

Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences (PBS)

Psych East 1814, Building 251

Meet the PBS Advisors:



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Undergraduate Advisor



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Walk-In Advising Hours: Monday-Friday, 9-11:45am and 1-3:45pm

Pre-Major vs. Full Major

Students must earn their full-major status in the Psychological & Brain Sciences department. Therefore, all incoming students are pre-majors until they finish all pre-major requirements.

Remember: AP & community college/non-UC units do not count towards the UCSB GPA.

Majors (attached at the end of this document)

- Psychological & Brain Sciences BS 23-24
- Biopsychology BS 23-24

What are the Pre-Major Requirements?

For both the Psychological & Brain Sciences and Biopsychology majors, the pre-major includes Areas I and II (refer to your major sheet). For Area I, students need to earn at least a 2.7 UC GPA (B- average) across all the courses in that area. For Area II, students must earn at least a 2.0 GPA (C average) across all courses in that area. Any non-UC courses will not count towards the GPA requirement for these areas, but if the courses you took are determined as equivalents to any of the pre-major courses, we will count it for credit.

Note: Area III courses are not part of the pre-major.



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Prerequisites and Transferred Credits

In order to take certain courses at UCSB, students must first check to see if they are eligible to enroll by checking if they meet all prerequisites and restrictions on GOLD. For example, PSY 10A requires students to take UCSB PSY 1, MATH 34A, PSTAT 5A, CHEM 1A, and CHEM 1B (or equivalents of these courses) prior to enrollment (as shown in the previous video).

Incoming transfer students may have already fulfilled some course prerequisites through their previous institution(s). We ask all of our incoming transfer students to fill out our **Incoming Transfer Form** as soon as possible to determine what pre-major credits have been completed.

Note: PSY 110+ courses are restricted to full major students only. Pre-majors are eligible for the Area I, II, III, and PSY 102-109 courses (assuming all applicable prerequisites are met). You can check for prerequisites and restrictions on GOLD, and we can go over how to do this during Transfer Orientation.

Lower Division vs. Upper Division Credits

For students who are coming from junior/community colleges, all of their credits will transfer over as lower division credits. Credits earned at community colleges, even for classes that cover the same topics as upper division courses at UCSB, cannot substitute for the upper division UCSB course. For example, if a student took CC Social Psychology, this will NOT be equivalent to UCSB PSY 102.

For students transferring from a four-year institution (including UCs), whether a course will transfer over as lower division or upper division credits will be determined by UCSB Admissions and the Office of the Registrar. We play no role in that determination.



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UCs Only: All UCs use the same course unit identification system. That is, for any UC courses labeled 100-199, these will automatically transfer over as upper division units. Any courses between 01-99 will transfer as lower division units. Any other four-year institution credits will undergo manual review by Admissions as stated above.



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How to Prepare for Transfer Orientation

During orientation, advisors will address pre-major courses and policies required to declare a full major, provide tips for success, and discuss departmental opportunities. Like reading the textbook before class, students that come prepared will find orientation to be more valuable and easier to comprehend. We will also spend time answering questions.

Students are also highly encouraged to [visit our website](#) prior to orientation to develop an understanding of our current majors, policies, tools, and opportunities.

Before attending Transfer Orientation, make sure to fill out our **Incoming Transfer Form by July 14th, 2023** to determine what pre-major credit you have earned at UCSB and to ensure your course registration goes smoothly. Please regularly check your UCSB email for our evaluation, which will include an example schedule for Fall quarter (and other relevant info regarding orientation).

What to Bring to Transfer Orientation

Please come prepared with questions and perhaps a schedule plan. Students can use our [schedule planning worksheet](#) to fill out a tentative schedule plan. Again, we require incoming transfers to fill out our **Incoming Transfer Form by July 14th, 2023** to check primarily for pre-major credits and to ensure that course registration goes smoothly.

Filling out this form will provide departmental advisors documentation for prerequisite clearances, which are necessary to enroll in Fall classes. Your official transcripts may not be uploaded until October, so advisors need to clear prerequisites manually by referring to the unofficial transcripts you provide via this form.



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