

## Guide to Academic Advising for Psychology Majors - New Curriculum

Through Towson Online Services, you can access a webpage called “**Academic Requirements.**” This webpage shows the courses you have “completed” (which includes courses you are currently taking, and courses that you are registered to take in the future). It also explains which courses you still need in order to graduate. [THIS](#) guide explains how to access your Academic Requirements webpage.

The five requirements to graduate are shown on this webpage. From top to bottom, they are...

### #1: Minimum Overall GPA of 2.0.

Your cumulative [GPA](#) must be 2.0 or higher at the time of graduation. [HERE](#) is a GPA calculator that you can use to predict how your current term grades will affect your GPA. If you repeat a course, only the higher of the two grades is used to calculate your GPA.

2.0 GPA required - Expand for Actual GPA

**Satisfied:** A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 is required

- GPA: 2.000 required, 2.967 actual

### #2: Complete 120 Total Credits.

120 Credits

**Not Satisfied:** 120 Credits

- Units: 120.00 required, 65.00 taken, 55.00 needed

You must complete 120 total credits. If you repeat a course, you only receive credit for it once. See the following page for more information on transfer credits or switching majors.

### #3: Complete 32 Upper-Level Credits.

In order to graduate, you must complete 32 credits worth of upper-level courses. An upper-level course is any course that is 300-level or higher. Most – *but not all* – of these 32 credits will come from the upper-level courses that you must take to complete your psychology major (see Section #5).

Upper Level Course Requirement

**Not Satisfied:** Upper Level Course Requirement (G27)

Upper Level Courses

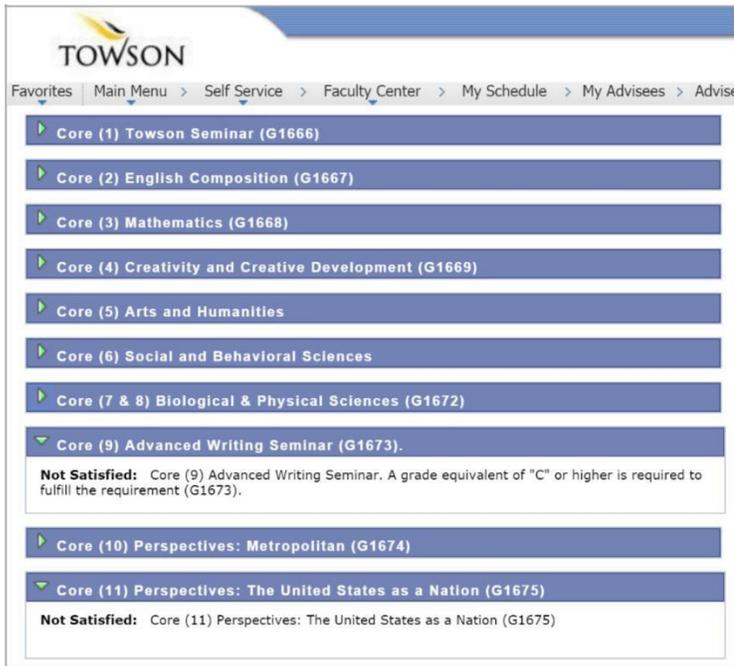
**Not Satisfied:** Courses taken that are 300 level or above (L10)

- Units: 32.00 required, 9.00 taken, 23.00 needed

**Example:** The student whose page is shown to the left has taken 9 credits of upper-level courses (which includes any classes they are currently taking). They still need to take 23 more credits of upper-level courses to graduate.

## #4: Complete 14 Core Requirements.

The next section of your “Academic Requirements” page tells you which Core Requirements you have not completed. When the page loads, any category that is collapsed is one that you have already completed (or are currently completing). Any category that is expanded has not yet been completed.



The screenshot shows the Towson University website's Academic Requirements page. The navigation bar includes 'Favorites', 'Main Menu', 'Self Service', 'Faculty Center', 'My Schedule', 'My Advisees', and 'Advise'. The list of core requirements is as follows:

- Core (1) Towson Seminar (G1666) - collapsed
- Core (2) English Composition (G1667) - collapsed
- Core (3) Mathematics (G1668) - collapsed
- Core (4) Creativity and Creative Development (G1669) - collapsed
- Core (5) Arts and Humanities - collapsed
- Core (6) Social and Behavioral Sciences - collapsed
- Core (7 & 8) Biological & Physical Sciences (G1672) - collapsed
- Core (9) Advanced Writing Seminar (G1673) - expanded, showing 'Not Satisfied: Core (9) Advanced Writing Seminar. A grade equivalent of "C" or higher is required to fulfill the requirement (G1673).
- Core (10) Perspectives: Metropolitan (G1674) - collapsed
- Core (11) Perspectives: The United States as a Nation (G1675) - expanded, showing 'Not Satisfied: Core (11) Perspectives: The United States as a Nation (G1675)

**Example:** The student whose page is shown on the left has already completed (or is currently completing) Cores 1 through 8 and Core 10, but has not yet completed Core 9 or Core 11.

FYI: PSYC 101 and PSYC 314/313 (which are both required for your psychology major; see Section #5) will also fulfill Cores 6 and 9, respectively.

Click [HERE](#) for a list of the 14 Core areas. If you click on any of these areas, you will see a list of ALL of the courses that can be used to fulfill that area. The courses listed here are the ONLY ones that will count to fulfill that area!

## #5: Complete the Psychology Major.

**THIS** page explains the psychology courses that you must take to complete the psychology major.

You must earn a “C” or higher in each of these classes. On the Academic Requirements page, these requirements are presented as follows...

### a) Psychology Required Core (3 courses; 11 credits)

All psych majors must complete PSYC 101 as well as courses in Statistics and Research Methods. Students have two options to complete the Statistics and Research requirement. Option 1: Psyc 212 and Psyc 314. Option 2: PSYC 213 and PSYC 313. PSYC 212/213 must be completed before PSYC 314/313.

### b) Foundation Courses (4 courses; 12 credits)

All psych majors must take the following foundation courses: PSYC 203 Human Development; PSYC 225 Intro to Social Psychology; PSYC 261 Intro to Abnormal Psychology and PSYC 285 Biological Psychology. Psyc 101 is a Prerequisite for these courses.

**Example:** The student whose page is shown on the left is currently taking Behavioral Statistics but still needs Research Methods in order to satisfy the Psychology Required Courses. The student has taken three of the four Foundation courses and is currently taking Biological Psychology to satisfy the Foundation Courses and Cross-Cultural Psychology to satisfy the Sociocultural Awareness Requirement (see (c) below). If the student drops, withdraws, or fails any of the classes they are currently taking, the report will change to indicate the requirement is not satisfied.

### c) Sociocultural Awareness (1 course; 3 credits)

All psychology majors must take one course to satisfy the sociocultural awareness requirement. Students may select from PSYC 432 Cross-Cultural Psychology, PSYC 441 Psychology of the Black Experience; or PSYC 447 Sex Differences: Psychological Perspectives.

### d) Electives (minimum of 6 courses; 18 credits)

All psychology majors must take 18 credits of any other psychology courses (excluding PSYC 325; PSYC 361; PSYC 383; PSYC 465). At least 15 of the 18 units must be upper (300-400) level. In addition, no more than 6 out of the 18 credits can be experiential classes. Experiential classes include readings courses, internship, thesis, and clinical area of focus courses (i.e., PSYC 381, PSYC 391, PSYC 433, PSYC 435, PSYC 454, PSYC 491, PSYC 494, and PSYC 499).

**Example:** The student whose page is shown to the left is currently taking 3 out of the required 15 upper level elective credits and has taken the maximum number of lower level elective credits.

#### ▼ Statistics and Research Option 1: PSYC 212 and PSYC 314

**Not Satisfied:** Students must complete one of the following sets of courses: (PSYC 212 and PSYC 314) or (PSYC 213 and PSYC 313).

- Courses: 2 required, 1 taken, 1 needed

The following courses may be used to satisfy this requirement:

		Personalize   View All   [2]		First	1-2 of 2	Last
Course	Description	Units	When	When	Grade	Status
PSYC 212	BEHAVIORAL STATISTICS	4.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021		◆
PSYC 314	RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYC	4.00	Fall, Spring & Summer	Fall, Spring & Summer		

#### ▼ Statistics and Research Option 2: PSYC 213 and PSYC 313

**Not Satisfied:** Students must complete one of the following sets of courses: (PSYC 213 and PSYC 313) or (PSYC 212 and PSYC 314).

- Courses: 2 required, 0 taken, 2 needed

The following courses may be used to satisfy this requirement:

		Personalize   View All   [2]		First	1-4 of 4	Last
Course	Description	Units	When	When	Grade	Status
PSYC 213	RESCH DESGN STAT	4.00	Occasionally	Occasionally		

#### ▼ Foundation Courses

**Satisfied:** Completion of PSYC 203, PSYC 225, PSYC 261, and PSYC 285.

The following courses were used to satisfy this requirement:

		Personalize   View All   [2]		First	1-4 of 4	Last
Course	Description	Units	When	When	Grade	Status
PSYC 203	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021	A	✔
PSYC 225	INTRO TO SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021	B	✔
PSYC 261	INTRO TO ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021	A	✔
PSYC 285	BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021		◆

#### ▼ Sociocultural Awareness

**Satisfied:** Completion of PSYC 432 or PSYC 447.

The following courses may be used to satisfy this requirement:

		Personalize   View All   [2]		First	1 of 1	Last
Course	Description	Units	When	When	Grade	Status
PSYC 432	CROSS-CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021		◆

#### Electives

**Not Satisfied:** Completion of minimum 18 units of any other psychology (PSYC) courses (excluding PSYC 325, PSYC 361, PSYC 383 and PSYC 465). At least 15 of the 18 units must be upper (300-400) level. (R199)

Note: No more than 6 of the 18 units can be experiential classes (PSYC 381, PSYC 391, PSYC 433, PSYC 435, PSYC 454, PSYC 491, PSYC 494, and PSYC 499).

#### ▼ Upper-Level Electives

**Not Satisfied:** Completion of at least 15 units of upper (300-400) level electives.

- Units: 15.00 required, 3.00 taken, 12.00 needed

The following courses were used to satisfy this requirement:

		Personalize   View All   [2]		First	1 of 1	Last
Course	Description	Units	When	When	Grade	Status
PSYC 315	MOTIVATION	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021		◆

#### ▼ Upper- or Lower-Level Elective

**Satisfied:** Completion of 3 units of electives at the 200-, 300-, or 400-level.

The following courses were used to satisfy this requirement:

		Personalize   View All   [2]		First	1 of 1	Last
Course	Description	Units	When	When	Grade	Status
PSYC F03	INFANT AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT	3.00	Fall 2021	Fall 2021	A	✔

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### ***Do my transfer credits count toward my 120 total credits?***

Yes, but there is a maximum number of credits that you are allowed to transfer. Outside credits taken *before* you enrolled at Towson must be approved by the University Admissions Office (see [HERE](#) for more info). Outside credits taken *after* you enrolled at Towson must be approved by the Academic Standards Committee (see [HERE](#)). Some transfer credits may fulfill Core Requirements; others will count only as electives. You may also use [ARTSYS](#) to check if/how your credits from other colleges will transfer to Towson.

### ***Do my transfer credits count toward my psychology major?***

Yes, you may transfer a maximum of 18 credits toward your psychology major. For each transferred course, the department will decide whether it counts as an upper-level requirement (i.e., a 300- or 400-level course) or as a lower-level course (i.e., a 100- or 200- level course).

In some cases, the courses that you took at another college will count only as lower-level electives (see Section #5d). If this happens, you may not re-take this same course for credit at Towson. For example, if you took Adolescent Psychology somewhere else and it is counted as a lower-level psychology elective, it cannot be taken at Towson to also have it count as an upper-level elective.

### ***When can I register for classes?***

Registration times for the fall and spring semesters are based on the number of credits you have completed so far. The more credits you have, the earlier you can register. It is in your best interest to register for courses as soon as possible after your registration time.

For minimester and summer courses, registration is on a first come, first served basis. You may take no more than 4 credits during a given minimester, and no more than 13 credits in a given summer.

### ***How do I get my Academic Advising Hold removed?***

You can do this in one of two ways. In either case, you should review your Academic Requirements report beforehand.

Option #1: If you have detailed advising questions, you should arrange a meeting with your assigned academic advisor or with an advisor from the Psychology Advising Team (you can schedule a meeting with an advisor from the Psychology Advising Team [HERE](#)). During this meeting, the advisor can remove your hold.

Option #2: If you do not have detailed advising questions, you can attend an “open advising” session. These will be held in the weeks before registration opens. A schedule of these will be communicated to psychology majors via e-mail. You do not need an appointment to attend one of these sessions.

### ***Can I repeat a course that I have already taken at Towson?***

Yes, you may take the same course twice. Usually this is done to improve the grade. However, a class taken at another school will NOT replace a class already taken at Towson. To take a course for a third time, see the “Third Attempt of a Course” [FORM](#).

### ***What is a Degree Completion Plan (DCP) and DCP Hold?***

If you have completed 45 or more credits (including current classes), you are required to complete a Degree Completion Plan. If you have a DCP hold, you will receive an e-mail with details about how to do this.

### ***If I changed majors, will I need more than 120 credits to graduate?***

Perhaps. In order to graduate, you will need to fulfill the requirements of your new major, and you may have to take more than 120 total credits in order to do so.