

Psychology Major and Graduation Requirements 2012-13

This summarizes the *current requirements* for incoming Rice students, taken from the *General Announcements* (for full details, please go to www.rice.edu/catalog). *If you are not a new student, these may not be your requirements.* To find *your* requirements, consult the *General Announcements* of the year in which you matriculated at Rice.

Graduation Requirements

- Complete 120 hours
- Complete 60 semester hours from Rice University
- Complete at least 48 hours of all degree work in upper-level courses (300 level or higher)
- Complete more than half of the upper-level courses in your major at Rice University
- Overall GPA of 1.67 or higher
- GPA of 2.00 in Psychology
- Satisfy the English composition requirement
- Satisfy the LPAP (Lifetime Physical Activity Program) requirement
- Satisfy the Distribution Requirements
- Satisfy all Psychology BA Major Requirements below

The University Committee on Examinations and Standing has the authority to waive rules and grant exceptions to university rules. If you need to ask for an exception, ask your college master, and inquire in the Office of Academic Advising (www.rice.edu/advising) with further questions.

Distribution Requirements

To complete your distribution requirements, you need to complete at least 12 semester hours of designated distribution courses in each of Groups I, II, and III specified in the *General Announcements*. The 12 hours in each Group must include courses from at least 2 departments.

Psychology BA Major Requirements

a. **Complete 35 credit-hours in Psychology**

Note: This is a **new requirement** as of Fall 2010. If you matriculated before 2010, then your requirement remains *29 credit-hours*.

b. **Complete the core courses**

- PSYC 101 – Introduction to Psychology (AP credit accepted)
- PSYC 202 – Introduction to Social Psychology
- PSYC 203 – Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 339 – Statistical Methods (no transfer credit) – *strongly encouraged before junior year*
- PSYC 340 – Research Methods (no transfer credit) – *strongly encouraged before junior year*

c. **Complete one Block I course**

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| PSYC 308 – Memory | PSYC 375 – Neuropsychology of Language and Memory |
| PSYC 309 – Psychology of Language | PSYC 461 – Reasoning, Decision Making, Problem Solving |
| PSYC 351 – Psychology of Perception | |
| PSYC 362 – Cognitive Neuroscience (formerly Biopsychology) | |

Complete one Block II course

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| PSYC 321 – Developmental Psychology | PSYC 332 – Abnormal Behavior |
| PSYC 329 – Psychological Testing | PSYC 345 – Health Psychology |
| PSYC 330 – Personality Theory | PSYC 353 – Psychology of Emotion and Motivation |
| PSYC 331 – Psychology of Gender | |

(These BLOCK I and II course requirements are NOT the same as your GROUP I, II and III distribution requirements)

- d. Sections b + c above total 23 hours. **Add 12 hours of psychology course electives**, and you have your total of 35 hours.

*Note: This is a **new requirement** as of Fall 2010. If you matriculated before 2010, then you *add 6 hours of psychology course electives*.*

Rules

1. Once enrolled at Rice, prior approval is required to transfer courses from another institution. As a rule, only psychology classes taken at four-year colleges or universities can transfer in. Transfer of courses previously taken at a junior college or community college will depend on an evaluation of the syllabus and material covered.
2. You may not transfer psychology courses taken pass/fail or with a grade below C-.
3. Grades earned for transfer credit are not entered on the Rice transcript. Transferred courses have no effect on a student's Rice GPA.
4. You must take PSYC 339 and 340 at Rice.
5. At least one Block I course and one Block II course must be taken at Rice; you may not transfer these courses in.
6. You may not take more than a total of 12 hours of Readings (PSYC 488) and Research (PSYC 485) combined. Note: These courses require permission of a faculty member willing to sponsor you. Email or ask them; they are more approachable than many students think.
7. Students may receive Department of Psychology credit only for courses designated as PSYC or for a course specifically cross-listed in the course catalog for that purpose. You may petition the Psychology Undergraduate Committee for an exception.
8. You may petition the Department of Psychology Undergraduate Committee for a waiver of any rule above over which the Department has control. The Committee on Examinations and Standing – and not the department – must act on exceptions to the university rules.

Words to the Wise

If any advisor or committee grants you special permission to substitute a course, transfer a course to Rice University, or waive a written requirement, **GET IT IN WRITING**, even if it's a copy of an email.