NIU Psychology at The University Center

We’re thrilled that you’ve decided to pursue your education at a place close to home. Through our University Center program, you’ll earn your Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology while gaining knowledge and developing your skills through classes taught by NIU faculty who are active researchers in the field.

The science of psychology is rapidly evolving and influences all aspects of society. Psychologists work in traditional and nontraditional settings including schools, hospitals, businesses, government, mental health organizations, laboratories and nonprofit organizations.

Completion of your undergraduate psychology major will provide you with both a strong liberal arts education and preparation for entry-level employment in a variety of career paths or for graduate training in a mental health field, such as counseling, clinical psychology or school psychology.

You have plans for the future. We’ll help you get there.

Let’s get started...

☐ Schedule a meeting with the University Center to learn more about the program and to discuss requirements.

☐ Stop by and visit Brenda Powell, NIU transfer counselor, on Mondays to get answers regarding applying to NIU. Schedule an appointment by going to go.niu.edu/Harper-appointments.

☐ Apply to NIU as a transfer student (select the option off campus) and submit your transcripts.

☐ Setup your MyNIU account to stay updated on your application status.

☐ Accept your admission through your MyNIU account to confirm your spot.

☐ Apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA.

☐ Contact NIU advisor for guidance prior to registering for classes.

Advisor Contacts

Harper College
University Center
847-925-6315
universitycenter@harpercollege.edu

Program Advisor
Mandy Wescott
Department of Psychology
mandy@niu.edu

Students can also contact the CLAS Advising Office at clas_advising@niu.edu

Your NIU advisor will work with you to plan your course schedules for a timely graduation. It is highly recommended that you schedule an appointment with your psychology advisor once a semester to discuss your degree progress and select courses for the upcoming semester.
Degree pathway — Psychology B.A.

*Denotes required pre-requisite or required course.

**Harper will ensure students take enough courses to get to 60 credits.

YEAR 1 Fall
ENG 101  Rhetoric and Composition  
PSY 101  Introduction to Psychology*  
MTH 165  Elementary Statistics*  
Foreign Language (a sequence in one language)

YEAR 1 Spring
ENG 102  English Composition II.  
Humanities/Fine Arts  
Physical Life Science  
Social/Behavioral Science (non-PSY)  
Foreign Language (a sequence in one language)

YEAR 2 Fall
PSY 228  Psychology of Human Development**  
SPE 101  Speech Communication  
Humanities/Fine Arts  
Foreign Language (a sequence in one language)  
Humanities/Fine Arts

YEAR 2 Spring
PSY elective (recommended options include 210, 216, 217, 218, 220, 225, 230, 235 or 245)  
Physical Life Science  
Social/Behavioral Science (non-PSY)  
Foreign Language (a sequence in one language)

YEAR 3 Fall
PSYC 300 Brain and Behavior  
or PSYC 345 Cognitive Psychology  
PSYC 332 Personality  
or PSYC 316 Introduction to Psychopathology  
100/200/300/400 elective (online)  
University Baccalaureate 300/400 elective (online)

YEAR 3 Spring
PSYC 315 Developmental Psychopathology  
or PSYC 324 Child Development  
PSYC 305 Research Methods*  
100/200/300/400 elective (online)  
University Baccalaureate 300/400 elective (online)

YEAR 4 Fall
PSYC 300 Brain and Behavior  
or PSYC 345 Cognitive Psychology  
PSYC 332 Personality  
or PSYC 316 Introduction to Psychopathology  
PSYC 411 Experimental Psychology: Animal Cognition  
University Baccalaureate 300/400 elective (online)

YEAR 4 Spring
PSYC 315 Developmental Psychopathology  
or PSYC 324 Child Development  
PSYC 413 Clinical Psychology Laboratory  
100/200/300/400 elective (online)  
University Baccalaureate 300/400 elective (online)

NIU Bachelor of Arts Requirements
Candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree must demonstrate competence in a foreign language. This requirement can be met by 1) completing the equivalent of the fourth-year of a foreign language with no term grade lower than C at an accredited high school; or 2) a four semester sequence in a traditional foreign language. A student may be exempt from this requirement if they can demonstrate competence equal to the work required in the last course in one of the sequences listed above on a test administered through the NIU Office of Testing Services OR if a student is registered as an international student at NIU with a native language other than English.

Graduation Requirements
NIU requires a total of 120 credit hours to graduate, with 54 hours required at the university level. A minimum of 40 hours must be in courses at the 300 and/or 400 level. More information is available at go.niu.edu/graduation-requirements.