Western Michigan University Psychology Curriculum Guide

Pre-psychology requirements:

- There are 2 options for majoring in psychology: the general psychology major and the behavioral science major. Information about these two majors can be found at the psychology department website;
- In order to officially declare a major in behavioral science, a student must have completed the courses listed below, with a “B” (3.0) or better in each course;
- The process for declaring the general psychology major is to complete PSY 1000, 1400, 1600, and 3000, with a “C” (2.0) in each course.

The following courses are required for both psychology majors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WMU courses</th>
<th>SMC courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1000</td>
<td>PSYC 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1400</td>
<td>No equivalent **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1600</td>
<td>PSYC 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 3000</td>
<td>No equivalent **</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Where there are “No equivalent” courses, students may either complete these courses at another college, or plan to take them in the first semester at WMU.

General education requirements:

- Please refer to the WMU general education program transfer guide that lists which general education courses are required by WMU and may be taken at SMC;
- One of the general education requirements is a math requirement. We recommend statistics, because much of the interpretation of psychological research rests on knowledge in statistics;
- Students who major in psychology (and many other majors) must complete a 2 semester foreign language requirement, which may be met in one of 3 ways:
  - Two semesters of one college language;
  - Two years of one high school language with a B- or higher in the last (4th) semester, or at any point after that if more than two years are completed;
• Or through passing a language proficiency test. Please contact the WMU World Languages department for languages other than Spanish, and the Spanish department for that language. Neither the MACRAO Agreement nor the Michigan Transfer Agreement satisfy the world language requirement;
• If the student’s first language is not English, then the student is exempt from this requirement. Determination of eligibility for this exemption is based on whether the student was required to take the TOEFL test for admission, and can be verified through the WMU departments of Spanish or World Languages and Literatures.
  ➢ The College of Arts and Sciences requires a critical thinking course, chosen from Proficiency 4c. See the general education transfer guide cited above. MACRAO or the MTA will cover this requirement;
  ➢ You may email the WMU advisors in the College of Arts and Sciences for further clarification about general education requirements (see address below).

Important notes:

➢ Depending on your major track, you will need 3 – 4 approved Psychology electives. PSYC 102, 215, 260, and 296 are approved psychology electives for both psychology majors at SMC;
➢ Pre-psychology requirements changed after the Fall 2011 catalog. If you started your major prior to that date, please contact the psychology advisors to learn what your options are;
➢ A minimum of 9 credit hours must be taken toward the major from the WMU Psychology department;
➢ For more specific information about the psychology majors, or to declare your major, please contact psychology advising below.

Approved by:
Kevin Knutson - Director of Advising
College of Arts and Sciences

For general education advising:
wmich.edu/arts-sciences/advising

Contact information:
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