



# Department of Psychology

Information for Newly Admitted  
Students to the Faculty of Arts and  
Majoring in Psychology

# Psychology Undergraduate Advising Office

- Located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of 2001 McGill College
- **Paola Carvajal, Chief Academic Advisor**
  - Can help with program advising & other academic questions, career & graduate study advising, etc.
  - Email: [undergrad.psych@mcgill.ca](mailto:undergrad.psych@mcgill.ca)
  - Office is in Room 470
- **Tanya Aiello, Student Advising Administrator**
  - Can help with program advising & other academic questions, career & graduate study advising, etc.
  - Email: [undergrad.psych@mcgill.ca](mailto:undergrad.psych@mcgill.ca)
  - Office is in Room 471
- **Julia Marussi, Undergraduate Program Coordinator**
  - Can help with general inquiries (i.e., about programs, courses, applications, etc.)
  - Email: [undergrad.psych@mcgill.ca](mailto:undergrad.psych@mcgill.ca)
  - Office is in Room 469

# Office Hours

- **Paola Carvajal, Chief Academic Advisor**
  - Updated on a weekly basis:
    - [Psychology Undergraduate Office | Department of Psychology - McGill University](#)
- **Tanya Aiello, Student Advising Administrator**
  - Updated on a weekly basis:
    - [Psychology Undergraduate Office | Department of Psychology - McGill University](#)
- **Julia Marussi, Undergraduate Program Coordinator**
  - Updated on a weekly basis:
    - [Psychology Undergraduate Office | Department of Psychology - McGill University](#)

# Psychology Website

<https://www.mcgill.ca/psychology/>

- **Looking for the advising schedule?**
  - Click on 'Undergraduate'
- **Looking for info regarding your psychology program?**
  - Click on 'Programs of Study,' then the Bachelor you are completing, then the program
- **Looking for info about courses?**
  - Click on 'Undergraduate Courses Offered'

# Other Advising Resources

- **Arts OASIS**: Office of Advising & Student Information Services (<https://www.mcgill.ca/oasis/>)
  - Located in Dawson Hall, Room 110 (Main Campus)
- **Arts Faculty Advisor:**
  - Can help with general academic info, degree requirements, academic standing, program selection, credit load, procedures for withdrawal, deadlines, etc.
- For contact information, see <https://www.mcgill.ca/oasis/contact>

# Other Helpful Resources

- Campus Life & Engagement

- Info about campus resources and services for students and parents
  - Orientation
  - Ressources pour les étudiant(e)s francophones
  - Monthly newsletter
  - Student Life at McGill (i.e., athletics, student associations)
- Located in Suite 4100, Brown Student Services Building
- Contact info: <https://www.mcgill.ca/cle/contact>

# Email

- You now have a McGill email address!
  - It is: [firstname.lastname@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@mail.mcgill.ca)
  - The McGill address and inbox are given automatically upon confirmation on Minerva of acceptance to McGill. Notification of this is sent to the email address the student provided upon application.
- Use only this address in all communication with university departments & offices. University employees will send emails to your McGill address only.
- For information on email access set-up, logins and passwords, MINERVA, etc., see
  - <https://www.mcgill.ca/it/>

**Getting a B.A. at McGill:**  
**Faculty of Arts Requirements**



# Getting a B.A. at McGill: Overview

- A B.A. requires **120 credits** (students can receive up to 30 credits of advanced credits from CEGEP, AP credits, A-Levels, IB, etc. )
  - *If you did CEGEP = 30 credits, so 90 left to complete at McGill*
  - *If you did U0 year = ~30 credits, so ~90 left to complete at McGill*
- How do you structure those credits?
  - **Multi-track system:**
    - This enables you to acquire a breadth of knowledge in **at least two** (and optionally, three) **core disciplines**.
    - There are several ways (**multiple tracks**) you are allowed to structure these 90 credits...

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  - **Major Concentration:** typically centered on one discipline/department
  - **Minor concentration:** coherent sequence of courses in a second discipline. Less comprehensive than a major; requires fewer credits.

# Getting a B.A. at McGill: Possible Multi-Track Combinations

- Option A
  - Major Concentration (36 credits) + Minor Concentration (18 credits) + Electives (36 credits)
- Option B
  - Major Concentration 1 (36 credits) + Major Concentration 2 (36 credits) + Electives (18 credits)
- Option C
  - Major Concentration (36 credits) + Minor Concentration 1 (18 credits) + Minor Concentration 2 (18 credits) + Electives (18 credits)

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- If Honours (students can apply after U1)
  - Psychology Honours Program (60 credits) + Minor Concentration (18 credits) + Electives (12 credits)
  - Joint Honours Psychology (36 credits) + Joint Honours Component 2 (36 credits) + Electives (18 credits)

# Getting a B.A. at McGill: Option A

## Option A: PSYC Major Concentration & 1 Minor Concentration

- **Major Concentration (PSYC)** **36 credits**
- **Minor Concentration (non-PSYC)** **18 credits**
- **Elective Courses** **36 credits**

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**TOTAL: 90 credits**

**Note 1:** Students cannot choose the “Educational Psychology Minor Concentration” along with a Major Concentration in Psychology, unless they also take a second minor concentration in a non-psychology discipline (in this case, 2<sup>nd</sup> minor concentration cannot be in Behavioural Science).

**Note 2:** Students cannot take Educational Psychology courses to count towards the Psychology Major Concentration or the Behavioural Science Minor Concentration.

# Getting a B.A. at McGill: Option B

## Option B: PSYC Major Concentration & 2<sup>nd</sup> Major Concentration

- Major Concentration 1 (PSYC) 36 credits
- Major Concentration 2 (non-PSYC) 36 credits
- Elective Courses 18 credits

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TOTAL: 90 credits

# Getting a B.A. at McGill: Option C

## Option C: PSYC Major Concentration & 2 Minor Concentrations

- **Major Concentration (PSYC)** **36 credits**
- **Minor Concentration 1** **18 credits**
- **Minor Concentration 2 (non-PSYC)** **18 credits**
- **Elective Courses** **18 credits**

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**TOTAL: 90 credits**

Please see Notes 1 and 2 on slide 11 (Getting a B.A. at McGill: Option A).

# Getting a B.A. at McGill: Option C

## Option C: Specialization Combination

- **Major Concentration (PSYC)** **36 credits**
- **Minor Conc. (Behavioural Science)** **18 credits**
- **Minor Concentration 2 (non-PSYC)** **18 credits**
- **Elective Courses** **18 credits**

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**TOTAL: 90 credits**

Please see Notes 1 and 2 on slide 11 (Getting a B.A. at McGill: Option A).

**Getting a B.A. at McGill:**

**Psychology Department Requirements**

# Checklists!

Download them, use them, save them!

Available online:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/psychology/undergraduate/programs-study/bachelor-arts-ba>

(click on your program, and it will be on the right-hand side)



# What are the Prerequisites?

- If you need to take any of the prerequisites at McGill, they will be categorized as elective credit.
- **Introductory Psychology – PSYC 100**
  - If you have a CEGEP (or university-level) equivalent, you do not take PSYC 100
  - Examples of equivalent courses (CEGEP titles)
    - “Introduction to Psychology”
    - “Introductory Psychology”
    - “General Psychology”
- **Biology – BIOL 111 or BIOL 112 or BIOL 115**
  - Examples of courses (CEGEP titles)
    - “Human Biology”
    - “General Biology 1” (or 2)



# Major Concentration in Psychology (36 credits)

B.A. or B.A. & Sc. (B.A.&Sc.: *Psych is your Science Component*)

- **U1 Required Courses (15 credits)**

- PSYC 204: Introductory Statistics
- PSYC 211: Intro to Behavioural Neuroscience
- PSYC 212: Perception
- PSYC 213 Cognition
- PSYC 215: Social Psychology

- **U1 or U2 Required Courses (3 credits)**

- PSYC 305: Statistics for Experimental Design
  - If planning to apply to Honours Psychology at the end of U1, then need to complete PSYC 305 in U1.

- **Complementary Courses (18 credits)**

- 3 credits Psychology from **List A** (i.e., Behavioural Neuroscience, Cognitive, QM)
- 3 credits Psychology from **List B** (i.e., Social, Health, Developmental)
- 6 credits in Psychology at 300 level or above
- 6 credits in Psychology at 400 level or above

# Statistics

- PSYC majors must complete **2 stats courses**: **PSYC 204** and **PSYC 305**
- You are **exempted** from **PSYC 204** if, in CEGEP, you completed **with grades of 75% or higher in both courses**:

Quantitative Methods

**AND** one of

Statistics for Social Science  
Advanced Quantitative Methods  
Statistics

- **Note 1**: If you are exempt, then you may ***not*** take PSYC 204 for credit.
- **Note 2**: **B.A. students** who receive this exemption, will replace PSYC 204 with 3 credits at the 300 level or higher in PSYC, ANTH, LING, or SOCI.  
**B.A.&Sc. students** will replace it with 3 credits at the 300 level or higher in PSYC.
- **Note 3**: If you receive exemption & *if you plan to apply for Honours*, then you must take PSYC 305 in U1.

# Minor Concentration in Behavioural Science (offered only to Arts Psychology Majors)

- **Complementary Courses (18 credits)**
  - 3 credits Psychology from **List A**
    - (Behavioural Neuroscience, Cognitive, Quantitative Methods)
  - 3 credits Psychology from **List B**
    - (Social, Health, Developmental Psychology)
  - 3 credits in Psychology at 400 level or above
  - 9 credits in Psychology or **Related Areas** at the 300 level or above in any of these disciplines: **Psychology, Anthropology, Linguistics, or Sociology**
  - **Note:** *There can be **no overlap** with the Major Concentration in Psychology or other program.*
- **Why would someone do this?**
  - If *not* in Honours, and plan to apply to graduate studies.
  - Want to make their degree more specialized in Psychology than just the 36-credit Major Concentration in Psychology.

**Getting a B.A. at McGill:**  
**Other Useful Things to Know**

# Elective Courses: How to Choose?

- **Interest!**
- **Diversity**
- **200 levels in Related Areas** (pre-reqs)
- **Francophones:** There are a few courses offered in French; also courses in English as a second language
- **Electives can be chosen from the Faculty of Arts or the Faculty of Science** (make sure you meet the prerequisite/s)
- **Electives in Faculties other than Arts or Science:** B.A. students can take a MAX of 12 credits in Faculties other than Arts or Science (e.g.: Management, Education, etc.).
  - See Section “*Courses Outside the Faculties of Arts and of Science*” for B.A. in the Undergraduate Calendar for more details:  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/oasis/academic/courses/courses-outside-faculties-arts-or-science>
- **Note:** Minerva is a computer program that was not designed to perform any gate-keeping functions. In other words, MINERVA will let you do things that conflict with Faculty and/or Departmental regulations and requirements. So: **MINERVA will not indicate to you whether you have reached your maximum.** You must keep track of this yourself.

# Course Load

- **Normally, 5 courses** (15 credits) per semester
- **Full-time status** means 4 or 5 courses (12-15 credits) per semester
- **Quebec loans:** Minimum of 4 courses (12 credits) per semester
  - Other government **loans: Check with Financial Aid Officer**
- **McGill Scholarships:** Minimum of 27 *graded* credits per academic year (i.e., Fall & Winter semesters) to be eligible for scholarship *and* to keep one.
- **Psychology Honours Program:** Minimum of 27 *graded* credits in the academic year (i.e., Fall & Winter) before you apply.
- **You are advised** to take 4 courses in your first semester if you:
  - work over 10 hours per week
  - are studying in English for the first time
  - have been out of school for a few years
  - have family or other commitments that require a significant amount of your time.

# What do I Register for in U1?

**Everyone** who intends to do a Psych Major Concentration should register for the following required courses in U1:

**PSYC 211** (Intro. to Behavioural Neuroscience)

**PSYC 212** (Perception)

**PSYC 213** (Cognition)

**PSYC 215** (Social Psychology)

**PSYC 204** (Introductory Stats) (unless equivalent already completed)

Recommended in U1 is (***if applying to Honours at the end of U1, then you must complete in U1***):

**PSYC 305** (Experimental Stats)

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**The number of prerequisites remaining will impact:**

- when you take your stats courses
- the number of electives you take

*See next slide for examples*



# Sample Schedules for U1

- **Sample 1** – If no prerequisites completed yet:

## **FALL 2023:**

PSYC 211: Intro to Beh. Neurosci  
PSYC 215: Social Psychology  
BIOL 115: Essential Biology  
PSYC 100: Introductory Psych  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor course

## **WINTER 2024:**

PSYC 204: Intro to Statistics  
PSYC 212: Perception  
PSYC 213: Cognition  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor

**\*PSYC  
305 in U1  
or U2**

- **Sample 2** – If have completed prereqs, but no stats:

## **FALL 2023:**

PSYC 211: Intro to Beh. Neurosci  
PSYC 215: Social Psychology  
PSYC 204: Intro to Statistics  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor course  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor course

## **WINTER 2024:**

PSYC 212: Perception  
PSYC 213: Cognition  
PSYC 305: Stats for Experim. Design  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor course  
XXXX ????: Elective or Minor course

***If you have some of the prerequisite or statistics courses done, your schedule will involve a combination of the principles governing those above***

# Dates & Deadlines to Know About

- Confirm these dates and others on the following website:  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/>

## **Fall 2023:**

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| – <b>First day of class:</b>                 | <b>Wed. August 30</b>     |
| – <b>Course Change (&amp; S/U option):</b>   | <b>Tues. September 12</b> |
| – <b>Withdrawal, <i>with</i> fee refund:</b> | <b>Tues. September 19</b> |
| – <b>Withdrawal, <i>no</i> fee refund:</b>   | <b>Tues. October 24</b>   |
| – <b>Last Day of Class:</b>                  | <b>Tues. December 5</b>   |
| – <b>Exam period:</b>                        | <b>Dec. 7 to Dec. 21</b>  |

# Dates & Deadlines to Know About

## Winter 2024:

- **First day of class:** **Thurs. January 4**
- **Course Change (& S/U option):** **Tues. January 16**
- **Withdrawal, *with* fee refund:** **Tues. January 23**
- **Withdrawal, winter course, *no* refund:** **Tues. February 27**
- **Reading Week:** **Mar. 4 to Mar. 8**
- **Last day of class:** **Fri. April 12**
- **Exam period:** **Apr. 15 to Apr. 30**

# Plan of Action

- **Online: Declare your major** as *Psychology* on MINERVA
  - Go to “Student Menu” --- “Student Records Menu” --- “Change Your Curriculum”
- **Register for the PSYC courses** you plan to take for **Fall & Winter** as soon as registration opens.
- **How to Register?**
  - Go to “Student Menu” --- “Registration Menu”

Over the next 3 or so years you spend at McGill, there will be other pieces of info you will want to have. Come visit the Advising Office, keep your eye out for talks/presentations, and talk to Faculty, etc.

Wishing you a wonderful start to  
the semester!