Psychology (Major/Minor) - For students admitted in or after 2013/2014

I. Objectives

This program aims to:

- allow students to develop basic skills across all areas of Psychology, including the biological and cognitive bases of behavior, developmental changes, social influences, and psychopathology;
- provide students with training in statistical and research methods that are essential for the implementation and consumption of psychological research;
- develop skills in critical analysis, reasoning, and self-reflection;
- provide students opportunities for tackling novel problems, and give them experience of addressing issues that are ill-defined; and
- be an internationally-recognized qualification in fundamental aspects of Psychology that allows students to pursue both professional training in applied aspects of Psychology (e.g., Clinical Psychology, Educational Psychology) and advanced research training in all areas of Psychology.

II. Programme structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>No. of credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Introductory courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Disciplinary</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Pre-requisites*</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2 courses from 5 units)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Advanced courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Core courses</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(PSYC2060, Stream 1, Stream 2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Disciplinary electives</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(PSYC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Capstone experience</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Stream 3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Social Innovation and</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Citizenship#</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SI &amp; GC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>96</td>
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</table>
**Psychology Major Flowchart (4-year Curriculum)**

*Candidates who opt to declare two major programmes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences should avoid selecting overlapping pre-requisites.*

#Candidates who opt to declare double majors in Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work and Social Administration are allowed to undertake 24 credits of free electives, to fulfil the Faculty off-campus learning courses for the second major.

Candidates who wish to major (96 credits) or minor (36 credits) in Psychology must complete:

a) **Introductory courses (24 credits for major; 6 credits for minor)**

i) Disciplinary courses:

PSYC1001. Introduction to psychology (6 credits); and  
PSYC1004. Introduction to quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)

**Note 1:** PSYC1001 & PSYC1004 are compulsory for psychology major. PSYC1004 is offered to either year one or year two students of 4-year curriculum. However, places are limited for year two students of 4-year curriculum.

Candidates who minor in Psychology must complete the disciplinary course PSYC1001.

ii) Two pre-requisite courses from the following five units, but not more than one from a single unit (12 credits):

Faculty of Social Sciences  
Geography  
Politics and Public Administration  
Social Work and Social Administration  
Sociology

b) **Advanced courses (72 credits for major; 30 credits for minor)**

i) Core courses (36 credits)

1) **Compulsory** course:

PSYC2060. Research and quantitative methods in psychology, and

2) 2 courses from the **First Stream**:
3) 3 courses from the **Second Stream**:

- PSYC2009. Life-span developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2019. Psychology of personality (6 credits)
- PSYC2020. Fundamentals of social psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC2062. Introduction to psychopathology (6 credits)

**Note 2:** These disciplinary electives are advanced level courses at Level 2000, 3000 and 4000. Students are required to take at least 6 credits of disciplinary electives (excluding those 36 credits counted towards the core courses) for major, and 30 credits for minor.

iii) **Capstone experience (for major only)**

1 advanced lab course from the **Third Stream** to fulfill capstone experience (taken in year 3 or year 4):

- PSYC3052. Advanced social psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3053. Advanced research in I/O psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3054. Human neuropsychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3061. Advanced issues in perception (6 credits)
- PSYC3064. Advanced developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC3068. Advanced cognitive Psychology (6 credits)

**Note 3:** An Advanced Lab course is required for taking Thesis in Psychology. You may be invited by the Department to take Thesis in Psychology in year 4 if you meet the criterion for taking this course. Please see “**An Overview of Thesis in Psychology**” on the Psychology Departmental webpage.

iv) **Social Innovation and Global Citizenship (24 credits)**

For BSocSc students (Faculty off-campus learning courses)

Students are required to undertake 24 credits of off-campus learning under the twin themes Social Innovation and Global Citizenship as a condition of graduation. To fulfil the Social Innovation requirement, candidates must either complete FOSS2018 or a combination of FOSS4003 and FOSS2021. To fulfil the Global Citizenship requirement, candidates must
either complete FOSS2019, FOSS2020, undertake 12 credits of advanced courses on exchange studies or on an overseas summer programme approved by the Faculty. Candidates may complete a maximum of 30 credits of experiential learning (internship) during their studies.

FOSS2018. Social Innovation internship (12 credits)
FOSS2019. Global Citizenship internship (12 credits)
FOSS2020. Global Citizenship summer institute (12 credits)
FOSS2021. Comparative East Asian Studies internship (6 credits)
FOSS4003. The political economy of global Asia (6 credits)

For non-BSoSc students
Students are required to undertake 24 credits of courses listed under the Faculty of Social Sciences syllabuses, including the social sciences and non-social sciences courses.

Note 4: The selection of courses and special topics in psychology available in a particular year is subject to the approval of the Head of the Department. In course registration, students should pay special attention to the prerequisite of courses as specified in the syllabuses. In exceptional cases these may be waived. For course description of each course, please click here for details.

Note 5: Please pay attention to the updated membership requirement of Hong Kong Psychological Society at https://hkps.org.hk/en/membership/membership_guide/ from the question “Who can become member?” Please also read carefully the Letter from the Head of Department dated 04 Dec 2013 concerning the membership of HKPS if students are planning to take further study.

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