WWU PSYCH & HD

WINTER 2023 MAJOR APPLICATION INFO SESSION

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So, you're interested in Psych...

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WWU PSYCHOLOGY 2022-23

75 Credit Major

- ✓ 5 @ 100-level
  - Intro Psych equivalent
  - AP = 3+
- ✓ 30 @ 200-level

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Content Areas

- Cognitive
- Behavioral Neuroscience
- Lifespan Developmental
- Social
- Behavioral and Mental Health
- Research Methods

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2022-23 MAJOR APPLICATION

2022-23 Major Prerequisites

1. Completion (including current class enrollment) of at least 90 credits;
2. Completion of at least 20 PSY credits (with a C- or better) by the end of the current quarter, including completion of PSY 101 and **PSY 297A/203***, and completion/current enrollment in two courses from PSY 210, 220, 230, 240, and 250, or transfer credit for those courses as indicated on the Transfer Equivalency Report. At least 5 200-level PSY credits taken at Western;
3. Achieved a Western GPA (based on at least 12 credits) of 2.70 or higher. In the absence of a Western GPA, a GPA of 2.70 or higher from an equivalent four-year institution (based on at least 12 credits) or a cumulative GPA from a completed Associates degree may substitute for the Western GPA. A psych GPA (based on an average of two or more 200-level major-required psych courses*) may substitute for a cumulative GPA.

* Exception for current enrollment in PSY 203 sections available on a case-by-case basis. See **Major Application Exception** webform.

Winter '23 Major Application Opens Jan 6

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2022-23 MAJOR APPLICATION

Winter '23 Major Application

Available Friday 1/6 @ 8:30AM through Friday 1/20 @ 5PM

Apply in THREE easy steps:

1. Submit a **Major Application Webform**

2. Complete the **Major Application Quiz** that matches your intended major

3. Submit responses to the **Major Application Essay Questions**

Need access to the quizzes and essay questions? ***Self-Enroll Here***

Currently enrolled in PSY 203 as a transfer student?

Optional Step #4: Submit a **Major Application Exception**

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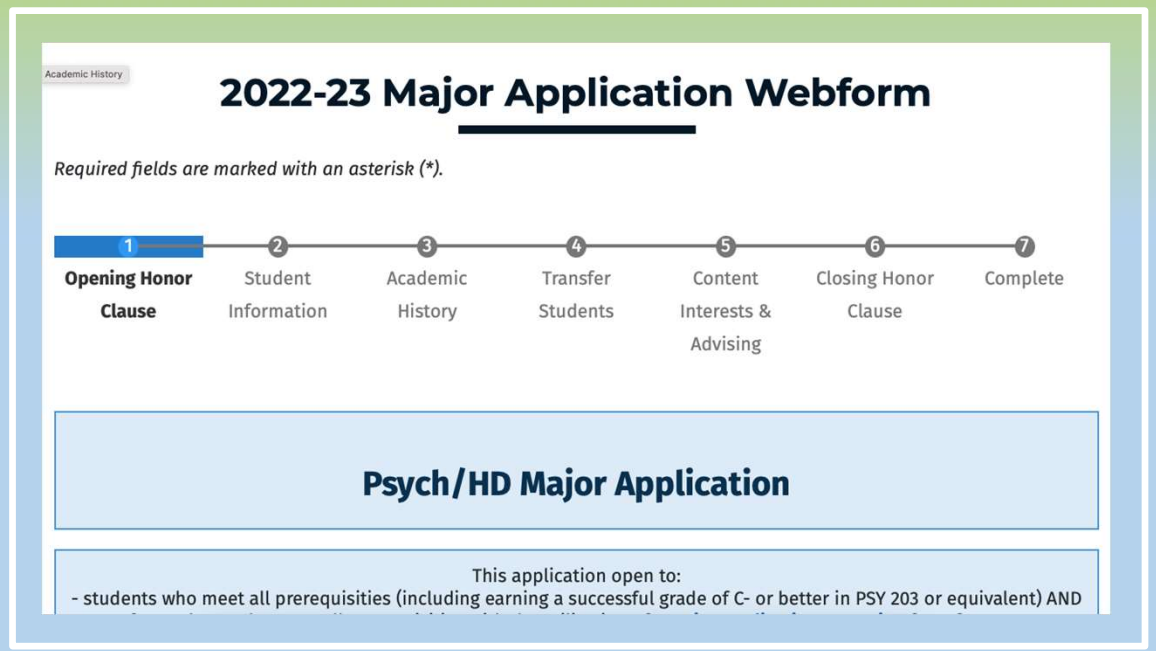
2022-23 APPLICATION
STEP #1: WEBFORM



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STEP #2: QUIZ

The **Major Application Quiz*** offers students interested in applying to WWU's psychology or human development majors an opportunity to test their Department and University knowledge.

The quiz is comprised of 10 questions pertaining to general information that can be gained by reviewing the current University Catalog and major checklists. Though there is only **ONE** correct answer to each question, the intention of this quiz is to eliminate surprises as students pursue their major. It is not scary, you cannot fail it; however, not paying close enough attention to the info provided **WILL** increase confusion later on. Therefore, answer to the best of your ability and then *pay close attention to the correct answers*.

Can't access the quiz? **Self-enroll in our Psychology Interest Canvas course**

*Remember: This quiz must be completed before your new major application can be evaluated. The application portal will open at the beginning of fall, winter, and spring quarter.

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STEP #3: ESSAY QUESTIONS

The **Major Application Short Essay Questions*** provides students interested in applying to WWU's psychology or human development majors an opportunity to convey who they are and how their individual lived experiences, values, and goals align with their intended major.

The quiz is comprised of 3 prompts (250 words each max):

1. **In the Department of Psychology, we aim to encourage and train students to apply psychological science to address societal needs and problems. What societal needs and problems are you interested in addressing and why? Please describe the specific academic and/or life experiences that have motivated you to pursue a psychology major.**
2. **In the Department of Psychology, we aim to create an inviting, respectful, safe, and inclusive learning community for students. Please describe some specific ways (based on your lived experiences, actions, values, and/or goals) you would contribute to creating this learning community.**
3. (Optional) Provide any additional information that you think will help us make an informed decision about your application. Note: The information provided in this question will not be used to determine your admission to the major but will instead be used to help us refine these questions for future admission cycles. Feel free to provide any other information you wish we had asked about in this application.

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SHORT ANSWER TIPS

Tips to consider when writing:

-Reflect on yourself (individual lived experience, strengths, academic history, etc.) before crafting your response

-Address the prompts directly

-Think and write deeply, with full transparency

-Provide specific examples when possible

-Make sure who you are and how your goals/values align with this major are crystal clear in your responses; consider what makes you a good fit in the Psychology Department

Remember: Quality of writing is not being evaluated; however, please use spell check and write in complete sentences to make sure your ideas come across as clearly as possible. Plagiarism of any kind is not tolerated.

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SHORT ANSWER EXAMPLES

Reflect on yourself (your individual lived experience, strengths, academic history, etc.) before crafting your response

Example: Consider your upbringing, family, personal history, volunteer/internship/professional/extra curricular work, courses that engaged you, etc. and how all of your experiences have combined to make you who you are, specifically, and how your journey has brought you to psych. Think of this as a brainstorm; take notes or plot a web. This reflection will help full-circle writing.

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SHORT ANSWER EXAMPLES

Address the prompts directly

Example: Read the full prompt and make a list of each aspect we are asking you to address, e.g., In question one you are asked to #1. share the societal needs/problems you want to address, #2. why you want to address them, and #3. what personal experiences motivated your interest/pursuit in psych. This will be a three-part answer and you will want to address each part with examples. To do so in 250 words you will need to be direct and concise.

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SHORT ANSWER EXAMPLES

Think and write deeply, with full transparency/
Provide specific examples when possible

Example: Perhaps you know you are drawn to Alzheimer's but you do not have a personal connection. Instead, you may need to ask yourself some questions related to your interest. Are you afraid you or one of your family members will develop Alzheimer's? Perhaps the idea of someone losing their identity ignites your empathy? Dig deep within your thoughts and emotions as they relate to your primary draw to psychology/what you hope to study further/base your future career around. Being specific about your motivations, even without a direct "My mom has _____" link, can be just as powerful as long as it is authentic. In fact, having a personal narrative may be even more powerful as it wholly and authentically specific to you.

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SHORT ANSWER EXAMPLES

Make sure who you are and how your goals/values align with this major are crystal clear in your responses; consider what makes you a good fit in the Psychology Department

Example: Read the departmental values statement. Consider what your goals/values are and specifically identify how they align with the Department. Do not quote the statement or lift phrases directly. Be sure to rework ideas into your own language.

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SHORT ANSWER EXAMPLES

Psychology Department Values Statement

We present these values in the active voice, to give clarity and transparency to what we are working towards as a Department. In the Department of Psychology, we acknowledge the historical and systemic inequities that exist within our department, the field, academia, and society at large. We strive to collaboratively construct an inviting, respectful, safe, and inclusive learning community for students, faculty, and staff. We seek to develop skills to disrupt past and current injustices through our teaching, research, service, and interpersonal interactions. We encourage faculty, staff, and students to engage in innovative, ethical, anti-racist scholarship and education towards the mission of creating a more socially just world.

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OPTIONAL STEP #4: EXCEPTION FORM

Who can apply to the 2022-23 psych and HD majors?

Students who meet all pre-reqs (including earning a successful grade of C- or better in PSY 203 or equivalent) AND transfer students who meet all pre-reqs with the utilization of a Major Application Exception Form for PSY 203 current enrollment. (Students with a DTA will be prioritized for exception.)

Do I need a Major Application Exception form?

Are you currently enrolled in PSY 203 and a new transfer student?

If yes, then **yes**, you need to complete and submit a Major Application Exception form.

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2022-23 MAJOR APPLICATION

MAJOR STATUS ANNOUNCED:

FEB 3

VIA WWU.EDU EMAIL

PLEASE NOTE:
105-CREDIT HOLD WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REMOVED AFTER STUDENTS ARE ACCEPTED TO THE MAJOR AND COMPLETE A MAJOR DECLARATION.

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2022-23 PSYCHOLOGY MINOR CHECKLIST

24 Credits (*50% earned at WWU; 50% may overlap with other minors*); **C- or better required**

All listed prerequisites must be completed prior to course enrollment.

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	Credits	Prerequisite	GUR
___ 101 Introduction to Psychology	5	None	SSC
One or more from:			
___ 210 Cognition	5	101	None
___ 220 Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience	5	101	None
One or more from:			
___ 230 Lifespan Developmental	5	101	None
___ 240 Social Psychology	5	101	None
___ 250 Behavioral and Mental Health	5	101	None
Nine (9) additional elective credits*			
**Inlcuding remaining 200-level courses.*			
___ 116 Human Sexuality	5	None	SSC
___ 117 Psychology of Identity	5	None	None
___ 118 Psychology of Happiness and Well-Being	5	None	None
___ 119 Psychology of Gender	4	None	BCGM
___ 203 Research Methods	5	101	None
___ 274 Psychology of Child Rearing	5	101	None
___ 278 Psychology of Trauma (offered online, summer quarter)	5	None	SSC

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  - Research Methods
  - Cognition
  - Behavioral Neuroscience (Biopsychology)
  - Lifespan Developmental (not Child Development)
  - Social
  - Behavioral and Mental Health
- ✓ 15 @ 300-level Research Sequence
  - **305** Scientific Thinking & Writing

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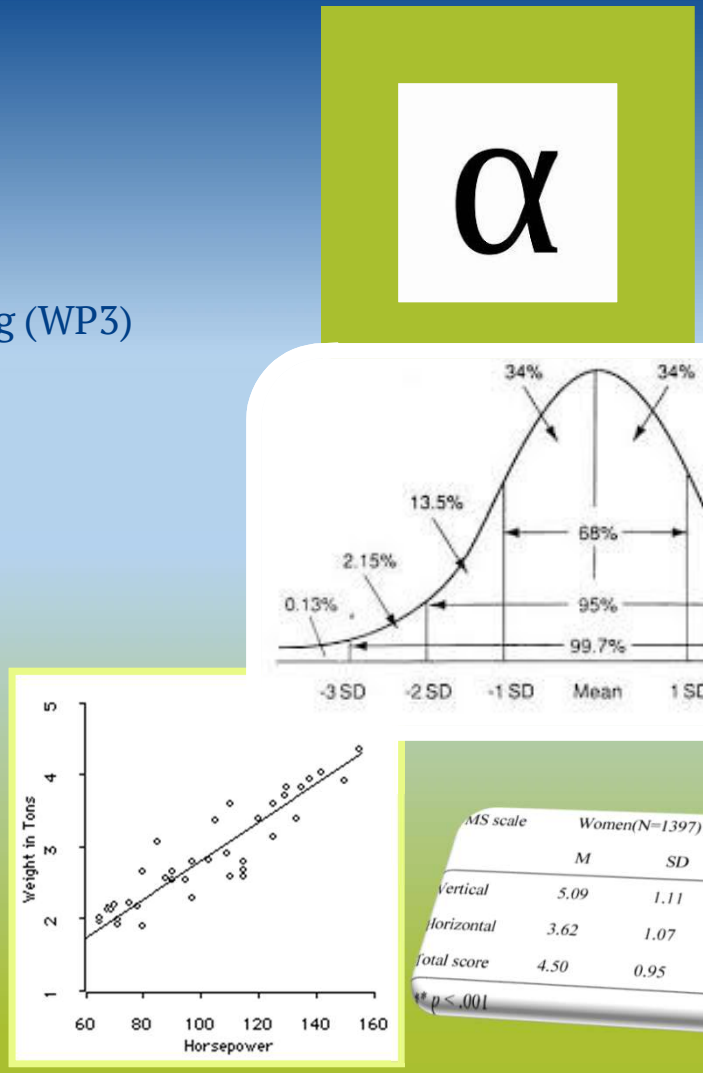
300 SEQUENCE

- 305 Scientific Thinking and Writing (WP3)
  - Critical evaluation
  - Peer reviewed journal articles
  - Academic writing

Research + Statistics:

- 306 Correlational Approaches
  - Methods
  - Design
  - Instrument development
- 307 Experimental Approaches
  - General linear model tests
  - Follow-up tests
  - Computer data analysis
  - PsychFest



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- ✓ 30 @ 200-level
  - Cognition
  - Behavioral Neuroscience (Psychopharmacology)
  - Lifespan Developmental (not Child Development)
  - Social
  - Behavioral and Mental Health
  - Research Methods
- ✓ 15 @ 300-level Sequence
  - **305** Scientific Thinking & Writing
  - **306** Correlational Approaches
  - **307** Experimental Approaches
- ✓ 25 @ 300- and 400-level

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WWU PSYCHOLOGY 2022-23

75 Credit Major

- ✓ 5 @ 100-level
- ✓ 30 @ 200-level
- ✓ 15 @ 300-level Sequence
- ✓ 25 @ 300- and 400-level Upper-Division

WWU Requires:

- ✓ 180 total credits
  - ✓ *Psych satisfies 75 credits*
- ✓ 60 Upper-Division (300/400)
  - ✓ *Psych satisfies 40 UD credits*
- ✓ 3 Writing Proficiency Points
  - ✓ *Psych satisfies ALL 3 WPP*

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Welcome

- Main Office AIC 434→
  - psychology@wwu.edu
- Interested in Psych + Education?
  - PsychAdvising@wwu.edu
- Interested in Behavioral Neuro?
  - BNS@wwu.edu

Questions?

PsychAdvising@wwu.edu

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QUESTIONS?

Remote Drop In-Advising, T 2-3PM:
https://wwu-edu.zoom.us/j/86204422333?pwd=enJORVNGWmNjK0tDa1VQZUZTK3dmUT09#success

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RESOURCE LINKS

- Psych Interest Canvas Course
- Degree Works
- Department of Psychology Website
- Psychology Major Checklist
- Human Development Major Checklist
- Psychology Minor Checklist
- Declaring a Major
- Explore Possible Minors

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