

BIOPSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS (September 2007)

Advisors: Professors Michael Numan (McGuinn 411) and Jon Horvitz (McGuinn 525).

I. Courses from within the Psychology Department

A. General Psychology

1. PS 110-111 Introductory Psychology as a Natural Science & Social Science
2. PS 120-121 Introduction to Behavioral Statistics and Research I & II

B. Distribution

1. Either PS 260 Developmental Psychology or PS 264 Abnormal Psychology
2. Either PS 271 Sensory Psychology or PS 274 Perception
3. Either PS 287 Learning and Motivation or PS 272 Cognitive Psychology
4. PS 285 Behavioral Neuroscience

C. Electives

Two courses from the following: PS 371 Cognitive Neuroscience; PS 375 Memory; PS 383 Neurobiology of Learning and Memory; PS 386 Psychopharmacology; PS 387 Developmental Psychobiology; PS 389 Hormones and Behavior; PS 545 Affective Neuroscience; PS 570 Advanced Topics in Cognitive Neuroscience; PS 573 Neuroscience II; PS 579 Special Topic: Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioral Neuroscience; PS 582 Advanced Topics in Behavioral Neuroscience: Learning and Memory

D. Recommended Additional Psychology Courses

Two semesters of research by arrangement in the Behavioral Neuroscience Laboratories of Drs. Numan, Horvitz, or Petrovich. Such research activity is particularly important for those students who plan to attend a graduate program in the neurosciences or biopsychology. The following courses would satisfy this recommendation: PS 206 Independent Study; PS 490-491 Senior Thesis I & II; PS 495-496 Senior Honors Thesis I & II; Scholar of the College. Research in the laboratories of other professors within the Psychology Department who emphasize a neuroscience approach would also be very appropriate.

II. Courses from outside the Psychology Department

A. Biology

1. BI 200-202 Introductory Biology I & II
2. One intermediate or advanced course (300 level or above). Recommended courses include: BI 304-305 Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics; BI 435 Biological Chemistry; BI 426 Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy; BI 442 Principles of Ecology; BI 445 Animal Behavior; BI 458 Evolution; BI 554 Physiology; BI 556 Developmental Biology

B. Chemistry

CH 109-110 General Chemistry I & II

C. Mathematics

Two courses in mathematics at the level of MT 004 Finite Math or above, one of which may be a Computer Science course in the School of Management (MC 021 or MC 074). MT 100-101 Calculus I & II are highly recommended for those who desire to go on to graduate school in the neuroscience area.

D. Additional Science Electives

At least two additional courses from among Chemistry, Physics, and Biology.

CH 231-232 Organic Chemistry I & II and PH 211-212 Introduction to Physics I & II are highly recommended for those who want to go on to graduate school in the neuroscience area. Biology courses must be 300 level or above, Chemistry and Physics courses must be 200 level or above, except that Physics 183-184 is acceptable. If there is any question concerning course selection, please see one of the advisors.

NOTE: Course substitutions are possible with the permission of the concentration's advisors. Instructions for acknowledging completion of the Biopsychology Concentration on the Boston College transcript: Contact one of the concentration advisors during the Spring Semester of your senior year (no later than mid-April), present a copy of your academic record and request that the registrar be notified.