

## How do I complete the Upper-Level Course Requirement?

There are three different ways to complete this requirement, and you only need to complete one of these paths: 1) enroll in an independent study (i.e., PSYC 500, 550, & 560), 2) take *any* 300-level course beyond the two required 300s, or 3) take *any* 400-level course beyond the two required 400s.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the\\_major](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the_major)

## How do I enroll in an independent study?

To enroll in an independent study you must find a professor who is willing to supervise the project. The topic of your independent study will either be generated by your supervising professor or by you in concert with your supervising professor. You will register for the course by completing an independent study form available on the Registrar's Office Website, having your advisor sign the form and bringing it to the Registrar's office.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the\\_major/2](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the_major/2)

## What are the differences between the types independent studies (500s, 550s and 560s)?

A 500 is generally an extensive literature review or a field placement with a literature review. A 550 is an independent research project requiring student to work with his or her supervising professor to develop a research question, collect, analyze and interpret data and write an APA style research report. A student taking a 560 will work with a professor on their research.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the\\_major/2](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the_major/2)

## How do I get honors?

Students earn honors in psychology by completing a two semester independent research project under the supervision of a faculty advisor and honors committee and presenting that research project to the psychology department. After reading the final research report and attending the student's honors presentation, the student's honors committee will vote on whether the student's work warrants honors.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the\\_major/4](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the_major/4)

## Should I consider doing honors?

Students interested in pursuing honors in the major should discuss this option with their academic advisor, in their junior year.

## **How do I get courses from my Study Abroad program to count towards the requirements for my psychology major?**

If your courses are on the preapproved courses list on the study abroad pages on our department website you do not need to do anything. The registrar will count the courses for transfer as indicated.

If a course is not on the preapproved courses list (and you think the course would transfer to Dickinson as a psychology course) email Professor Helweg-Larsen a detailed course description or syllabus. She will decide how it will transfer to the psychology department at Dickinson. She might give you conditional preapproval and need to see (after you return) the final course syllabus, descriptions of assignments, your completed/graded assignments, etc. before deciding how it transfers. After your return she will sign your 'Enrollment in Another Institution' form.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1441/study\\_abroad/2](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1441/study_abroad/2)

## **Do I need to take 300s before 400s?**

No, the only prerequisites for a 400-level course in the Dickinson Psychology Department are 201 and 202.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology\\_curriculum](http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology_curriculum)

## **Do I need to take 100s before 300s?**

It depends. All 300-level courses have 201 and 202 as pre-requisites, and some have additional pre-requisites (e.g., take PSYC 140 before taking PSYC 340). Check the course description for each 300-level course to see what the prerequisites are (other than 201 and 202):

[http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology\\_curriculum](http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology_curriculum).

## **Do I need to take 100s before 400s?**

No. The only prerequisites for 400-level courses are 201 and 202.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology\\_curriculum](http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology_curriculum)

## **What are 180s/380s/480s?**

Classes with similar workload and information depth as others at that level that are on topics that are not regularly offered in the department.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology\\_curriculum](http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology_curriculum)

## **Does an AP psychology class count towards the major?**

Yes, if you received your psychology AP credit was transferred and accepted at Dickinson, it will count as a PSYC 180 and one of the four required psychology 100 level courses.

### **How can I be sure to graduate on time?**

Register for 201 as soon as you decide to major in psychology. You are eligible to register for 201 if you have taken or a currently enrolled in a 100 level psychology course. If you do not get into 201 the first time you register, you will be guaranteed a spot in the next semester. After passing 201 you will declare your major and work with a psychology academic advisor to develop a plan to graduate on time.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology\\_curriculum](http://www.dickinson.edu/homepage/475/psychology_curriculum)

### **How can I see what psychology classes are offered in the future?**

Check the course projections bulletin board outside of K179 and [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the\\_major/3](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the_major/3).

### **How do I declare psychology as my major?**

First, you must pass PSYC 201. Second, complete a 'Major Declaration Form.' Third, give this form to Amy McMurdy, the Psychology Department's Academic Coordinator and wait for your advisor to contact you.

See: [http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the\\_major](http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20150/psychology/1443/the_major)