

Psychology Associate of Arts

General Program Information 410-287-1000 or information@cecil.edu

The Psychology degree provides the first two years of college for students preparing for a career in psychology, counseling or a related field. The Psychology degree emphasizes the scientific study of behavioral and mental processes, with a focus on expanding students' general knowledge of psychological theory while also enhancing skills of scientific inquiry and critical thinking. Specific course work will focus on student ethical awareness and social integrity, communication skills across diverse presentation modalities, and application of psychological related theory to professional development. This program is designed primarily for students desiring to transfer to a four-year college or university to earn a bachelor's degree in Psychology. Students selecting this program should consult with an academic advisor early in the program.

<i>General Education Requirements (30 credits)</i>		<i>General Education Code</i>	<i>Credits</i>
Select 2: ANT 101 or SOC 105 or GEO 102	Select 2: Cultural Anthropology or Perspectives in Human Diversity or Cultural Geography	SS	6
BIO 130 & BIO 131 or CHM 103 & CHM 113	Principles of Biology I & Principles of Biology I Lab or General Chemistry I & General Chemistry I Lab	S	4
BIO 132 & BIO 133 or CHM 104 & CHM 114	Principles of Biology II & Principles of Biology II Lab or General Chemistry II & General Chemistry II Lab	S	4
EGL 101	Freshman Composition	E	3
EGL 102	Composition and Literature	H	3
HUM 101	Introduction to Critical Inquiry	H	3
HST 201 or HST 202	United States History I or United States History II	H	3
MAT 127	Introduction to Statistics	M	4
<i>Program Requirements (30 credits)</i>			
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	SS	3
PSY 201	Human Growth and Development	SS	3
PSY 227	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology		3
PSY 228	The Helping Relationship: Intro to Theory/Technique		3
SPH 121 or SPH 141	Interpersonal Communications or Public Speaking*	H	3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology	SS	3
Select 2 Electives: PSY 203 PSY 207 PSY 222 SOC 102 SOC 103	Select 2: Child Growth and Development Educational Psychology Organizational Psychology (SS) Social Problems (SS) Marriage and the Family (SS)		6
Electives	Two elective courses should be chosen based on personal or career interests or the requirements of the institution to which transfer is planned		6

Total Credits Required in Program: 60

***Note: SPH 141 recommended**

***Program Outcomes see next page**
New Course Sequence: (60 credits)

Fall Semester I (16 credits)

HUM 101

EGL 101

PSY 101

MAT 127

Communication Elective (SPH 121 or SPH 141)

Spring Semester I (16 credits)

BIO/CHEM I w/Lab

PSY 201

SOC 101

EGL 102

Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues Elective (ANT 101; GEO 101; SOC 105)

Fall Semester II (16 credits)

BIO/CHEM II w/Lab

PSY 227

Arts and Humanities Elective (HST 201; HST 202)

Psychology Elective (PSY 203; PSY 207; SOC 103; SOC 102)

General Education Elective

Spring Semester II (12 credits)

PSY 228

Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues Elective (ANT 101; GEO 101; SOC 105)

Psychology Elective (PSY 203; PSY 207; SOC 103; SOC 102)

General Education Elective

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Goal 1: General Knowledge in Psychology
- Through the application of theory and concepts to simple psychological problems, students should demonstrate a basic knowledge of key terms, theoretical frameworks and historical milestones in the field.
- 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology
- 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains
- 1.3 Describe applications of psychology
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- Goal 2: Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking
- The use of the scientific method as it applies to understanding complex problems within the field is essential. Students will be exposed to concepts of research methodology and critical behavioral analysis. Using research in the field, students will learn basic skills information literacy, research design, and formation of hypotheses and conclusions.
- 2.1 Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena
- 2.2 Demonstrate psychology information literacy
- 2.3 Engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving
- 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research
- 2.5 Incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry
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- Goal 3: Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World
- Students will learn basic skills of how to approach personal and professional interactions with ethical awareness and social integrity. Ethical standards for behavior in the field will be discussed. A specific focus on the impact of social-cultural variables will be provided to support increased diversity.
- 3.1 Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice
- 3.2 Build and enhance interpersonal relationships
- 3.3 Adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels
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- Goal 4: Communication (ALL)
- Students will demonstrate increased abilities to clearly present their ideas, both through written, oral and interpersonal communication. Given that this is a skill present through all the courses, a developmental approach will be taken. Students in entry level 101 courses will be required to demonstrate basic writing skills and adequate use of APA format in the course. As students progress in the psychology sequence they will be required to demonstrate an ability to write for different purposes and give effective oral presentations to classmates.
- 4.1 Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes
- 4.2 Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes
- 4.3 Interact effectively with others
- 4.4 Use APA format effectively
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- Goal 5: Professional Development (PSY 227; PSY 228)
- The emphasis in this goal is on application of psychology-specific content and skills, effective self-reflection, project-management skills, teamwork skills, and career preparation. Foundation-level outcomes concentrate on the development of work habits and ethics to succeed in academic settings. In addition, career professionals can be enlisted to support occupational planning and pursuit.
- 5.1 Apply psychological content and skills to career goals
- 5.2 Exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation
- 5.3 Refine project-management skills
- 5.4 Enhance teamwork capacity
- 5.5 Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.