

## **Psychobiology**

(Co-Directors)

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The psychobiology major is an interdisciplinary program of study in the behavioral and biological sciences. It is designed for those students who are interested in such fields as animal behavior, behavior genetics, cognitive neuroscience, physiological psychology, psychopharmacology, neurobiology, and developmental psychobiology.

A basic core of required courses will expose the student to the fundamental knowledge and methodological skills peculiar to this broad area of study. Beyond these general requirements, the student may select a course of study which emphasizes either a behavioral or physiological concentration. Students who elect the psychobiology major may not elect a major or minor in either psychology or biology.

**Requirements for a major in psychobiology:** The basic core of required courses includes BIO 121, BIO 219, PSC 110, PSC 211, 212, PSC 339, CHM 111, CHM 112, one or two credits of Independent Study 541, 542 or Internship 551, 552 and either (a) BIO 501, 502 or (b) PSC 423. Beyond the core requirements, students are required to take at least two elective courses, one from each department listings below:

### **Biology**

- Ecology (BIO 247)
- Animal Behavior (BIO 241)
- Behavioral Ecology (BIO 339)
- Invertebrate Zoology (BIO 215)
- Vertebrate Zoology (BIO 216)
- A&P I (BIO 211)
- A&P II (BIO 312)
- Cell Biology (BIO 327)
- Developmental Biology (BIO 329)

### **Psychology**

- Infant Development (PSC 234)
- Child Development (PSC 235)
- Adolescence (PSC 242)
- Physiological Psychology (PSC 324)
- Sensation and Perception (PSC 328)
- Cognitive Neuroscience (PSC 342)

All psychobiology students are strongly urged to take course work in computer science, data science, mathematics through calculus, and PHY 151 and 152.

### **541, 542. Independent Study**

**Staff**

Variable credit course, 1-2 credits.

Students will explore an area of psychobiology that interests them under the supervision of two faculty members (one each from the psychology and biology departments). The original research will result in a required final paper and a presentation at the Ripon College Research and Scholarship Symposium. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.*

**551, 552. Internship****Staff**

Variable credit course, 1-2 credits.

Supervised study combining scholarly achievement and practical experience in the field of psychobiology. Together with an academic supervisor and the Director of Career Development, the student arranges either a position of observing and assisting a professional in the field of psychobiology or a volunteer position in a relevant office or agency. Typically, students seeking a one-credit internship will receive 3-5 hours of experience per week for 12 weeks, while students seeking a two-credit internship will receive >6 hours/week. The student is required to keep a journal and submit a literature-based research paper. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.*