

PSYCHOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

What are the requirements for a Bachelor's degree in Psychology?

- The Psychology degree requirements have changed for all students entering in the program in Fall 2005 and after.
 - Pre-Fall 2005: Requires 28 hours in Psychology, with a minimum of 22 completed at UMKC.
 - Fall 2005 – current: Requires 31 hours in Psychology, with a minimum of 22 completed at UMKC.
- For specific degree requirements, please see our Psychology website at: <http://cas.umkc.edu/psyc/undergrad/studyplan.htm>.

What Psychology courses count as electives?

- 300/400 level Psychology courses may count as Psychology electives. The department offers a broad range of electives, such as: Introduction to Health Psychology, Applied Psychology, Environmental Psychology, Advanced Child Development, Psychology of Women, and Family Life Cycle.
- However, if you take multiple courses from a specific Core Area (for example, Core Area A requires you to take **either** Child Psychology or Social Psychology), then one of your courses from that Core Area will fulfill your Core Area requirement, and the other will count as one of your Psychology electives.

How do I find out if my Psychology credits transfer from another university?

- General Psychology will always transfer from other universities.
- In order for another course to transfer, it must:
 - be a course that is offered at UMKC, and;
 - be approved by the faculty that teaches the course at UMKC.
- To determine which courses will transfer, you will first need to meet with a Psychology Advisor to review your transcript.
 - Next, obtain a copy of the syllabus from that class to be given to the faculty member who teaches the equivalent course at UMKC. (Note: Many students do not keep copies of the syllabi from all their courses. If you do not have a copy of a syllabus you need, contact the professor that taught the course by email or phone, and normally he or she can send you a copy).
 - A faculty member in the department will then review the syllabus to determine if your course covered the same material as the course offered here.
 - A Psychology Advisor will contact you within a month regarding the status of the course transferring.
- Please allow sufficient time to determine if your courses are equivalent. Waiting until your last semester could delay your graduation.
- Also keep in mind that you **must** complete a minimum of 22 of your Psychology hours at UMKC, which will limit the amount of classes that you may transfer in from another university.

RESEARCH AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

How do I get involved in research as a Psychology major?

- If you are interested in psychological research, or plan to attend graduate school, consider getting involved in a research lab or conducting an individual research project.
- The Psychology department offers an elective, Psychology 490, which may be taken for 1-6 credit hours. This course is taken under the supervision of a faculty member within the Department of Psychology.
- Most faculty members prefer that students have completed Psych 302WI, the research course in Psychology, before completing a 490.
- Because we have a limited number of faculty members, students must apply for a Psych 490 position. The steps for applying are as follows:
 - First, refer to this list of faculty members to determine which have research interests similar to your own. The list of faculty can be found at: <http://cas.umkc.edu/psyc/People.asp> or you can pick one up by stopping by the Psychology Advising Office.
 - Second, contact professors that you would be interested in working with to determine if they are accepting applications for their research labs. We suggest applying to more than one lab to increase your chances of acceptance.
 - Third, fill out the 490 Application. You will need to fill out a separate application for each position you are applying to. The application can be picked up in the Psychology Advising Office.
 - Last, return the 490 application to the professor's mailbox located in the Psychology Office at: 4825 Troost, Suite 124. The professor will notify you within a few weeks.

Are there internship opportunities in the Psychology Department?

- Currently, the Psychology Department does not offer internship opportunities. However, the Career Services Center often helps students find jobs or internships related to Psychology. For more information, please call: (816) 235-1636.
- The Communication Department does offer a course related to internships (Communication Studies 484). The credit you receive would be for your **General Education Requirements** and not your Psychology Requirements. However, any internship experience that you can gain will be beneficial for you in the future, so even though you would not receive Psychology course credits for this class, we highly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity if feasible.
 - For more information, please contact Carol Koehler at: (816) 235-1693 or by email at: koehlerc@umkc.edu.

GRADUATION PROCEDURES

What is a degree audit?

- When you have completed 90 credit hours, you should complete a degree audit through Arts & Sciences Advising (Scofield Hall, Room 9). An Arts and Science Advisor will check that you have taken the required general education requirements, and inform you of what you still need to complete to graduate.
- After you have completed a degree audit with Arts and Science Advising, you need to complete a Psychology degree audit with the Psychology Advising Office. This process is similar to the degree audit you performed with Arts and Science Advising, except that we will be checking to make sure you have completed your Psychology requirements specifically. We will also inform you of what you have left to complete to graduate with a B.A. in Psychology. To make this process easier, please bring a copy of your transcript when you come to our office.

What is the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress (MAPP) exam?

- The MAPP tests college-level reading, writing and comprehensive skills. All students seeking to earn a degree from UMKC must complete the test to graduate. It is a 40 minute, multiple choice test. Students are eligible to take the test when they have completed between 70-90 credit hours.

What is a Major Field Exam?

- The major field exam is a 2 hour, multiple choice exam that tests your knowledge of Psychology. It must be completed to graduate. The grades on the test assess the level of comprehension our undergraduates have upon earning their degree, which helps evaluate the effectiveness of our program. To be eligible to take the exam, students must have completed 105 credit hours.

How do I sign up for the MAPP and the Major Field Exam?

- Both exams are given through the Assessment Office, which sends email reminders several times a semester to students eligible to take the tests. However, if you have not received an email or have deleted one, you can also sign up through the Assessment website at: <https://www.umkc.edu/provost/assessment/login/>.
- Both tests are given several times throughout a semester, but we suggest taking them as soon as possible. Failure to complete the exams on time could delay your graduation. For a complete list of exam dates, please visit: <http://www.umkc.edu/provost/assessment/examdates/>.

How do I apply for graduation?

- You can apply for graduation at The Arts & Sciences office (Scofield Hall, Room 9). They will help you complete all the necessary documents for graduation. In addition, for further information, please visit the Registrar's graduation website at: <http://www.umkc.edu/registrar/graduation.asp>.

Where do I get information about commencement procedures?

- Information regarding commencement can be found at:
<http://www.umkc.edu/commencement>.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

What do I need to do to apply to graduate school?

- Applying to graduate school is a lengthy process. To make things easier for you, we have created a “Graduate School Survival Guide” available upon request in the Psychology Advising Office. It gives helpful information on what to think about when applying for graduate school and the steps you need to take.
- In addition, if you have general questions about the application process, we would be happy to meet with you.

Where do I get information about graduate programs in Psychology?

- For a comprehensive review of available Psychology graduate programs, we recommend *Graduate Programs in Psychology*. It is published yearly and lists every graduate program in the nation, along with their requirements. Internet searches also can provide you with a plethora of information on different programs.

How do I find information about Psychology graduate programs offered at UMKC?

- For information about the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. or Interdisciplinary Ph.D. please visit our website at: <http://cas.umkc.edu/psyc/grad/index.htm> and click on the appropriate link.
- For information on the Counseling Psychology Ph.D. or the Masters in Counseling and Guidance, please visit: <http://education.umkc.edu/CEP/> for more information, or contact the Education Department at: umkccep@umkc.edu or (816) 235-5270.

What types of graduate programs are available in Psychology?

- There are a plethora of graduate programs in Psychology! Graduate programs in Psychology can normally be divided into two groups: Applied Psychology and Research Psychology.
- Applied Psychology includes: Clinical Psychology, Counseling Psychology, Health Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, and Sports Psychology.
- Research Psychology includes: Educational Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Environmental Psychology, Community Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Neuroscience, Psychometric (Quantitative) Psychology, and Social Psychology.
- However, do not assume that just because you look into Applied Psychology programs that you will not be doing research. Many Clinical, Counseling, and Health programs, along with others, focus a lot of attention on research.

What career options are available for persons with a M.A. or a Ph.D. related to Psychology?

- There are many options for individuals with graduate degrees related to Psychology! Many persons work as professors; conduct psychological research; work as therapists, counselors, or in medical settings; or do any combination of the three.
- Work is available at universities, health care agencies such as hospitals, in private practice settings, and through research centers.
- However, depending on the type of graduate degree you seek, it may limit what your options are for job opportunities. Be sure to check what your graduate degree will specifically train you to do before beginning a program.