

PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Psychology Honours Program is designed for students seeking advanced undergraduate training in Psychology and preparation for graduate study or research-intensive careers. Because the program includes competitive admission, specific continuation requirements, priority access to select upper-year courses, and a supervised Honours research project, students must plan carefully and meet annual program and registration deadlines.

This guide summarizes the structure of the Psychology Honours Program, admission and continuation requirements, research expectations, key registration processes, and important annual milestones. Students should review this information alongside the University Catalogue and the Department of Psychology and Health Studies Registration Information guide, which provides additional details about course registration, departmental permissions, and Temporarily Restricted Courses.

RELEVANT KEY TERMS

Temporarily Restricted Courses: Select 300-level Lab Courses and 400-level Seminar Courses for which Honours students may receive Priority Registration Access through the Class Permissions Request Form process. Beginning June 20, or the following business day, any remaining seats become available to all Psychology and Health Studies majors on a first-come, first-served basis. Students must meet all prerequisites and other registration requirements.

Permission-Required Research Courses: Research courses that always require departmental permission for registration. PSY 472.6 and PSY 473.6 are available only to Psychology Honours students, while HLST 410.6 is available only to Health Studies Honours students. PSY 482.3 [PENDING APPROVAL] is normally available only to eligible non-Honours students in four-year B.A., B.Sc., and B.A.&Sc. programs in Psychology and Health Studies who have secured a faculty research supervisor and received departmental permission through the Class Permissions Request Form process. These courses do not open for general registration.

Lab Courses: Upper-year Psychology courses emphasizing advanced research methods and the application of research skills within particular areas of psychology. Some 300-level courses are Lab Courses. Honours students receive Priority Registration Access to some Lab Courses before remaining seats are made available to all Psychology and Health Studies majors.

Seminar Courses: Upper-year Psychology courses that provide advanced, focused study of particular areas of psychology, typically through smaller classes and greater emphasis on discussion, reading, analysis, and student participation. Some 400-level courses are Seminar Courses. Honours students receive Priority Registration Access to some Seminar Courses before remaining seats are made available to all Psychology and Health Studies majors.

Class Permissions Request Form: Students must complete and submit this form to request Priority Registration Access to Temporarily Restricted Courses or departmental permission to enrol in Permission-Required Research Courses. This form can be found in the “Forms, Student Guides, and Resources” area of the Department website.

Priority Registration Access: Departmental authorization allowing Honours students to register in Temporarily Restricted Courses for which they have received permission before those courses open to all Psychology and Health Studies majors. Students may begin registering only once their Individual Registration Access Date and Time have arrived. Priority Registration Access ends when temporary restrictions are removed on June 20, or the following business day.

Individual Registration Access Date and Time: The date and time at which a student may begin registering for classes. This date and time are assigned by the University and can be viewed in PAWS beginning in mid-May: PAWS → Registration and Classes → Register for Classes → View Your Status.

PURPOSE

The B.A. Honours in Psychology and B.Sc. Honours in Psychology are competitive undergraduate degree programs designed for high-performing students interested in pursuing graduate study in Psychology or related fields.

Students admitted to the Psychology Honours Program complete either the B.A. Honours in Psychology or the B.Sc. Honours in Psychology.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Degree requirements are available here:

B.A. Honours: [BA Honours Degree Requirements](#)

B.Sc. Honours: [BSc Honours Degree Requirements](#)

Students admitted to the Psychology Honours Program receive Priority Registration Access to select Temporarily Restricted Courses to help ensure they can complete required coursework.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

The Psychology Honours Program includes both B.A. and B.Sc. students and is capped at a total of 30 students per cohort. Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission. If more than 30 qualified students apply, applicants will be ranked by their Major Average, and the highest-ranked applicants will be admitted.

Typically, students apply to the Psychology Honours Program at the end of Year 2.

While you can apply to the Psychology Honours Program later in your degree, the cohort may be full, and accessing Temporarily Restricted Courses may be more difficult.

PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Psychology Honours Program has two stages of requirements.

- 1) *Admission Requirements* establish the academic criteria students must meet to apply to and enter the Program.
- 2) Once admitted, students must meet the *Continuation Requirements* to remain in the Psychology Honours Program and progress to PSY 472.6 (B.A. Honours Thesis Course) or PSY 473.6 (B.Sc. Honours Thesis Course).

These requirements are firm and will not be waived or adjusted.

Psychology Honours Program Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the Psychology Honours Program, students must meet the following requirements:

1. ***Required courses and credit units.*** Have completed at least 54 credit units, including PSY 120.3, PSY 121.3, PSY 233.3, PSY 234.3, and PSY 235.3 and an additional 6 credit units of senior (200-level or above) PSY courses at the time of application. Students must have completed 60 credit units by September 1.
2. ***Major Average.*** Students must have a Major Average of 80% or higher at the time of application.
3. ***Cumulative Weighted Average.*** Students must have a Cumulative Weighted Average of 70% or higher at the time of application.

Note: Meeting these requirements establishes eligibility to be considered for admission; it does not guarantee admission. The Psychology Honours Program is capped at 30 students per cohort.

Psychology Honours Program Continuation Requirements

Once admitted to the Psychology Honours Program, students must meet the following requirements to remain in the Program and progress to PSY 472.6 (B.A. Honours Thesis Course) or PSY 473.6 (B.Sc. Honours Thesis Course):

1. **Maintain the required Major Average.** Students must maintain a Major Average of 80% or higher throughout the Program. Continuation eligibility is assessed annually as of May 1. The Department completes its administrative review between May 1 and May 30, following receipt of the relevant records from UGSO. Students whose Major Average is found to be below 80% will be withdrawn from the Honours Program and will not be eligible to register in PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6.
2. **Maintain the required overall Cumulative Weighted Average.** Students must maintain a Cumulative Weighted Average of 70% or higher. Continuation eligibility is assessed annually as of May 1. The Department completes its administrative review between May 1 and May 30, following receipt of the relevant records from UGSO. Students whose Cumulative Weighted

Average is found to be below 70% will be withdrawn from the Honours Program and will not be eligible to register in PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6.

3. **Complete required 300-level courses.** The B.A. Honours and B.Sc. Honours degrees have different 300-level course requirements. Students should consult the University Catalogue for the requirements applicable to their degree and ensure that they have completed the prerequisites for PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6, as applicable. Honours students receive Priority Registration Access to Temporarily Restricted Courses. Students must submit the Class Permissions Request Form by 11:59 p.m. Saskatchewan time on May 25 annually and register according to their Individual Registration Access Date and Time before the courses open to all Psychology and Health Studies majors on June 20, or the following business day. Prerequisites for PSY 472.6 and PSY 473.6 will not be waived.
4. **Secure a research supervisor.** Students must secure a research supervisor by May 25 of the year they intend to enrol in PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6 and indicate this on their Class Permissions Request Form. Students who are unable to secure a research supervisor by this deadline will not be permitted to register in PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6.

Students are strongly encouraged to begin contacting potential research supervisors early, ideally during the Winter Term of Year 3. The research supervisor does not need to be a member of the Department of Psychology and Health Studies. Faculty members from other units or departments, as well as St. Thomas More College, also may serve as Honours supervisors. Advanced graduate students may serve as mentors, provided that a faculty member serves as the principal research supervisor. The student must name the research supervisor in the Class Permissions Request Form (due May 25 annually by 11:59 p.m. Saskatchewan time) and confirm they have agreed to supervise the project before the student will be permitted to register in PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6.

Students having trouble securing a research supervisor should contact the current Honours Program Coordinators well before the Class Permissions Request Form deadline.

5. **Complete PSY 472.6 or PSY 473.6 as scheduled.** Students granted permission to enrol in PSY 472.6 (B.A. Honours Thesis Course) or PSY 473.6 (B.Sc. Honours Thesis Course) must complete the course during the academic year for which permission was granted. Deferrals are not permitted without written approval from the Undergraduate Chair.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Psychology Honours Program applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Saskatchewan time on May 1 annually.

Students must complete the application form provided by the College of Arts and Science. This form can be accessed through the following link: [College of Arts and Science Honours Application](#)

QUESTIONS & SUPPORT

If you have questions about this process, please contact the Department of Psychology and Health Studies (psychology.department@usask.ca), the College of Arts and Science Undergraduate Student Office ([Academic Advising](#)), or the Undergraduate Chair (jan.gelech@usask.ca).

SUMMARY OF KEY MILESTONES

Dates	Tasks
May 1 annually, by 11:59 p.m. Saskatchewan time	Applications to the Psychology Honours Program are due.
May 1 annually	Continuation eligibility is assessed annually using students' Major Averages and Cumulative Weighted Averages as of May 1. The Department completes its administrative review between May 1 and May 30, following receipt of the relevant records from UGSO.
By May 15 annually	Honours applicants receive application results.
May 25 annually by 11:59 p.m. Saskatchewan time	Class Permissions Request Forms are due for the coming academic year.
By May 25 of the year you intend to enrol in the Honours Thesis Course	Students must have secured a research supervisor and identified that supervisor in the Class Permissions Request Form.
By June 4, or the following business day	Departmental permission decisions are communicated to Honours students and applied in the registration system.
Early June	Honours students begin registering in courses according to their Individual Registration Access Date and Time. To use Priority Registration Access, students must register in Temporarily Restricted Courses for which they have received Priority Registration Access before temporary restrictions are removed on June 20, or the following business day.
June 20, or the following business day	Registration in Temporarily Restricted Courses opens to all Psychology and Health Studies majors; remaining seats become available on a first-come, first-served basis.
Winter Term before enrolment in the Honours Thesis Course	Honours students begin contacting potential supervisors.