TIPS FOR PSYCHOLOGY TRANSFER STUDENTS

DECLARE THE MAJOR - Students may declare the Psychology major once they begin their first semester at UW-Madison AND after successful completion (C or better) of Introduction to Psychology (Psych 202). If you completed this at your previous institution you may, and are encouraged to, declare at your earliest convenience once you’ve started your first semester at UW-Madison. Students can declare the major through our canvas course or by meeting with a Psychology Advisor.

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST - We have a psych major listserv which we use to send important information about the major, courses, and opportunities in the department and on-campus. To join the listserv send a blank e-mail to Psych_majors+subscribe@g-groups.wisc.edu. An e-mail will then be sent to you confirming that you would like to join this list.

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A PSYCH ADVISOR - 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 > Undergraduate Program > Schedule an Appointment.

CHECK OUT OUR CANVAS SITE - Our canvas course is a great resource for students who would like to learn more about the major requirements, opportunities in the department, research and career exploration. Our canvas course is another way you can declare the Psychology major.

REVIEW YOUR TRANSFERRED PSYCHOLOGY COURSES - If a psychology course taken at your previous institution transfers in as a psychology elective (ex. Psych X12) you may have our undergraduate program coordinator review the syllabus to determine if it is an appropriate equivalent for one of the Psychology major requirements. You may send an electronic copy to enrollment@psych.wisc.edu. Please have elective courses for the Psych major reviewed by the end of your first semester at UW-Madison.
DID YOU TRANSFER A STATISTICS, BIOLOGY, or RESEARCH METHODS COURSE? If the course(s) did not transfer as a direct equivalent (ex. Psych 210) discuss these transferred courses with a Psych Advisor. If, after reviewing a syllabus for the course, the undergraduate program coordinator determines that the course covered sufficient content to fulfill a psychology major foundation requirement then an exception will be made to accept the course for the Psychology major. Note: If the department accepts an elective (ie. not direct equivalent) for one of your major courses, extra steps may be required to enroll in future Psych courses that require one of the above courses as a pre-requisite. Contact enrollment@psych.wisc.edu prior to your enrollment date.

TAKE A BREADTH OR DEPTH COURSE FIRST - We recommend taking a Psychology breadth or depth course (see Psychology Major Checklist 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. We have reserved seats in Psych breadth and depth courses for our incoming transfer students. Each student will be given permission to enroll in ONE Psych breadth or depth course.

CONSIDER EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

- GETTING INVOLVED IN RESEARCH - Research is a fantastic way to get involved in the department, gain experience, and discover more about the field of Psychology. Check out research opportunities for undergraduate students on our website and/or speak with an advisor to learn more about this great opportunity: psych.wisc.edu > Undergraduate Program > Research Opportunities
- ATTEND undergraduate events for Psychology students: psych.wisc.edu > Undergraduate Program > Events
- JOIN a campus or department student organization are other excellent way to get involved too: psych.wisc.edu > Undergraduate Program > Involvement

STAY-IN TOUCH – 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.