

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE PATHWAYS

CUSTOMIZING YOUR MAJOR

Programs in Psychology and Communication Sciences



What are “pathways?”

Pathways are suggestions of courses to consider based on specific career interests. They are structured to help you define your areas of study based on your professional goals. The topic areas include:

- 1) Clinical
- 2) Lifespan Development
- 3) Pre-health
- 4) Neuroscience, and
- 5) Research

Pathways are not academic requirements and do not result in the award of certificates.

You can join several pathways. Your academic advisors can work with you to help guide your course choices. Choosing “paths” may benefit you both in terms of your knowledge of the material essential to entering a particular field and in terms of how you might market yourself to future employers or graduate programs. Ask your advisor if one (or more) of these pathways is right for you.

Each pathway has a minimum of 6 courses. Some pathways may have many courses to choose from. Although you will not need to take all of those listed, two to three courses are strongly recommended for each pathway. They are noted with asterisks **. Described below, each pathway includes a few examples of professions that can benefit from that concentration of study.

Along with selecting your pathway, we recommend that you also obtain relevant experiences outside of the classroom. Laboratory research and clinical work in hospital settings are examples of valuable experiences.

CLINICAL

This pathway is intended for those interested in the field of clinical psychology or futures as medical professionals, including medical doctors, nurses, and allied-health professionals.

Recommended for General Curriculum: **PSCL 321 - Abnormal Psychology; **PSCL 325 - Psychotherapy and Personality Change; **PSCL 344 - Developmental Psychopathology
Child Focus: PSCL 230 - Child Psychology; PSCL 329 – Adolescence; PSCL 334C or 335C - Seminar and Practicum: Hospitalized Children
Aging Focus: PSCL 369 - Adult Development and Aging
Considering Graduate School?: PSCL 375 - Research Design and Analysis
General Clinical Focus: PSCL 317 - Health Psychology; PSCL 352 - Physiological Psychology; PSCL 396 - Anxiety & Depression: Symptoms, Etiology, & Treatment

LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT

This pathway is intended for those interested in working with people throughout their lives. For example, consider the following pathway if you are pursuing a career in clinical psychology or speech-language pathology.

Recommended for General Curriculum: **PSCL 230 - Child Psychology; **PSCL 329 – Adolescence; **PSCL 369. Adult Development and Aging

General Lifespan Development Focus: PSCL 344 - Developmental Psychopathology; COSI 109 - Introduction to Communication Disorders; COSI 313 - Language Development; COSI 345 - Communication and Aging

PRE-HEALTH

This pathway is intended for those interested in health-related fields such as medicine, nursing, allied-health professions, and hospital administration, to name a few.

Recommended for General Curriculum: **PSCL 352 - Physiological Psychology; **PSCL 317 - Health Psychology

General Pre-Health Focus: PSCL 230 - Child Psychology; PSCL 334C or 335C - Seminar and Practicum: Hospitalized Children; PSCL 379 - Neurodevelopmental Disabilities; COSI 101 - Introduction to Health Communication; COSI 109 - Introduction to Communication Disorders; COSI 200 - Interpersonal Communication; COSI 260 - Multicultural Aspects of Human Communication; COSI 340. Advanced Health Communication

NEUROSCIENCE

This pathway is intended for those considering a career in neuroscience. Areas include academic (e.g., professor) and healthcare related fields within the neurosciences (e.g., neurology, radiology, etc.).

Recommended for General Curriculum: ** PSCL 350 - Behavior Genetics; PSCL 352 – Physiological Psychology; PSCL 379 – Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

General Research Focus: PSCL 375 – Research Design and Analysis; COSI 305 – Neuroscience of Communication and Communication Disorders; PSCL 397 or COSI 390 - Independent Study;

RESEARCH

This pathway is intended for those considering a career in research. Areas include academic (e.g., professor), nonprofit (e.g., National Institutes of Health), and public/private organizations and institutions (e.g., hospitals, government, military).

Recommended for General Curriculum: **LAB EXPERIENCE; **PSCL 375 - Research Design and Analysis

General Research Focus: PSCL 315 - Social Psychology; PSCL 350 - Behavior Genetics; PSCL 352 - Physiological Psychology; PSCL 357 - Cognitive Psychology; PSCL 397 or COSI 390. Independent Study;