

The Office of Counseling and Career Services

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DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

Psychology is concerned with the study of human and animal behavior. It seeks to understand and explain both normal and abnormal behavior, mental ability, perception, development and individual differences. In addition, psychological study explores human emotions, thoughts, and motives. Among the major sub-branches within psychology are educational psychology, social psychology, psychometrics, developmental psychology, comparative psychology and the personality of psychology, abnormal psychology, applied psychology, differential psychology, statistics, and child psychology.

SOME RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Advertising Manager – B	Market Research Analyst – B	Psychiatrist – P
Career Counselor-B/M	Mental Health Worker-B	Psychologist-D
Criminologist-B	Minister-P/V	Psychometrist-B/M
Editor-B	Occupational Therapist-B	Public Relations Specialist-B
Educator-B/D	Outplacement Specialist-B/D	Sales Worker-V
Employment Counselor-B	Penologist-B	Safety Engineer-B
Employee Assistance Administrator-B	Personnel Manager-B	Speech Pathologist-M
Guidance Counselor-M	Police Officer-AA	Technical Writer-B
Human Resource Mgr-B	Probation Officer-B	Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor-B/M
Industrial Psychologist-M/D	Psychiatric Nurse-B	
Job Analyst-B	Psychiatric Social Worker-M	

*From: "College Majors and Careers: A Resource Guide for Effective Life Planning," by Paul Phifer

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

DCC students who intend to major in psychology at a four-year college or university are advised to acquire a broad range of training in the liberal arts. Courses in anthropology, biology, computer science, history, philosophy, political science, and sociology are recommended. Majoring in psychology also commonly requires that you take introductory psychology, statistics, experimental psychology, and several courses from among learning, personality, abnormal psychology, social psychology, developmental psychology, physiological or comparative psychology, history and systems, and tests and measurements. (Students need to be aware that four-year colleges and universities may have slightly different requirements and that consulting the catalogs of prospective transfer schools is advisable.)

SOME SUGGESTED COURSES FOR STUDENTS PLANNING TO MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

BIO 103 and BIO 104 OR BIO 101 and BIO 102 (required for some schools)
MAT 118
HIS 104 or HIS 108 (or any History)
CIS 111
BHS 203, BHS 204
A Government course (GOV 121 or another)
PSY 111
PHI 205 (or any Philosophy)
PSY 203, PSY 206 (and/or others)

Liberal Arts and Humanities (L.A.H.) is an appropriate program for DCC students to begin their academic preparation for a major in Psychology. (Students may also choose to begin their preparation in other DCC programs such as Mental Health Assistant (CMH), Criminal Justice (CRJ), Child Care (CHC) and Early Childhood (ECH) but should seek advisement for further details.)

DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR (SUNY NEW PALTZ)

SUNY New Paltz offers a general liberal arts-psychology major, and also a specialized psychology major with an emphasis on *psychobiology.

The following is a recommended plan of study for those DCC students who will earn an Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree in Liberal Arts and Humanities (L.A.H.) and apply to SUNY New Paltz as Psychology majors. The plan is based on a comprehensive transfer agreement between Dutchess Community College and SUNY New Paltz:

DCC: A.A. (L.A.H.).....SUNY NEW PALTZ: B.A. (PSYCHOLOGY)

ENG 101 & 102

Choose one: HIS 121, or HIS 104

LAH 100

WFE 101

Humanities (9 credits): Any Foreign Language course, select one from appendix H

Math: MAT 118

Science (8 credits): BIO 103 (any second sciences course with lab)

English (6 credits): (choose two) 200 level English courses (except ENG 211 & ENG 217)

BHS 103

Global Perspective: BHS 204 or BHS 208 recommended (or BHS 210 or BHS 214)

Social Science (9 credits): PSY 111, PSY 112, PSY 203, BHS 203

Electives (6-7 credits) (choose one): PSY 201, PSY 134, PSY 205, PSY 210 and select one from appendix E

Free elective (3-4 credits): Recommend one of the following: PSY 206, BHS 100, PSY 209, CIS 111

*The Psychobiology concentration requires courses in general biology (BIO 101 & BIO 102) genetics (BIO 205) and animal behavior beyond the required psychology courses (PSY 209), between three and six credits in research, and several additional elective courses.

**A.A. or A.S. degree holders from DCC are considered to have met SUNY New Paltz's native General Education requirement, but not necessarily the mandated SUNY General Education requirement (students should consult with a DCC advisor).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1) A.A.S. degree holders generally have a larger number of non-liberal arts courses in their DCC program than A.A. or A.S. students, and therefore do not automatically meet General Education requirements at New Paltz. (Consult the Office of Counseling and Career Services for further information)
- 2) A.A. or A.S. degree holders from DCC, when transferring directly after receiving the degree, are guaranteed admission to SUNY New Paltz (however, all DCC transfer students must meet the same requirements for entrance into the major of choice as are required of native students).
- 3) SUNY New Paltz accepts up to 70 transfer credits, including up to 30 credits in non-liberal arts courses.