

Department of Psychological Sciences: Undergraduate Advising Guide

GENERAL INFORMATION:



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Appointment Information: By appointment only. [Schedule an appointment online using the link below](#) (Under the “Reasons To Seek Departmental Advising” section). Advising services are for **Kent Campus students only**. Revisit the link often as new appointment slots become available every day at midnight.

Late Policy: If you are more than 10 minutes late to your appointment, you will be asked to reschedule.

REASONS TO SEEK DEPARTMENTAL ADVISING:

If you are a **Kent Campus** psychology major, schedule an appointment to meet with a Department of Psychological Sciences Academic Advisor in **Kent Hall 144** to discuss the following:

- How to become connected with a faculty advisor.
- Decide whether the Bachelor of Art (B.A.) or the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree is right for you.
- Discuss career s related to psychology and post-graduation plans.
- Discuss general graduate school application requirements and differences between various types of psychology-related graduate school programs (e.g., Master's, Ph.D., Psy.D.)
- Process for acquiring [a psychology internship experience](#). Internships can also count as credit for your major!
- Process for [becoming a Research Assistant \(RA\) in a psychology lab and find research opportunities](#). Research experience can also count as credit for your major!
- Psychology-related student organizations and events.
- Psychology electives that align with your interests and future goals.
- Clarify degree requirements.
- Fulfill your required advising appointment each semester and have your Advising PIN removed.

**SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES ACADEMIC ADVISOR HERE:**
<http://www.kent.edu/psychology/advising>

***Note:** You may also meet with your assigned Academic Advisor in Bowman Hall 105 to fulfill your required advising appointment if there are no appointment slots available to meet with the Department of Psychological Sciences Academic Advisor. Schedule your appointment here: <http://www.kent.edu/cas/advising>

Which Psychology Major/Concentration Should I Choose? Quick Quiz

Directions: For each of the following statements, circle “Yes” if it describes you or “No” if it does not describe you.

1. I am interested in becoming a practitioner (e.g., someone who works in an applied setting, primarily working one-on-one or in small groups with other individuals – such as a counselor, therapist, social worker, etc.) after graduating. YES NO
2. I am interested in becoming a researcher, scholar, neuroscientist, and/or attending medical school after graduating. YES NO
3. I would like to have more freedom in choosing the majority of my upper division psychology classes instead of being required to take specific courses such as Quantitative Methods II, Biopsychology, Advanced Research, and Abnormal Psychology. YES NO
4. I enjoy taking challenging math (e.g., algebra), science (e.g., chemistry, biology), and quantitative methods courses. YES NO

If you agree more with Statement 1 (and possibly 3)...

...then the **Bachelor of Arts (BA) Psychology Degree** is probably the best option for you!

Our BA Degree Has Three Concentrations:

- 1) **General** – For students who want to keep their career and/or graduate school options open after graduating (only option available for students on Catalog Years 2015-2016 and earlier)
- 2) **Child** – For students who want to work with children/adolescents and/or attend a graduate school program with a focus on children/adolescents (only available in Catalog Years 2016-2017 and later)
- 3) **Counseling Careers** – For students who want to work in a counseling-related capacity and/or attend a counseling-related graduate school program (only available in Catalog Years 2016-2017 and later)

**Note:* The BA Degree requires a minimum 2.00 Major GPA

If you agree more with Statement 2 (and possibly 4)...

...then the **Bachelor of Science (BS) Psychology Degree** is probably the best option for you!

Our BS Degree Has Three Concentrations:

- 1) **General** – For students who want to pursue a research-oriented graduate school program or career without a specific focus area
- 2) **Child** – For students who want to pursue a research-oriented graduate school program or career with a focus on children/adolescents (only available in Catalog Years 2016-2017 and later)
- 3) **Pre-Medicine/Pre-Osteopathy** – For students who want to attend medical school

**Note:* Research experience is required for students in the BS General and Child Concentrations (i.e., see “Application of PSYC Science Area” Degree Requirement on roadmap/GPS). Most labs require at least a 3.0-3.2 GPA. Students who feel they will not be able to fulfill this requirement should switch to the BA Degree. More information can be found here: <http://www.kent.edu/psychology/research-experience>

**Note:* The BS Degree is only offered on the Kent Campus and requires a minimum 2.50 Major GPA

Important Disclaimer: If you are thinking about switching to a degree program/concentration that is only offered in a later Catalog Year, please note that your University, Kent Core, College, and Major Requirements are subject to change. Visit <http://solutions.kent.edu/GPS/ROADMAP/browse/archives> for specific degree requirements for each Catalog Year and e-mail your academic advisor with any questions before switching your Catalog Year.

CAN I GET A JOB WITH JUST MY BACHELOR'S DEGREE?

Absolutely! A Bachelor's degree in Psychology can prepare you for careers related to:

- Advertising/Event Planning
- Corrections & Probation
- General Business, Customer Relations, & Sales
- Human Resources, Personnel, Recruiting
- Human, Community, & Social Services
- Mental Health Services, Advocacy
- Public Relations
- Research, Data Management, Technical Writing
- Retail & General Management
- Teaching/Education (in some instances)
- *Many other industries. A psychology degree is extremely transferable!*

Consider taking our 1-credit, upper-division, online workshop called "Career Pathways in Psychology" (PSYC 30005) to learn more about psychology career and graduate school opportunities!

POPULAR MINORS FOR PSYCHOLOGY MAJORS:

- Advertising/Marketing
- Anthropology
- Applied Conflict Management
- Biological Sciences
- Business
- Chemistry
- Communications
- Community Health Education
- Criminology and Justice Studies
- Economics
- Event Planning
- Foreign Language
- Gerontology
- Health Care Ethics
- Healthcare Systems Management
- Hospitality Management
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Resources Management
- Human Sexuality
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies
- Non-Profit Studies
- Pan-African Studies
- Paralegal Studies
- Political Science
- Pre-Law
- Public Health
- Public Relations
- Sociology
- Sport Administration
- Urban Studies and Planning
- Women's Studies

***Among many others! Check out all of KSU's minors here: <http://solutions.kent.edu/gps/>**

NEED AN ELECTIVE? WE HAVE YOU COVERED:

- Abnormal Psychology (PSYC 40111)
- Animal Cognition (PSYC 31634)
- Career Pathways in Psychology (PSYC 30005)
- Children's Thinking (PSYC 30655)
- Cognitive Neuroscience (PSYC 40446)
- Development of Gender Role and Identity (PSYC 40625)
- Drugs and Behavior (PSYC 41364)
- Forensic Psychology (PSYC 30111)
- Health Psychology (PSYC 41581)
- History of Psychology (PSYC 40974)
- Industrial Psychology (PSYC 31773)
- Introduction to Clinical Psychology (PSYC 40383)
- Pediatric Psychology (PSYC 40382)
- Personality (PSYC 31282)
- Psychological Assessment (PSYC 40231)
- Psychological Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence (PSYC 40112)
- Psychology of Aging (PSYC 30656)
- Psychology of Language (PSYC 40461)
- Psychology of Motivation (PSYC 30821)
- Social and Personality Development (PSYC 30652)

INTERNSHIPS & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

It is highly recommended that psychology majors complete **at least one internship** and/or acquire **formal research experience** to become more qualified for a competitive workforce and graduate school programs.

- For more information about **internships**, including a categorized list and contact information for sites and organizations where previous undergraduate psychology students have interned, visit:

<http://www.kent.edu/psychology/internships-and-volunteer-opportunities>

- This webpage also contains links to instructions and process for obtaining a psychology internship. *Note:* Internships can be completed for course credit or non-course credit.

- For more information about acquiring **research/lab experience**, including a list of available Research Assistant (RA) positions and the process for applying for RA positions, visit:

<http://www.kent.edu/psychology/research-experience>

- *Note:* RA positions can be completed for course credit or non-course credit. This is up to the student and supervising faculty member. Every lab has a different application process.

GET INVOLVED! PSYCHOLOGY ORGANIZATIONS

Participating, and possibly even one day taking on a leadership role, within a **student organization** is another way to make psychology majors more marketable and well-rounded after they graduate.

- There are **two** psychology-related student organizations for students to become involved with:

1. Psi Chi - The 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.

Eligibility Requirements: All students who are psychology majors or minors may join Psi Chi. There are two levels of membership: Junior and Official Members. Junior members are freshmen and first semester sophomores. Official Members must be at least a second semester sophomore with a 3.0 GPA and at least 9 credit hours in psychology. There is a one time lifetime membership fee.

2. Peer Mentor Program

The Psychology Peer Mentor Program is dedicated to fostering a fun and successful college experience. Underclassmen Psychology majors and minors (Freshmen/Sophomores) are paired with an upper-classman (Junior/Senior) mentor who is responsible for helping and answering any questions and concerns. Events will be held throughout the year to give students a chance to connect with other students, graduate students, and faculty.

Eligibility Requirements: Those applying to become a **MENTOR** must be a psychology major (most often a junior or senior) with at least a 3.0 GPA. Those with lower than a 3.0 GPA may still apply, but justification must be provided. **Any psychology major or minor, regardless of one's GPA, can apply to become a MENTEE.**

Visit the following link for more information:

<http://www.kent.edu/psychology/student-organizations>



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of Psychological Sciences



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