



Psychology Honors Program Application

Use	This form is used to apply for entry into the Psychology Honors Program.
Eligibility	To apply a student must be psychology major with at least sophomore standing with 9 PSYC credits at UMD and a 3.50 overall and PSYC GPA. Once accepted, students must have completed all program requirements prior to graduation in order to qualify for Honors or High Honors in Psychology.
Deadline	Applications are processed year-round, though students typically apply sometime towards the end of their sophomore year so they have time to adjust their graduation plan and complete the requirements.
Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Download and save this electronic PDF form to your computer. Be sure that the file name contains your UID number and a title, e.g. "101234567 PSYC Honors Application.pdf" 2) Use the most recent version of Adobe Acrobat Reader (www.adobe.com) to open, complete and save this form to your computer. Do not use any other program to view, edit or save the PDF file. 3) For the text boxes, you should write the text in a word processor, save it, and then paste it into the form. Be sure that everything is saved and backed up, and that when you close and reopen the file with Acrobat Reader, your information is still there. Maintain all files for your records. 4) Follow the instructions in Section III for submitting the form very carefully. If you do not follow the instructions, the form cannot be processed and you will not be able to enroll for credit.

To graduate with Honors in Psychology students accepted into the program must then:

- Complete the requirements for a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in psychology
- Earn a 3.50 GPA (both cumulative and in psychology) for Honors
- Earn a 3.80 GPA (both cumulative and in psychology) for High Honors, in addition to completing an honors thesis of exceptionally high quality as determined by the thesis committee.

Please check all that you have completed:

General Psychology Coursework – 35 credits		
A	PSYC 100 or PSYC 100H (or PSYC 221 for those with AP credit)	
B	PSYC 200	
C	PSYC 300	
D	One 400-level PSYC lab	
E	One 400-level PSYC course from each Theme ⁱ .	I. Mind, Brain & Behavior
F	Note that the lab (D) and honors seminars	II. Mental Health & Interventions
G	(M&N) <i>can</i> count towards these three courses.	III. Social, Decision & Organizational Processes
Requirements for B.S. in Psychology – 17 credits (including 9 credits from advanced courses)		
H	MATH140 (or equivalent)	
I	BSCI 170/171 (formerly BSCI105)	
J	Three additional advanced science or math courses (of the 5 courses total, two must be labs)	
K		
L		
Specific Honors Program Requirements		
M	One PSYC Honors seminar	
N	An additional advanced PSYC course	Another PSYC Honors seminar
		Another 400-level PSYC lab
		Any 600-level PSYC course
O	PSYC 468H (Field Experience and Special Assignments in Honors, 1 credit)	
P	PSYC 469H (Honors Thesis Proposal Preparation, 3 credits)	
Q	PSYC 499H (Honors Thesis Research, 3 credits)	

ⁱ Students under the “Areas” requirement had to take a 400-level in each of the four areas, and were not required to take PSYC 300. Students still under the “areas” requirements now have the option of taking a fourth 400-level or PSYC 300.

SECTION I - Student Information					
UID#		First Name		Last Name	
Best Phone		Best Email			
Local Street Address		City		State	Zip Code
Credits Earned	G.P.A.	Credits Earned	G.P.A.	You can find your credit and GPA on Degree Navigator (http://www.testudo.umd.edu/dnentry.html)	
Cumulative		In Psychology			

SECTION II – Personal Statements

1. Describe your reasons for applying to the Honors Program and what you hope to get out of it. Broadly speaking, in what area of psychology would you like to do your thesis in? (3000 character limit)

SECTION III – Submitting This Application

Please follow these instructions very carefully to ensure that your application is received and processed:

- 1) Using only Acrobat Reader, ensure the entire application is **100% complete and accurate**. Incomplete or incorrect applications will be returned to the student, and no time extensions will be granted for student errors.
- 2) Be sure that you have saved the complete PDF file on your computer, and double-check to make sure that when you close and reopen the file that everything is complete.
- 3) Send an email **from your UMD account** to PSYCforms@umd.edu with your application included as an attachment.
- 4) You will receive an email from the Office of Undergraduate Studies when the application has been processed asking you to schedule an appointment with an academic advisor.

Application Process:



Students typically apply between their sophomore and junior years. Here’s a sample timeline to give you an idea of the thesis project process, though your schedule may be different.

Sophomore	Junior		Senior	
Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Submit application and meet with an academic advisor	Develop and submit a formal thesis proposal & IRB application		Conduct research and develop Committee (advisor +2 faculty)	Conduct research. Prepare final thesis and defense
Candidates interview with Dept. Chair			Register for PSYC 499H	Register for 468H
Work with faculty advisor to conduct literature review and develop thesis proposal	Register for PSYC 469H			

Thesis Overview

The Honors thesis describes a research project carried out independently under the guidance of a Psychology Department faculty member. The research may be an original project or one that derives from ongoing work in the faculty mentor’s lab or research group. Whatever the research, it must have the approval of the Institutional Review Board's Human Subjects Committee or the Animal Care Committee. The thesis forms a significant part of the student's Honors work. The written document as well as an oral defense will be evaluated by the Thesis Committee, which consists of the student’s research advisor plus two other members of the faculty, at least one of whom is in the relevant graduate training area.

In judging the written thesis, the Thesis Committee weighs (a) how well the student places the research into the context of the relevant literature; (b) the clarity and originality of the experimental design; (c) the relevance of the statistical design and analysis; and (d) the student's interpretation and integration of findings within the research and theoretical literature in psychology. Similar criteria are used to judge performance in the oral examination.