PSYCHOLOGY, B.A.

As one of the most popular majors at Saint Louis University, psychology provides students with multiple avenues to explore their interests and develop their abilities through research, service and study. SLU students majoring in psychology learn how human behavior depends on biological factors, developmental status, cognitive processes and social conditions.

Psychological science encompasses various methods to address diverse topics, from brain function to cultural influences. The discoveries of psychology improve understanding of the human experience and the quality of life. For the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, translating and applying psychological science is emphasized. SLU also offers a Bachelor of Science in Psychology (https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/psychology/psychology-bs/).

The SLU Department of Psychology (https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/psychology/)'s mission is to broadly educate students in the discipline of psychology and its applications. Faculty accomplish this by integrating empirical science, theory and practice focused on the evidence-based understanding of behaviors and experiences of individuals and groups, including the family, organizations and institutions.

SLU faculty encourage intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and ethical responsibility. A commitment to value-based, holistic education and an enthusiasm for psychology is realized in the products of research, in program graduates, and in service to others locally, nationally and globally. The faculty seeks to improve the human condition and promote human welfare by understanding past knowledge; discovering new knowledge; and disseminating that knowledge through teaching, publications and service. The faculty educate students to be professionals and challenge them to be ethically responsible, to be committed to serving others and to respect human diversity in all its forms.

Program Highlights

- Faculty members mentor psychology majors, supporting students' discernment of and successful progress toward professional goals
- Psychology majors build evidence-based habits of mind and research skills through working with faculty and graduate students investigating a variety of psychological phenomena.
- Psychology majors can take science out of the ivory tower to foster social justice in diverse communities and neighborhoods as members of a social advocacy learning community, at nearby service-learning practicum sites, or through values-based research activities.

Curriculum Overview

The undergraduate psychology program offers students three options: a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Science (https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/psychology/psychology-bs/) and a minor in psychology (https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/psychology/psychology-minor/). Each introduces students to the study of psychology while developing capacities for evidence-based reasoning, quantitative thinking and psychological inquiry.

Majors receive a strong education in preparation for entry-level employment, with strengths in understanding people and evidence-based reasoning. The B.A. degree further prepares students to enter graduate programs for professional training in psychology or related fields, such as preparing for a therapist or counselor career. Students may also use the B.A. degree in psychology as pre-professional training in medicine, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, education and law.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Students may gain volunteer experience in various practicum settings, including mental health, research, consulting, schools and community service organizations. In addition, students may seek opportunities as undergraduate research assistants working in a faculty member's lab.

Careers

SLU graduates have used their psychology degrees as preprofessional training to pursue the fields of medicine, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, education and law. Strengths in understanding and reasoning about human behavior will also prepare students for entry-level positions in many additional fields.

An undergraduate degree in psychology can also prepare students to continue as graduate students with plans to become a psychologist, a profession that requires doctoral-level training.

Admission Requirements

Begin Your Application (https://www.slu.edu/apply.php)

Saint Louis University also accepts the Common Application and the Coalition Application.

Freshman

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, applicants must be graduating from an accredited high school, have an acceptable HiSET exam score or take the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED or HiSET.

Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must follow the above freshmen admission requirements. Students who have completed 24 or more semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must submit transcripts from all previously attended college(s).

In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the Office of Admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University. Where applicable, transfer students will be evaluated on any courses outlined in the continuation standards of their preferred major.

International Applicants

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/)

- All academic records must include an English translation. An official course-by-course transcript evaluation may be required and accepted.

Tuition

Tuition/Fee	Cost Per Year
Undergraduate Tuition	$58,960
University Fees	$1,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php)

Cost of Attendance (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/cost-of-attendance.php)

Information on Tuition and Fees (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/)

Miscellaneous Fees (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/)

Information on Summer Tuition (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/tuition-summer-current.pdf)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- **Financial Aid:** Financial aid is provided through grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

Saint Louis University makes every effort to keep our education affordable. In fiscal year 2025, 99.6% of first-time freshmen and 92% of all students received financial aid (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/) and students received more than $517 million in aid University-wide.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by Feb. 1.

For more information on scholarships and financial aid, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/).

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends and empirical findings in psychology in their application to complex problems.
2. Students will demonstrate their ability to discern the quality of research conducted by others and apply their research knowledge through an evidence-based psychology project.
3. Students will demonstrate their abilities to recognize ethically and socially responsible behaviors and engage in such behaviors through applied experiences and through an evidence-based psychology project.
4. Students will demonstrate competence in writing and in oral and interpersonal communication skills through an evidence-based psychology project.
5. Students will demonstrate their ability to manage, present and reflect on a major evidence-based psychology project.

Requirements

B.A. in psychology students must complete a minimum total of **34 credits** for the major.

PSY 2050 Foundations of Research Methods and Statistics and a capstone course should preferably be taken from the student's home campus. The capstone course must be taken from the student's home campus.

Code	Title	Credits
University Undergraduate Core (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/)		**32-35**
Major Requirements		**34**
Psychology Introductory Courses		
PSY 1010	General Psychology	3
PSY 2050	Foundations of Research Methods and Statistics	4
Required Breadth Courses		*12*
Select a minimum of one course in each of the four areas below:		
Cognitive Neuroscience		
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Cog Neuro Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3100	Brain, Mind, & Society	
PSY 3120	Cognitive Psychology	
Developmental Psychology		
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Dev Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3210	Developmental Psych: Child	
PSY 3230	Developmental Psychology: Adolescence	
Social & Organizational Psychology		
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Soc Org Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3300	Social Psychology	
PSY 3410	Organizational Psychology	
Mental Health and Wellbeing in Applied Contexts		
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Health Applied Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3450	Counseling for the Helping Professions	
PSY 3460	Abnormal Psychology	
Capstone Course		
PSY 4969	Critical Thinking About Psychology * +	3
or PSY 4965	Capstone Practicum Project	
Psychology Electives **		
Select 6 credit hours with the “Psychology Elective -- BA” attribute, such as:		6
PSY 2010	Disciplines & Practices in Psychology	
PSY 3130	Physiological Psychology	
PSY 4140	Psychopharmacology	
Psychology Advanced Elective		
Select 3 credits with the "Psychology Advanced Elective" attribute,such as:		3

PSY 4340	African American Psychology	
PSY 4480	Psychology and Law	
Learning Through Applications		
Select 3 credits with the "Applications of Psych Science" attribute.		3
University Electives		**51-54**
Total Credits		**120**

* PSY 4969 is the default capstone option for B.A. students. Students may alternatively contract individual practicum or research capstone projects with faculty, although these options may not always be available.

** PSY-ELE courses may only count with Dept. approval.

\+ PSY 4965 Capstone Practicum Project (3 cr) is a capstone option only available for students on the St. Louis campus.

Non-Course Requirements

Mentoring Matters: Attendance at two Mentoring Matters events, or equivalent, is required for all psychology majors. Completion is strongly recommended by the end of the second year after declaring the major.

Continuation Standards

Students who fail to earn C in PSY 1010 or whose SLU PSY GPA is below 2.0 will be placed on program probation and have a maximum of 2 consecutive semesters to resolve either or both issues.

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
PSY 1010	General Psychology (! satisfies CORE 3600) [1]	3
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community	1
General Electives		9
	Credits	**15-16**
Spring		
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
Psychology First-Year Mentoring Matters (Participation)		
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication	3
General Electives		6
	Credits	**15**
Year Two		
Fall		
Psychology Breadth Requirement		3
Psychology Breadth Requirement		3
Psychology Breadth Requirement		3
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication	3
General Electives		3
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
Psychology General Elective [3]		3
PSY 2050	Foundations of Research Methods and Statistics (! Satisfies CORE 3200)	4
Psychology Second-Year Mentoring Matters (Participation)		
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
General Electives		6
	Credits	**16**
Year Three		
Fall		
PSY Learning Through Applications [4]		3
Psychology Breadth Requirement		3
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	3
General Electives		6
	Credits	**18**
Spring		
Psychology BA Capstone [5]		3
General Electives		12
	Credits	**15**
Year Four		
Fall		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
Psychology Advanced Elective		3
General Electives		9
	Credits	**13**
Spring		
General Electives [6]		12
Optional Psychology Elective [6]		1-3
	Credits	**13-15**
	Total Credits	**120-123**

[1] A grade of "C" or better required for majors and minors (or program probation begins).

[3] Recommended elective PSY 2010 Disciplines & Practices in Psychology (3 cr).

[4] A maximum of 3 total credits is needed to fulfill the Learning Psychology Through Applications requirement. These credits may be distributed across semesters, where appropriate.

[5] PSY 4969 and PSY 4965 are the default capstone option for B.A. students. Students may alternatively contract individual practicum or research capstone projects with faculty, although these options may not always be available.

[6] If needed or desired.

Program Notes

The B.A. in psychology requires a minimum of 34 credits.

Approved Psychology Breadth Requirements

At least one course from each of the four topical areas listed must be taken.

Topical Cluster 1: Cognitive Neuroscience

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Cog Neuro Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3100	Brain, Mind, & Society	3
PSY 3120	Cognitive Psychology	3

Topical Cluster 2: Developmental Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Dev Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3210	Developmental Psych: Child	3
PSY 3230	Developmental Psychology: Adolescence	3

Topical Cluster 3: Social and Organizational Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Soc Org Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3300	Social Psychology	3
PSY 3410	Organizational Psychology	3

Topical Cluster 4: Mental Health and Wellbeing in Applied Contexts

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credit hours with the "PSY Health Applied Cluster" attribute, such as:		
PSY 3450	Counseling for the Helping Professions	3
PSY 3460	Abnormal Psychology	3

Madrid

The SLU-Madrid psychology program offers a four-year comprehensive foundation in the science of psychology, in an international environment that promotes both intercultural experience and understanding. The program provides substantial and viable opportunities for students to become fluent in both Spanish and English through academic study, immersion experiences, bilingual clinical practica at local facilities and other cultural experiences.

Curriculum Overview

As a psychology major at SLU-Madrid, you will be part of a strong liberal arts program that prepares students for careers and graduate school in psychology, as well as other disciplines. SLU-Madrid psychology majors benefit from small class sizes, close mentoring by faculty, and a unique multilingual and multicultural focus in all courses.

Faculty

The faculty at Saint Louis University-Madrid are experts in their respective fields. They are internationally recognized teachers, researchers and mentors. Learn about our faculty members (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/faculty-profiles.php), including their education, credentials, experience and contact information.

Faculty Research

The SLU-Madrid faculty maintains robust programs of research in a variety of fields. See below for more data.

Find Faculty Research Information (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/faculty-research.php)

Find Research Resources (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/research-resources.php)

Fieldwork, Internships and Careers

Students majoring in psychology put their knowledge and language skills into practice in the workplace as part of a practicum experience. Whether shadowing a clinical psychologist, taking part in brain activation research using a magnetoencephalography (MEG) machine or helping conduct group psychotherapy sessions, practicum students gain valuable hands-on experience, acquire practical skills and learn to relate academic material in a professional environment.

Psychology graduates work in a wide variety of contexts, including clinical, legal, organizational, educational and research settings in both the private and public sector. They can also pursue graduate studies in specific professional areas, such as clinical, counseling, forensic, experimental and industrial-organizational psychology. In addition, a degree in psychology prepares students for careers in fields such as health care, human resources, education, law and business.

Admission

SLU-Madrid Application (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/apply.php)

Application Deadlines

- April 1 - Fall admission (July 1 for EU students)
- Aug. 1 - Spring admission (Nov. 1 for EU students)
- March 1 - Summer sessions (for applicants who require a student visa)
- April 1 - Summer sessions (for applicants who do not require a student visa)

Contact Us

Office of Admissions
Avenida del Valle, 34
28003 Madrid, Spain
P. (+34) 91 554 58 58
admissions-madrid@slu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays through Fridays: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (3 p.m. on Fridays from May 15 - Sept. 1)

Tuition and Fees

SLU-Madrid is committed to providing a quality Jesuit education at an affordable price. Tuition rates at SLU-Madrid are approximately 40% lower than at comparable private universities in the U.S.

If you have questions or would like to speak with a financial aid officer, email us at financialaid-madrid@slu.edu.

- Tuition and Fees (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/admissions/tuition-fees.php)
- Scholarships and Financial Aid (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/admissions/scholarships-financial-aid.php)

2+SLU

2+SLU programs provide a guided pathway for students transferring from a partner institution.

Psychology, B.A. (STLCC 2+SLU) (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/2plusslu/stlcc/psychology-ba/)

Contact Us

For additional information about this program, please contact psychology@health.slu.edu or call 314-977-2300.