

The MAPS Committee Fall 2020 Workshop Series

Degree Planning in Psychology

Prepared by Eloïse Fairbank, M.A.

MAPS

What are your Career Goals? What would you like to do with your degree? Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years? Why are you studying psychology? Do you plan to continue studying after your undergraduate degree? Do you want to get involved with research? Clinical? Honours? Specialization?

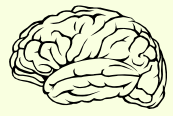
Concordia's Psychology Program:



Bachelor of Arts: Major = 42 credits of Psychology.



Bachelor of Science: Why do you want to go to graduate school? Why will you succeed? What can you offer? What are your research/clinical interests? Aim for 2 single-spaced pages. Ex: Introduction, Experience, Why this program/lab.



Behavioural Neuroscience: Only for Specialization or Honours. Prerequisites include Biology, Math, Chemistry and Physics. More "science"-focused (21 credits in Neuroscience).



Specialization: 60 credits of Psychology, option to complete thesis project.

Honours: 66 credits of Psychology, 3.5 GPA requirement, must complete a thesis project.

***Figure out your GPA before applying to Honours:** The minimum requirements for consideration to apply to Honours are 30 credits completed with a cumulative GPA of 3.7 in Psychology courses and a GPA of 3.30 overall.



Tier 1 and Tier 2 classes: Take classes you are curious about! Are they relevant to your career goals? What about classes that are relevant to labs you want to get involved with?



OPQ Requirements (clinical psychology programs): 6 credits in the **Biological** domain, 6 credits in the **Social-cultural** domain, 6 credits in the **Cognitive-affective** domain, 6 credits in the **Developmental** domain, 3 credits in **History and Systems** (PSYC305), 3 credits in **Psychological Measurement and Assessment** (PSYC426), 3 credits in **Research Methods** (PSYC310/311), 3 credits in **Statistics** (PSYC 315/316), 3 credits in the **Personality** domain and 3 credits in the **Abnormal** domain.



Planning your classes: The classes you take can speak to your focus, maturity, passion and familiarity with a topic. What are the pros and cons? If you are completing a double-major, minor, or certificate, what are you aiming to get from these studies?

Read about each program on Concordia's website and reach out the program directors directly if you have questions!

TIPS:

Use electives as an opportunity to dig deeper into another (allied?) discipline.

Take challenging courses with good profs.

Take courses that will force you to work on writing and oral communication and team work.

Take courses that will make you a more critical thinker (e.g., philosophy).

Identify problems and act accordingly! Go to your instructors and/or TAs for help.

Resources:

Student Success Center: <https://www.concordia.ca/students/success.html?utm>

Psychology Academic Advisors: <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/psychology/student-life/students/undergraduate/appointments-academic-advisors.html>

Psychology Department: <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/psychology.html>

Departmental Resources: <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/psychology/student-life/students.html>

Concordia library: <https://library.concordia.ca/>