



TIPS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

Welcome to the Department of Psychology at UW- Madison!

The Department of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin, among the oldest in the United States, has fostered a tradition of excellence in research and scholarship since its founding in 1888. Our faculty conducts leading edge research that spans the breadth and diversity of contemporary psychology, including the biological bases of behavior in many organisms (including humans), emotion, language, perception, memory, cognitive development, psychopathology, depression, addiction, motivation, prejudice, and personality. Our leadership role in these areas is reflected in the fact that members of our faculty edit several leading scholarly journals, and we currently lead all publically funded U.S. departments of psychology in federal research and development funding by an astounding factor of 2! This blend of rich tradition and contemporary leadership combine to make the Department of Psychology a uniquely vibrant and productive environment in which to study mind, brain, and behavior. We are looking forward to having you as a student in our department!

Important Information for New and Prospective Transfer Students:

- 1) Students may declare the Psychology major at any point after successful completion (C or better) of Introduction to Psychology (Psych 201 or 202).** If you completed this at your previous institution you may, and are encouraged to, declare at your earliest convenience.
- 2) We have a psych major list serve that all students should sign up for once they enroll at UW-Madison.** To join the listserv send a blank e-mail to join-psych_majors@lists.wisc.edu. An e-mail will then be sent to you confirming that you would like to join this list. This confirmation might end up in your junk mail, so if you do not see it right away check your junk mail folder.
- 3) All transfer students should schedule an appointment with a Psychology Advisor within their first semester** on campus to both declare the psychology major and develop an academic plan. Directions for how to make an appointment with one of the advisors are found at: psych.wisc.edu. Click the “Schedule an Appointment” link on the left.
- 4) Any advising related e-mails should be addressed to advisor@psych.wisc.edu** using your wisc.edu e-mail account and include your student ID number.
- 5) If a psychology course taken at your previous institution transfers in as a psychology elective** (ex. Psych X12) you may have one of the undergraduate advisors review the syllabus to determine if it is appropriate for one of our requirements. You may either send a copy electronically or bring a copy in to your first advising appointment.
- 6) We recommend taking a Psychology breadth or depth course (see Psychology Major Requirements for a list of courses) in your first semester** at UW-Madison. This will give you the opportunity to get to know our department and acclimate to campus prior to taking Statistics or Research Methods.



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7) We only accept four statistics options: Psych 210, Soc. 360, Stats 371 or Gen Bus 303 for our statistics requirement. Many times statistics transfers in as Stat 301. **THIS CLASS DOES NOT WORK IF TAKEN AT UW-Madison for the Psych major.** However, if you believe your transferred statistics course should count, meaning it covered measures of central tendency, variability; probability, sampling distributions; hypothesis testing, confidence intervals; t-tests; Chi-square; regression and correlation (linear), as well as a significant amount of analysis of variance (ANOVAs), you may submit an electronic copy of your syllabus to the psychology advisors at advisor@psych.wisc.edu for review.

8) We do not recommend taking Psych 225 (Research Methods) in your first semester at UW-Madison. This is a very demanding course. Ideally students would take the course the spring of their junior year or earlier, but you can still graduate within four years if you successfully complete the course in the fall of your senior year.

9) More notes on Psychology 225: Students must earn a C or better in both Intro Psych and Statistics in order to enroll in Psych 225. Intro Psych and statistics are enforced pre-requisites for Psych 225 and cannot be taken concurrently with Psych 225. If you transferred in one or both of these classes, the system will be able to validate your enrollment. If we are accepting a transferred statistics class that is not of the four options above (e.g. Stat 301), you must contact a psychology advisor (in person or over email) prior to your enrollment date so that we may help you validate the class in your enrollment shopping cart.

10) Even more notes on Psych 225: If you earned a C or better in Introductory Psychology and are enrolled in statistics, you may enroll in Psych 225 at your scheduled enrollment time for the upcoming term without your statistics grade verified. You must earn a C or better to remain in Psych 225; otherwise, you will be automatically dropped from Psych 225 by the Office of the Registrar. You can find a document addressing 225 enrollment on our website: <http://psych.wisc.edu/undergraduate-courses.htm>

11) Research is a fantastic way to get involved in the department, gain experience, and discover more about the field of Psychology. Check out our website and speak with an advisor to find out more about this great opportunity.

12) RESOURCES on-campus:

Transfer Transition Program - transfer.wisc.edu

University Libraries – library.wisc.edu

Greater University Tutoring Services (GUTS) – guts.wisc.edu

UW Writing Center – writing.wisc.edu

Adult Career & Special Student Services - continuingstudies.wisc.edu/advising

Office of Student Employment – jobcenter.wisc.edu