if you're considering a career that requires a graduate degree. Tons of information.
<u>"Career options with a graduate degree in Psychology"</u>	About.com article that's a good starting point if you want a graduate degree in psychology.
<u>Allpsychologycareers.com</u>	Another great website geared towards occupations that require some sort of graduate degree.
<u>Applying to graduate school</u>	APA's resource on applying to graduate school.
<u>"Interested in Clinical Psychology Grad. School?"</u>	Information provided by Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP)
<u>"Research careers with a bachelor's degree in psychology"</u>	APA article explaining different research career opportunities for students with a bachelor's degree
<u>"Choosing to focus on research as a psychologist"</u>	Careers in Psychology article about a research career.

What do I need to do to be accepted into graduate school? Below is a list of the **top 5** things graduate schools are looking for from applicants. Please look at the admission criteria for each program though; this list will vary.

1. **High GPA:** Typically schools will have admissions criteria on their website. Most graduate programs have a **GPA minimum** of between 3.0 and 3.5. Remember, that's a *MINIMUM* so keep that GPA up.
2. **High GRE scores (or GMAT, MCAT, LSAT):** The exam you need to take will be specified by the school you're applying to. Students will often start studying for this exam their Junior year and take it at least once prior to the start of your senior year (or before the fall/spring you'll be applying to graduate school). That way you can take it again if your scores aren't high enough.
3. **Excellent letters of recommendation:** Typically schools will ask for 2-3 letters of recommendation. At least **ONE** should be from a professor at Rowan.
4. **Research Experience:** This depends on what type of program you're applying to. If you're going for a PhD you have to have demonstrated some research experience outside of the classroom (e.g. Independent Study, presentation at research conference, publication in a peer-reviewed journal, summer research internship, and full-time research assistant position after undergrad). At Rowan, students typically volunteer in a faculty member's research lab or conduct their own study for credit (Independent Study). Check out the department website for more information on faculty research programs: <https://academics.rowan.edu/csm/Research/Psychology.html>
5. **Field Experience (or internship):** Again, depending on the program you're applying to they may expect to see that you've had exposure to the population that you're interested in working with in graduate school and beyond (e.g. adults with severe mental illness, children on the spectrum, shadowing a guidance counselor, etc...). Many of our majors do a Field Experience for credit. Contact Dr. Lamastro (davis-lamastro@rowan.edu) for an application form. It is recommended that you apply **at least** 1 semester before you want it!

Don't forget extracurricular activities too like membership in honor societies and clubs/organizations, awards, volunteer experience, other work experience, etc.