

Guide to Academic Advising for Psychology Majors

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: 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

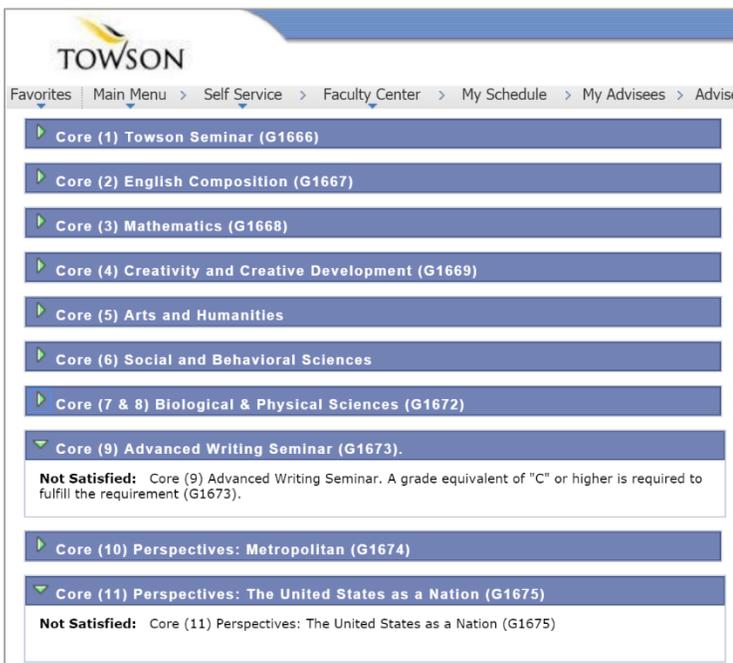
Not Satisfied: Courses taken that are 300 level or above (L10)

- 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.

#2: 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.



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- Core (1) Towson Seminar (G1666)
- Core (2) English Composition (G1667)
- Core (3) Mathematics (G1668)
- Core (4) Creativity and Creative Development (G1669)
- Core (5) Arts and Humanities
- Core (6) Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Core (7 & 8) Biological & Physical Sciences (G1672)
- Core (9) Advanced Writing Seminar (G1673).
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)
- Core (11) Perspectives: The United States as a Nation (G1675).
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 (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!

#3: 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.

#4: 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

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

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.

#5: Complete the Psychology Major.

[THIS](#) worksheet explains the 16 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 in four parts...

Psychology Required Core

Not Satisfied: Required core courses for the Psychology major (R196).

- PSYC 101
- PSYC 212 or 213
- PSYC 203
- PSYC 313 or 314 (L40)

Not Satisfied: PSYC 313 or 314 (L40)

- Courses: 1 required, 0 taken, 1 needed

a) Prerequisites (3 courses; 10 credits)

All psychology majors must complete prerequisite courses in biology, English, and math. See worksheet for specific details.

b) Psychology Required Core (4 courses; 14 credits)

All psych majors must complete PSYC 101, 212, 203, and 314. PSYC 101 must be taken first. PSYC 212 must be taken before PSYC 314.

c) Topic Areas (6 courses; 18 credits)

Psychology majors must complete one course from *each* of the six topic areas. The worksheet explains which courses fulfill each area.

d) Psychology Electives (3 courses; 9 credits)

In addition to the above courses, psychology majors must complete three psychology courses as electives. At least one of these three must be a 300- or 400-level course.

Example: To complete the psychology major, the student shown to the left still needs to complete PSYC 314, Topic Area IV, and one psychology elective.

Topical Areas

Satisfied: Topical Areas

- I. Human Development
- II. Clinical
- III. Social Psychology
- IV. Biopsychology

Not Satisfied: IV. Biopsychology. BIOL 120/120L are prerequisites. PSYC 465 is the recommended topic area course.

- Courses: 1 required, 0 taken, 1 needed

The following courses may be used to satisfy this requirement:

Course	Description	Units	When	Gra
PSYC 309	PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY	3.00	Fall & Spring	
PSYC 317	SENSATION AND PERCEPTION	3.00	Fall & Spring	
PSYC 460	ETHOLOGY AND COMPAR. PSYC	3.00	Fall	
PSYC 465	PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	3.00	Fall & Spring	

View All | First 1-4 of

- V. Learning-Cognitive
- VI. Diversity

Psychology electives

Not Satisfied: Course electives for the Psychology major. Three of any 200, 300 or 400 level psychology courses except PSYC 230 and PSYC 383. A minimum of 1 course must be at the 300 or 400 level (R199).

- Courses: 3 required, 2 taken, 1 needed

Note: If you have a minor or second major, those requirements will also be shown on this part of the Academic Requirements page.

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 (Section #2); 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 Abnormal Psychology somewhere else and it is counted as a psychology elective, it does not fulfill Topic Area II. You would therefore have to take a different course from Topic Area II in order to fulfill that topic area.

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 (see below). In either case, you must pick up your advising folder from the psychology office (LA 2210) and bring it to your advisor meeting or open advising session.

Option #1: If you have detailed advising questions, you should arrange a meeting with your assigned academic advisor. During this meeting, your advisor can remove your hold.

Option #2: Every semester, the psychology department holds several “open advising” sessions a few weeks before registration opens. A schedule of these sessions will be posted on the bulletin board in the psychology office. 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. 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?

If you have completed 45 or more credits (including classes you are currently taking), you are required to fill out a Degree Completion Plan form and submit it to your academic advisor. Click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the form, and follow [THESE](#) instructions to fill out the form.

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.