

Honors Program Psychology

The purpose of the Honors Program in Psychology is to allow exceptionally able, ambitious, and self-motivated students to do independent, original work, as well as to pursue further study in the field of Psychology.

1. **Admission.** Students majoring in Psychology must complete an *Application for Admission* into the Honors Program (uncfsuhonors.edu), earn a minimum of 60 semester hours at FSU, and have a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.3. Applications are accepted only in the spring semester. Admitted students would start in the following fall semester. In addition, the student must secure two letters of recommendation (one of which must be from a college faculty) and write a 250-500-word essay. Admission is based on the student's demonstrated Honors potential at FSU. Transfer students may not transfer more than 60 semester hours.
2. **Courses.** A grade of "B" or better is required to earn honors credit for the course. (Failure to earn honors credit would not prevent a student from earning course credit with a final grade of "C" or "D"). The department requires that each student sign a contract for each honors course in the major. The contract explains the extra assignments and projects for the honors students enrolled in the course. To maintain eligibility to enroll in honors courses (or seek honors credit in regular classes), students must maintain a minimum cumulative 3.3 Grade Point Average with at least 12 earned hours per semester. Students must complete at least four courses designated as Honors in the University College—at least one in each of the following areas; English, Mathematics, and Science.
3. **Service Learning Experiences, Events, and Other Extracurricular Activities.** Students in Honors Psychology are assigned a departmental Honors Coordinator, who will design appropriate service learning experiences (internships, cooperative education, Study-Aboard, student conferences, etc.) in the program.
4. **Certification Requirements.** To graduate with Honors in Psychology, a student must complete 32 - 35 hours of honors credit, 12 of which are at the University College level, and 20 - 23 of which are in the major, or upper division. The Psychology honors student must complete the following six honors courses in the major: PSYC 233 (Statistics); PSYC 352 (Research Methods); PSYC 400 (History & Systems); any two (2) of the following core courses [PSYC 370 (Introduction to Biopsychology), PSYC 420 (Sensation and Perception), PSYC 421 (Cognitive Psychology) or PSYC 422 (Abnormal Psychology)]; and in consultation with the department Honors coordinator and the Honors Program director, the student must successfully complete at least three (3) hours of independent research at the Honors level (part of the 20 - 23 hours) and write an honors thesis that is approved by two Psychology faculty and the Honors Program. This requirement will be fulfilled through PSYC 489 (Independent Studies, which may be repeated for a total of six (6) credits). Finally, the student must successfully defend the Honors thesis. Students who participate in a Study-Aboard may earn six credit hours toward their degree, thus reducing the 32 - 35 Honors credit expectation by six hours.

Department Approval

Date _____

Honors Program Approval

Date _____