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 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 of Intro 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.
TIPS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

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. If you believe your transferred statistics course should count, meaning it covered a significant amount of 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: A GPA of 2.75 must be earned between Introductory Psychology and the chosen statistics course (see list in number 1) (with at least a C or better in each course) to enroll in Psychology 225. Students who transfer in either of these two courses MUST meet with a Psychology Advisor prior to enrolling in Psychology 225 in order to confirm the 2.75 GPA is met.

10) Even more notes on Psych 225: If you earned an A or AB in Introductory Psychology and are currently enrolled in statistics, you may enroll in Psych 225 at your scheduled enrollment time. If you earned a B, BC or C, you will need to wait for your statistics grade to be in the system prior to enrolling in Psych 225. We will hold limited seats in Psych 225, and then after the grades are in the system for that term we will open up the seats with priority given based on class standing. This means you may not be able to enroll in Psych 225 immediately after statistics. Please plan accordingly. 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

Undergraduate Psychology Advisors: advisor@psych.wisc.edu

Rooms 426, 428, & 430 Psychology bldg