

**Psychological & Brain Sciences  
Undergraduate Affairs Policy**

**Courses:**

**Area I (2.7 GPA = B- average *NO EXCEPTIONS*):**

- PSY 1 (4 units)
- MATH 34A *or* 3A *or* 2A (4 units)
- PSTAT 5A *or* 5LS *or* COMM 87 (5 units)
- PSY 10A (5 Units)
- PSY 10B (5 units)

**Area II (2.0 GPA = C average *NO EXCEPTIONS*):**

- CHEM 1A (3 units)
- CHEM 1B (3 units)
- MCDB 1A (4 units) \*requires CHEM 1C as prerequisite, can be taken concurrently *or* MCDB 6 (for PBS only) (4 units)
  - \*Cannot take MCDB 6 after taking MCDB 1A
- EEMB 2 (3 units) \*requires MCDB 1A *or* EEMB 7 (for PBS only) (3 units) \* requires MCDB 1A or MCDB 6.
  - \*Cannot take EEMB 7 after taking EEMB 2

***Students should note that all PBS major related courses taken at UCSB or another UC MUST be taken for a letter grade to be awarded degree credit.*** The only exceptions to this are PSY 199P (please refer to your specific major sheet for more in-depth information), PSY 1 (if taken BEFORE entering the pre-major), and major courses that were taken for P/NP Spring 2020, Winter 2021, Spring 2021, and/or Summer 2021.

**Legal Repeats:**

Students are allowed one legal repeat of a course if they receive either a No Pass (NP) or a C- and below. Students are allowed to retake a class either at UCSB or another UC (with department approval).

**Substitutions:**

Outside of the courses listed in Area III and the Interdisciplinary List, NO other UCSB courses are accepted to meet the major requirements. \*UCEAP courses will need to be evaluated by PBS faculty if they are not listed in our pre-approved database – please send non-pre-approved syllabus in English to [advising@psych.ucsb.edu](mailto:advising@psych.ucsb.edu). On the other hand, UCEAP courses will be petitioned for major credit by PBS if listed in the pre-approved database.

- EAP pre-approved course database  
<https://c0eru180.caspio.com/dp/18a720008f291eaf8d14469b9c9>

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**PSY 3 & PSY 106**

After F19, students with PSY 3 credit are now permitted to take PSY 106 for full units. Prior to F19, students that had taken PSY 3 were NOT permitted to take PSY 106 for additional units (the courses were considered dual matriculation and were cross listed in F18, therefore PSY 106 units were reduced to 0). For students who took PSY 3 and took PSY 101 or 103 prior to F19, they are exempt from taking PSY 106. For students who took PSY 3 did not take PSY 101 or 103 prior to F19, we require them to take PSY 106.

**PSTAT 109**

PSTAT 109 is NOT an acceptable substitution for PSTAT 5. Students that have taken PSTAT 109 first, will earn a reduced amount of units for PSTAT 5A/5LS (originally 5 units, reduced to 2 units).

**PSY 101/159 & 103/183**

Students will not receive credit for PSY 183 if they originally took PSY 103. A student will not receive credit for PSY 159 if they originally took PSY 101. *Please note that these courses are cross-listed, so if a student took PSY 101 or PSY 103 and then takes PSY 159 or PSY 183 respectively, they will not earn units for PSY 159 or PSY 183.* These are technically considered repeats even though they are taught at a more rigorous level.

**List of PBS Area III pre-approved courses (\*newly approved):**

- ANTH 2/2H, 5/5H, 7; CHEM 1C; C LIT 27; CMPSC 8, 16; EARTH 2, 3; ECON 1, 2, 9; EEMB 3, 22W; ENV S 1/1H, 2/2H, 3/3H; GEOG 5; MCDB 1B, 20, 29; MATH 2B, 3B, 4A, 4B, 34B; PHYS 1, 2, 3, 6A, 6B, 6C, 20; LING 20, 50, 70; PHIL 3, 4; POL S 1; RGST 15

**List of PBS UD Interdisciplinary pre-approved courses (\*newly approved):**

- ANTH 105, 121, 121T, 151T, 153S, 169, 177AB, 192AB; COMM 117, 124, 133; BLST 137E, 154, 160; CNCSP 114; EEMB 129, 131, 154, 157, 180; ED 190; ENGL 170 (AA-ZZ); ENV S 106; GEOG 153A, 153B, 153C; GLOBL 159; INT 133C\*; LING 127, 137, 149, 185; PHIL 124A, 134, 180; RGST 156BE, 172; SOC 122, 128, 134, 142, 148, 185D

*Students who wish to take course(s) not pre-approved on the PBS Area III or INT list, MUST submit a syllabus to [advising@psych.ucsb.edu](mailto:advising@psych.ucsb.edu) PRIOR to enrolling in the class and/or within the first week the class is taken (if syllabus are non-accessible unless enrolled in the course). PBS Advising will NOT accept a syllabus or create a petition for a student for non-pre-approved PBS Area III or INT courses if the student has already taken the class.*

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**Unit Cap:**

The original policy requiring students to declare either Full PBS or Biopsych before they reach 144 units and/or before the end of 3rd year summer (or 1st year summer for transfers) has been *WAIVED*. This requirement is no longer enforced.

**Prerequisites:**

For courses that previously required PSY 3 & 111 as a prerequisite, but now require PSY 106 or 111 as a prerequisite: PSY 3 alone does NOT meet the previous prerequisite. Options are PSY 3 & 111, or PSY 106.

For prerequisites taken at another institution (City/Community College, UC, UCEAP, private), students must be cleared for their credits to access classes that require those prerequisites. To request clearance, students must email [advising@psych.ucsb.edu](mailto:advising@psych.ucsb.edu) with their name, perm, school, course # and title, and attach an unofficial transcript (with final grade) for proof of completion and a syllabus for faculty review.

If not a California City/Community College, we still require students to email [advising@psych.ucsb.edu](mailto:advising@psych.ucsb.edu) with their name, perm, school, course # and title, and attach an unofficial transcript (with final grade) for proof of completion and a syllabus for faculty review.

All students requesting approved major credit not currently reflecting on their degree audit *must sign in to their email using their UCSB NetID* in order to fill out the PBS Petition for Degree Credit Survey: <https://forms.gle/aiPBfEHx9qVRosix6>.

Petitions for major credit will be processed quarterly, around week 5-8. Petitions will not be made until after all transcripts are posted through Admissions (typically November).

This rule does not apply for students petitioning potential UCSB Area III or INT courses/credit. Petitions for EAP students may not be made until *after* their UCSB transcripts include UCEAP credit. Petitions will not be made until a grade is posted on GOLD.

**For Students Planning on Switching Between the PBS and Biopsych Majors**

Students who are on the Biopsych major tract and are considering switching to the PBS major must complete both CHEM 1A + 1B and MCDB 1A/6 + EEMB 2/7 before they can advance into the full PBS major.

Students in Full Biopsych who have already taken any PSY 110+ classes will not be allowed to switch into the PBS major unless they completed MCDB and EEMB (and met the Area II GPA requirement for PBS) by the time they got into the Full Biopsych major.

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**For Pre-Major Hoping to Enroll in UD PSY Course:**

***PSY 110+ courses are limited to full major students only.*** This means students in their last pre-major course(s) may not add PSY 110+ classes until final pre-major course grades have been posted. Students may not be enrolled in PSY 110+ classes as a pre-major. ***PBS policy makes no exceptions to this.***

For students who are in the transition of switching from pre-major to full major, a clearance form will be sent out via email during Pass 1 of the current quarter. This form is to be completed by students who are currently in their last pre-major course during the current quarter (e.g. Psy 10B), and will be entering the full major the following quarter. Please complete the survey by selecting "I want this class" next to any PSY 110+ courses you might be interested in taking the following quarter, and select "I DON'T want this class" next to the classes you don't care/plan to take the following quarter. Make sure you fulfill prerequisites for any PSY 110+ classes you request "I want this class" in. **\*\*We will clear you for those "I want this class" courses AFTER FINAL GRADES have been posted.** Hence, Clearances and Change of Major paperwork are processed during the week that final grades are received.

In addition to turning in Change of Major paperwork and completing the clearance survey, students will have to ***WAITLIST*** for the PSY 110+ courses they are interested in taking the following quarter. Waitlists are usually activated once a class is full, so we recommend students constantly check GOLD and add themselves to the waitlist as soon as it is activated. ***All PBS courses are first come, first serve, and there are no exceptions to this policy (e.g. we will not provide add codes).*** GOLD will not allow current pre-major students to add any PSY 110+ Courses.

Students in the pre-major who have PSY 1 credit are allowed to enroll in PSY 100-109 (102, 105, 106, 108) courses. ***Biopsych pre-majors who are JR or SR unit standing are highly recommended to take PSY 106 before they enter the full major.***

**For Students Outside the Department Looking to Enroll in PSY 110+ Courses**

PBS allows students from other departments to enroll in ***ONE*** PSY 110+ course if they meet course prerequisites ***and*** if they have the approval from a PBS Advisor. CCS and PHRMA students are allowed to take more than one applicable PSY 110+ course, but must still meet course prerequisites and have PBS approval. If a student outside our department takes more than one PSY 110+ course (for those allowed), they will forfeit the ability to switch into our majors in the future. ALL students outside one of our majors will be cleared for class access in PASS 3. ***There are no exceptions to this policy.***

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**Subject Pool Requirement**

As part of the grading structure in PSY 1 and in PSY 10A, students are required to complete 6 hours worth of research credit, or a 6 page research paper, per each class. There is no exception to this policy. A combination of hours and pages may not be used. If a student receives only 5.5 hours, this is NOT considered complete. For students that do not complete the requirement, they will lose one third of a letter grade (ex: B+ will be lowered to B by loss of required participation points).

**Research in PBS (PSY 99P/199P or 99/199)**

Students looking to get first-time PSY RA units have to acquire at least a 3.0 GPA for the last 3 quarters (2 quarters for transfers) and complete the Human Subjects and UCSB Safety Rights & Responsibilities trainings. Note: For first time RAs, PSY 99P or PSY 199P (available to full majors) must be taken prior to a letter grade. Here are instructions on [how to become an RA](#), and [PSY 99/99P Form](#) or [PSY 199/199P Form](#).

For those who are currently taking research units and are planning on continuing PSY 99P/99/199P/199, we will send out a survey via email towards the end of the current quarter. We send student responses during the end of finals to faculty advisors for approval, and we will check, in addition to past quarters, current quarter GPAs to verify that they meet the 3.0 requirement after grades are released. Add codes are distributed in the first two weeks of the following quarter to those eligible. These students will not need to turn in forms to the PBS main office or via email UNLESS they are switching faculty advisors.

*Please note: Any research for credit under PBS must be conducted under the supervision of a current PBS faculty member. Any research experience under any other type of faculty/outside department will not count for major credit.*

**Honors in PBS (PSY 197ABC)**

Students wishing to pursue honors in PBS must meet the following requirements: students must complete at least 3 UD PSY courses, have a minimum GPA of 3.5 for UD PSY courses, be full major status at the time of application, and have an agreement with a faculty mentor who will supervise their year-long project. In order to receive “Distinction in the Major,” students must complete three consecutive quarters of honors research (A+B+C) and write an approved (by faculty mentor and second reader) APA-style honors thesis by the end of the quarter in which PSY 197C is completed.

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A PSY 197 Cover Sheet is to be filled out prior to, or during, the first week of each quarter in which students will work on their honors project. Students **MUST** obtain their faculty sponsor's signature each quarter and submit this application to the PBS Advisors.