

Psychology

Recommended Four-Year Plan (Fall 2023)

This recommended four-year plan is designed to provide a guide and framework for students to help them complete their degrees within four years. This guide illustrates a generally recommended sequence and arrangement of courses. Please use this guide to help you think through your plan. All students must meet with their Major Advisor to develop a more individualized plan to complete their degree. This plan assumes that no remedial courses are required. If remedial courses are needed, students may have additional requirements to fulfill which are not listed in the plan, and degree completion may take longer.

NOTE: This recommended Four-Year Plan is applicable to students admitted into the major during the 2023-2024 academic year.

Please be sure to read the full narrative text, below the four year plan template which follows here, to get a stronger sense of how the program is organized as well as how to proceed effectively through the Psychology Program.

First Year					
Fall Semester	HRS	✓	Spring Semester	HRS	✓
Gen Ed: INTD 101-First Year Seminar	4		Gen Ed: Quantitative Reasoning – (Preferred) MATH 108 – Elementary Probability and Statistics	4	
Gen Ed/SSHS School Core-Social Science Inquiry (SOSC 110)	4		Gen Ed: Studies in Arts and Humanities (AHD 201)	4	
PSYC 101-Introduction to Psychology	4		Gen Ed: Historical Perspectives	4	
Gen Ed: CRWT 102-Critical Reading & Writing II	4		Category 1 Course: Social and Organizational - (Recommended: PSYC 226 OR PSYC 345)	4	
			Career Pathways: PATH SS1 – Career Pathways Module 1	Degree Rqmt.	
Total:	16		Total:	16	

Second Year					
Fall Semester	HRS	✓	Spring Semester	HRS	✓
Category 2 Course: Cognition and Perception- (Recommended: PSYC 202 OR PSYC 209 OR PSYC 227)	4		Major: PSYC 242 - Statistics	4	
Category 3 Course: Developmental* - (Recommended: PSYC 212, OR PSYC 241, OR PSYC 263, OR PSYC 347)	4		SSHS School Core: SOSC235: History of Social Thought	4	
Gen Ed: Global Awareness	4		Category 4 Course: Sociocultural Perspectives - (Recommended: PSYC 231, OR PSYC 239, OR PSYC 311, OR PSYC 335, OR PSYC 349)	4	
School Core: Sustainability, Society and Civic Mindedness: Intro Course Outside of Major - EDUC 221, OR ENST 209, OR LAWS 131, OR SOCI 101	4		Gen Ed: Scientific Reasoning	4	
Career Pathways: PATH SS2 – Career Pathways Module 2	Degree Rqmt.		Career Pathways: PATH SS3 – Career Pathways Module 3	Degree Rqmt.	
Total:	16		Total:	16	

Third Year					
Fall Semester	HRS	✓	Spring Semester	HRS	✓
PSYC 303-Research Methods WI	4		General Elective: Elective	4	
PSYC 304-Data Analysis	4		**Gen Ed: Distribution Category (Choose one) Culture and Creativity, (or) Systems, Sustainability, and Society (or) Values and Ethics - PSYC 206 Ethical and Legal Issues in Psychology (recommended)	4	
**Gen Ed: Distribution Category (Choose one): Culture and Creativity, (or) Systems, Sustainability, and Society (or) Values and Ethics (Outside of SSHS)	4		Major: Category 5-Clinical Perspectives	4	
Major: Psychology Elective	4		General Elective: Elective	4	
Total:	16		Total:	16	

Fourth Year					
Fall Semester	HRS	✓	Spring Semester	HRS	✓
General Elective: Elective	4		Category 8 Capstone Seminar WI	4	
General Elective: Elective	4		General Elective: Elective	4	
Category 6: Brain and Behavior	4		General Elective: Elective	4	
Category 7: (Fieldwork) WI	4		General Elective: Elective	4	
Total:	16		Total:	16	

Total Credits Required: 128 credits

GPA: 2.0 **WI:** Writing Intensive courses needed prior to graduation

*If you would like to take Adolescent Psychology (PSYC 347), wait to complete Category 3 until your junior year or switch it out with a Psych elective from the third year.

** Gen Ed Distribution Categories: two of the three categories are required with 1 course from outside of academic school.

Psychology Program at Ramapo College: 4 Year Guidelines

The Psychology Program at Ramapo College is designed to give students a broad range of approaches and perspectives within the complex discipline of Psychology, and the 4 year guidelines are organized to help students plan their path forward to complete the program in the most positive and effective way.

The Psychology Program Core Courses

There are a few courses that can be considered anchor points within the program. These courses are essential to take at the times suggested in order for you to navigate the program successfully. These include Introduction to Psychology, Statistics, Research Methods, and Data Analysis. These courses will help you to gain entry into other courses, and to understand the content materials in other courses.

Introduction to Psychology is a prerequisite to all other Psychology courses, so it is essential to take it during your first semester as a Psychology Major.

Statistics is a prerequisite for Research Methods and Data Analysis so it is essential to take it during your second year (Sophomore year) at Ramapo.

We strongly encourage you to take Research Methods and Data Analysis (two courses that are taken in the same semester with the same faculty member) in your first semester Junior year if you have completed the prerequisites by that time. Students must have junior or senior standing to register for these courses and have completed Introduction to Psychology and PSYC242 Statistics. At the latest, take Research Methods and Data Analysis during your second semester junior year.

Psychology Categories:

The Psychology Program is organized through a category system that provides students with the opportunity to learn within some of the essential and established perspectives within Psychology. The 8 Categories are also organized by level (200 and 300).

Categories 1, 2, and 3 are generally taken earlier on in the program, (with some exception, such as Adolescent Psychology and Industrial-Organizational Psychology which need to be taken at junior status).

Categories 4, 5, and 6 are generally taken a bit later on in the program, as they are all 300 level courses.

Categories 7 and 8 are the culmination of the program (Fieldwork and the Capstone course) and are to be taken during the last phases of your work in the program.

Again, please discuss with your Psychology Advisor which courses and categories best meet your needs.

Electives

The plan includes the opportunity for students to take 8 elective courses. This provides students with the ability to create their own unique educational experience at Ramapo. One of the elective courses must be a Psychology Course. The remaining 7 courses are free, to be used as you wish.

The opportunity to take electives, to elect the courses you wish to take, provides students with the room to:

- declare a minor
- explore their education through any courses they wish
- design their own organized cluster of classes in the areas of their choice.

Speak to your Advisor about which approach is best for you.

Your Psychology Advisor

The Psychology Faculty is dedicated to your development as students and people. These guidelines have been created with you in mind. They have been designed to provide structure and flexibility. Work with your Advisor so you can take, and make, the most of your experience here in the Psychology Program at Ramapo.