

# PSYCHOLOGY, BA

## Banner Code: LA-BA-PSYC

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Students study behavior as it relates to health and well-being, child and adolescent development, education, social situations, the workplace, and the use of technology. Due to Mason's proximity to Washington, D.C. the department is especially active in research that informs public policy and national defense. Students who graduate from this program go on to work in a wide range of fields and positions, including human resources, data analysis, user interface design, and social media and marketing.

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology focuses on liberal arts and general education courses, including a foreign language requirement, within the psychology field.

## Admissions & Policies

### Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete 37 credits within the major, with 24 credits at the 300 and 400 level.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/>).

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Students may choose to complete a concentration in forensic psychology, human factors and applied cognition, work and organizational psychology, clinical psychology, developmental psychology, educational psychology, or health psychology. Courses required for a concentration may simultaneously satisfy other degree requirements. The concentrations in forensic psychology, human factors and applied cognition, and work and organizational psychology meet the applied psychology requirement.

Students who have limited technology skills are encouraged to take IT 104 Introduction to Computing (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>).

### Core Courses in the Major

#### Basic Courses in Psychology

Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.00 in these courses with a minimum grade of 1.67 (C-) in each one. Courses taken to fulfill these requirements may simultaneously satisfy a concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Introductory Course</b>		
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
<b>Foundational Courses</b>		
PSYC 231	Social Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
PSYC 317	Cognitive Psychology	3
Select one option from the following:		3-6
Option 1:		
PSYC 211	Lifespan Development (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
Option 2:		
Select two from the following:		
PSYC 313	Child Development	
PSYC 314	Adolescent Development	
PSYC 415	Psychological Factors in Aging	
<b>Research Methods Courses <sup>1</sup></b>		
PSYC 300	Statistics in Psychology	4
PSYC 301	Research Methods in Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	4
<b>Biopsychology <sup>2</sup></b>		
Select one from the following: <sup>3</sup>		3-6
PSYC 372	Biopsychology	
PSYC 375 & PSYC 376	Brain and Sensory Processes and Brain and Behavior	
<b>Professional Development</b>		
Select one from the following:		3
PSYC 399	Psychology: College to Career	
PSYC 327	Psychology in the Community	
PSYC 427	Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> ) <sup>4</sup>	
PSYC 430	Clinical Practicum in Psychology <sup>4</sup>	
PSYC 491	Psychology Honors II	
PSYC 492	RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 461	Special Topics (with Undergraduate Associate Chair Approval)	
Total Credits		26-32

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Students are strongly encouraged to complete PSYC 300 Statistics in Psychology and PSYC 301 Research Methods in Psychology (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) by their junior year. PSYC 300 Statistics in Psychology is a prerequisite to several courses, and a background in research methods facilitates understanding empirical research discussed in all psychology courses.

2

It is strongly recommended that students fulfill the Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) natural science requirement by completing BIOL 103 Introductory Biology II-Survey of Cell and Molecular Biology (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) and BIOL 107 Intro Biology II Lecture (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)/BIOL 106 Introductory Biology I Laboratory (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) because these courses are prerequisites to the requirement of PSYC 372 Biopsychology or PSYC 375 Brain and Sensory Processes and PSYC 376 Brain and Behavior.

3

Only students who receive transfer credit for PSYC 372 Biopsychology may use it in place of PSYC 375 Brain and Sensory Processes as the prerequisite for PSYC 376 Brain and Behavior. Students taking PSYC 372 Biopsychology at Mason may not use it in place of PSYC 375 Brain and Sensory Processes.

4

PSYC 427 Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) and PSYC 430 Clinical Practicum in Psychology may count for both the Professional Development and the Applied Psychology requirements.

### Applied Psychology Courses or Optional Concentration

Alternatively, students may earn a concentration in forensic psychology, human factors and applied cognition, or work and organizational psychology to satisfy this requirement.

#### Applied Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
Students pursuing the BA without concentration complete two courses from the following with a minimum grade of C- in each:		
PSYC 320	Psychological Tests and Measurements	6-7
PSYC 325	Psychopathology	
PSYC 326	Therapeutic Communication Skills	
PSYC 333	Psychology in the Workplace (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 340	Human Factors Psychology	
PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 381	Mental Illness and Criminal Justice	
PSYC 427	Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 430	Clinical Practicum in Psychology <sup>1</sup>	
Total Credits		

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PSYC 427 may count for both the Applied Psychology and the Professional Development requirements.

### Concentrations Meeting Applied Psychology Requirement Concentration in Forensic Psychology (FPSY)

Students pursuing the BA with concentration in forensic psychology take 15 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on forensic psychology may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
PSYC 380	Introduction to Forensic Psychology	3
PSYC 381	Mental Illness and Criminal Justice	3
Select two courses from the following:		6
PSYC 382	Psychology of Crime Victims	
PSYC 440	Forensic Psychology: Science and Pseudoscience	
PSYC 441	Criminal Behavior: Psychological and Neurological Aspects	
CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 462	Selected Topics in Forensic Psychology <sup>1</sup>	
Total Credits		15

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Only with Undergraduate Associate Chair approval.

### Concentration in Human Factors and Applied Cognition (HF)

Students pursuing the BA with concentration in human factors and applied cognition take 12-13 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on human factors or applied cognition may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 317	Cognitive Psychology	3
PSYC 340	Human Factors Psychology	3
Select two courses from the following:		6-7
PSYC 309	Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 333	Psychology in the Workplace (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 372	Biopsychology	
PSYC 460	Independent Study in Psychology <sup>1</sup>	

PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>3</sup>	
PSYC 530	Cognitive Engineering: Cognitive Science Applied to Human Factors <sup>2</sup>	
Total Credits		12-13

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Must be taken with human factors and applied cognition faculty member.

2

Note course prerequisite of PSYC 317 Cognitive Psychology.

3

Only with Undergraduate Associate Chair approval.

### Concentration in Work and Organizational Psychology (WKOP)

Students pursuing the BS with concentration take 12-13 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on I/O psychology may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute the honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 333	Psychology in the Workplace (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
Select three courses from the following:		9-10
PSYC 320	Psychological Tests and Measurements	
PSYC 324	Personality Theory	
PSYC 435	Personnel Training and Development: A Psychological Perspective	
PSYC 467	The Psychology of Working in Groups and Teams	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
MGMT 303	Principles of Management	
Total Credits		12-13

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Only when topic is Occupational Health Psychology or Work and Family with prior written approval.

### Other Concentrations Available to Majors

Students may choose to complete a concentration in clinical psychology, developmental psychology, educational psychology, or health psychology.

#### Available Concentrations

- Concentration in Clinical Psychology (CLPY)
- Concentration in Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (CBNR)
- Concentration in Developmental Psychology (DVL)
- Concentration in Educational Psychology (EPSY)
- Concentration in Health Psychology (HPSY)

### Concentration in Clinical Psychology (CLPY)

Students pursuing the BA with this concentration take 12 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on clinical psychology may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 321	Clinical Psychology	3
PSYC 325	Psychopathology	3
Select at least two psychology electives from the following		6
PSYC 211	Lifespan Development (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
or PSYC 313	Child Development	
or PSYC 314	Adolescent Development	
PSYC 231	Social Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 322	Behavior Modification	
PSYC 324	Personality Theory	
PSYC 326	Therapeutic Communication Skills	
PSYC 414	Behavior Disorders of Childhood	
PSYC 417	Science of Well Being	
PSYC 423	Group Psychotherapy Techniques	
PSYC 430	Clinical Practicum in Psychology	
PSYC 460	Independent Study in Psychology	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 465	Pioneering Ideas in Psychology	

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Only when topic is related to clinical psychology approved by the psychology department.

### Concentration in Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (CBNR)

This concentration focuses on laboratory experience in cognitive and behavioral neuroscience and more in-depth courses of interest that will broaden the students' knowledge in understanding brain and behavior.

Students pursuing the BA with this concentration take 15 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 3.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on cognitive and behavioral neuroscience may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 373	Biopsychology Laboratory	2
PSYC 304	Principles of Learning (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	4

Select a minimum of 9 credits from the following: 9

PSYC 309	Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 460	Independent Study in Psychology <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 480	Biological Bases of Alzheimer's Disease	
PSYC 472	Current Topics in Brain and Behavior <sup>2</sup>	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>3</sup>	
Total Credits		15

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With permission of a CBN faculty member.

2

When approved by the undergraduate associate chair and topic is Neuronal Bases of Learning and Memory, Drugs and the Brain, or Brain in Books and Film.

3

When approved by undergraduate associate chair and topic is Music and the Brain, Neuronal Aspects of Cognitive Development, Animal Cognition, or Psychology of Stress and Health.

### Concentration in Developmental Psychology (DVL P)

The concentration in developmental psychology may be of interest to students who are planning to attend graduate school in developmental psychology or a related field, such as human development and family studies, school psychology, or clinical child psychology. Students who are considering a career in school psychology or education may also find this concentration advantageous.

Students pursuing the BA with this concentration take 12 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on developmental psychology may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 211	Lifespan Development (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
PSYC 313	Child Development	3
Select two courses from the following:		6
PSYC 314	Adolescent Development	
PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 414	Behavior Disorders of Childhood	
PSYC 415	Psychological Factors in Aging	
PSYC 460	Independent Study in Psychology <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
Total Credits		12

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Only when content is developmental, with prior written approval.

### Concentration in Educational Psychology (EPSY)

Students pursuing the BA with concentration in educational psychology take 12 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all coursework applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I, PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on educational psychology may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 312	Educational Psychology	3
PSYC 320	Psychological Tests and Measurements	4
Select two courses from the following:		6
PSYC 304	Principles of Learning (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 313	Child Development	
PSYC 314	Adolescent Development	
PSYC 322	Behavior Modification	
PSYC 460	Independent Study in Psychology <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
PSYC 558	Neuronal Bases of Learning and Memory	
Total Credits		13

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Educational content only, with department approval.

### Concentration in Health Psychology (HPSY)

Students pursuing the BA with concentration in health psychology take 12 credits. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in all course work applied to the concentration.

Students who successfully complete the Psychology Department Honors Program (PSYC 490 Psychology Honors I PSYC 491 Psychology Honors II, and PSYC 492 RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with an honors thesis/project focused on health or well-being may, with approval of their thesis committees and the associate chair for undergraduate studies, substitute their honors work for one course in the concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 417	Science of Well Being	3
Select three courses from the following:		9
PSYC 211	Lifespan Development (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 321	Clinical Psychology	
PSYC 325	Psychopathology	
PSYC 408	Psychological Fitness	
PSYC 461	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
Total Credits		12

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Only when topic is related to health and well-being and approved by the psychology department.

## Electives in the Major

Students complete the 37 required credits with electives in psychology (PSYC) with the following restrictions.

- A maximum of 6 credits of PSYC 327 Psychology in the Community and PSYC 328 Psychology in the Community Laboratory may be applied to required psychology credits.
- A maximum of 6 credits of PSYC 260 Basic Research Methods in Psychology, PSYC 350 Directed Reading and Research in Psychology, and PSYC 460 Independent Study in Psychology may be applied to required psychology credits.
- No more than 9 credits of PSYC 327 Psychology in the Community, PSYC 328 Psychology in the Community Laboratory, PSYC 260 Basic Research Methods in Psychology, PSYC 350 Directed Reading and Research in Psychology, and PSYC 460 Independent Study in Psychology can be taken without written permission of the department chair.
- No more than 6 credits of D may be applied toward this requirement.

PSYC 465 Pioneering Ideas in Psychology is strongly recommended for all students who plan to attend graduate school in psychology.

## Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in psychology may fulfill this requirement by successfully completing PSYC 301 Research Methods in Psychology (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>), PSYC 304 Principles of Learning (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>), or PSYC 309 Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>). Students who receive transfer credit for a research methods course must take PSYC 304 Principles of Learning (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) or PSYC 309 Sensation, Perception, and Information Processing (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) unless the transfer course has been approved as writing intensive.

## Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120.

## Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

## College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements or requirements for the major).

### Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following: 3		
PHIL	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>	
RELI	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/</a> )	

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Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253, RELI 235, RELI 333, and RELI 339 cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature>) requirement.

### Social and Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) <sup>1</sup> 3		
ANTH	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/</a> )	
CRIM	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/</a> )	
ECON	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/</a> )	
GOVT	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/</a> )	
HIST	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/</a> ) <sup>2</sup>	
LING	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/</a> )	
PSYC	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/</a> )	
SOCI	( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/</a> )	

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GGG 103	Human Geography (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GGG 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies
GGG 301	Political Geography (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GGG 305	Economic Geography
GGG 306	Urban Geography
GGG 315	Geography of the United States
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America
GGG 320	Geography of Europe
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GGG 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGG 357	Urban Planning
GGG 380	Geography of Virginia

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The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

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HIST 100 and HIST 125 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

### Foreign Language

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: <sup>1</sup>		
Completing 3 credits in a foreign language numbered 202 (or higher level courses taught in the language) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/</a> )		
Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test		
Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:		
EDSE 115	American Sign Language (ASL) I	
EDSE 116	American Sign Language (ASL) II	
EDSE 219	American Sign Language (ASL) III	

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Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

### Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) <sup>1</sup>		
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3
ANTH 317	East Asian Cultures	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3

ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3
ARAB 365	Black and Minority Cultures in Arabic Literature (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 317	The Black Pharaohs: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Nubia (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
CHIN 470	Special Topics in Chinese Studies	3
DANC 118	Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3
GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3

GGG 316	Geography of Latin America	3	HIST 364	Revolution in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGG 317	Geography of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3	HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3
GGG 399	Select Topics in GGS	3	HIST 377	The Vietnam War (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 332	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3	HIST 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 333	Politics of East Asia	3	HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3-6
GOVT 338	Politics of Eurasia	3	HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3	HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3	HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3	JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3	JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	JAPA 380	Japan in Motion	3
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	KORE 300	Korean Culture and Society	3
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3
HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	KORE 385	Introduction to Korean Linguistics	3
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 211	Introduction to Religions of the "West" (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 212	Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 312	Islam (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 326	Stalinism	3	RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3	RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3
HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 317	Daoism	3
HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3	RELI 318	Korean Philosophy and Religions	3
HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 338	Qur'an and Hadith	3
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 342	Comparative Study of Mysticism	3
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 344	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 358	Islamic Thought (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 367	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3
			RELI 368	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3

RELI 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	Natural Science ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science</a> )	7
RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	Social and Behavioral Sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science</a> )	3
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	Just Societies (optional) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#justsocieties">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#justsocieties</a> ) <sup>1</sup>	
RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	<b>Integration Requirements</b>	
WMST 407	Transnational Sexualities	3	Written Communication (upper-level) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written</a> )	3
			Writing Intensive ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi</a> ) <sup>2</sup>	3
			Mason Apex ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#apex">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#apex</a> ) <sup>3</sup>	3
			<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>40</b>

1

A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global>) requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

## Mason Core

Some Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements.

Students who have completed the following credentials are eligible for a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower level) requirement categories. The Integration category (upper level) is not waived under this policy. See Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/#transfertext>) for more information.

- VCCS Uniform Certificate of General Studies
- VCCS or Richard Bland Associate of Science (A.S.), Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.&S.), or Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Foundation Requirements</b>		
	Written Communication (lower-level) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written</a> )	3
	Oral Communication ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral</a> )	3
	Quantitative Reasoning ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative</a> )	3
	Information Technology and Computing ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology</a> )	3
<b>Exploration Requirements</b>		
	Arts ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts</a> )	3
	Global Contexts ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-contexts">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-contexts</a> )	3
	Global History ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history</a> )	3
	Literature ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature</a> )	3

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In addition to covering content related to the designated category, Exploration level courses marked with a *Just Societies* "flag" are specifically designed to help students learn how to interact effectively with others from all walks of life, including those with backgrounds and beliefs that differ from their own. Courses marked with the Just Societies flag are available for students starting in Fall 2024. Students admitted prior to the Fall of 2025 are not required to take courses with a Just Societies flag but may wish to do so to increase their knowledge and skills in this important area. Students interested in this approach to completing their Mason Core Exploration Requirements should work closely with their advisor to identify the appropriate Just Societies-flagged courses.

2

Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

3

Minimum 3 credits required.

## 4-Year Plan

## Bachelor of Arts in Psychology Sample Plan of Study

A sample four year graduation plan and degree planning worksheet can be found at <https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets> (<https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets/>). The plan is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor each semester and with their PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

## Honors

### Honors in the Major

Highly-qualified students may apply to graduate with honors in the major. To be eligible for admission, psychology majors must have completed at least 50 credits and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 and a minimum GPA of 3.40 in psychology courses.



If accepted, students must take a sequence of three courses, which culminates in the successful completion and presentation of an independent honors thesis.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 490	Psychology Honors I <sup>1</sup>	3
or PSYC 460	Independent Study in Psychology	
PSYC 491	Psychology Honors II	3
PSYC 492	RS: Psychology Honors III (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3

1

PSYC 460 can be substituted for PSYC 490 with permission of the Honors Program Director.

To graduate with honors, students must earn a minimum GPA of 3.50 in their honors courses and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 and a minimum GPA of 3.40 in psychology courses.

## Program Outcomes

### Program Outcomes

- Knowledge Base in Psychology**
  - Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology
  - Develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains
  - Describe application of psychology
- Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking**
  - Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena
  - Demonstrate psychology information literacy
  - Engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving
  - Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research
  - Incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry
- Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World**
  - Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice
  - Build and enhance interpersonal relationships
  - Adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels
- Communication**
  - Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes
  - Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes
  - Interact effectively with others
- Professional Development**
  - Apply psychological content and skills to career goals
  - Exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation
  - Refine project-management skills
  - Enhance teamwork capacity
  - Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation

## Accelerated Master's

The accelerated master's program in the list below specifies the BA in psychology as a feeder degree for its program. Many other accelerated master's programs are also available for any bachelor's degree at

Mason. See the full list of degrees ([http://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter=filter\\_24](http://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter=filter_24)) with accelerated programs at George Mason.

## Psychology, BA or BS/Psychology, Accelerated MA (Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience Concentration)

### Overview

Highly qualified undergraduates may be admitted to the bachelor's/accelerated master's program and obtain a BA/BS in Psychology and an MA in Psychology, with a concentration in cognitive and behavioral neuroscience, in an accelerated time-frame after satisfactory completion of a minimum of 138 credits.

See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>) for policies related to this program.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6. Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

### BAM Pathway Admission Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) and Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>). For information specific to this accelerated master's program, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<https://psychology.gmu.edu/programs/la-ma-ancel-psyc/overview/>).

Students will be considered for admission into the BAM Pathway after completion of a minimum of 60 credits, and completion of 12 hours of psychology coursework including one of the following combinations of courses:

PSYC 300 Statistics in Psychology  
PSYC 372 Biopsychology

OR

PSYC 300 Statistics in Psychology  
PSYC 375 Brain and Sensory Processes and PSYC 376 Brain and Behavior

Students are strongly encouraged to have obtained previous research lab experience and to have one reference letter from the faculty member who will serve as their advisor.

Students who are accepted into the BAM Pathway will be allowed to register for graduate level courses after successful completion of a minimum of 75 undergraduate credits.

### Accelerated Master's Admission Requirements

Students already admitted in the BAM Pathway will be admitted to the MA program, if they have met the following criteria, as verified on the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form:

- Minimum overall GPA of 3.25
- Successfully meeting Mason's requirements for undergraduate degree conferral (graduation) and completing the application for graduation.

## Accelerated Pathway Requirements

To maintain the integrity and quality of both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs, undergraduate students interested in taking graduate courses must choose from the following:

Code	Title	Credits
Advanced Standing courses (up to 12 credits)		
PSYC 531	Mammalian Neurobiology	3
or NEUR 603	Mammalian Neuroanatomy	
PSYC 558	Neuronal Bases of Learning and Memory	3
or PSYC 685	Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSYC 555	Neuroimaging	3
PSYC 559	Behavioral Chemistry	3
PSYC 592	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	1-6
Reserve Graduate Credit courses (up to 6 credits) taken while an undergraduate and will only count for the graduate degree program		
PSYC 531	Mammalian Neurobiology	3
or NEUR 603	Mammalian Neuroanatomy	
PSYC 558	Neuronal Bases of Learning and Memory	3
or PSYC 685	Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSYC 555	Neuroimaging	3
PSYC 559	Behavioral Chemistry	3
PSYC 592	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	1-6
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4

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When topic is Animal Behavior, Biological Bases of Alzheimer's Disease, Human Brain Stimulation, Cognitive Electrophysiology or Comparative Cognition. Can be repeated if topic differs.

For more detailed information on coursework and timeline requirements, see AP6.7.Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>).