

2025-26 BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE MAJOR CHECKLIST

Credit Requirements: 106-111 Credits

Grade Requirements: Grades of C- or better are required for all major course enrollment.



Students are eligible to apply to the BNS major when they have:

- Successfully declared the BNS pre-major
- Completed at least 75 undergraduate credits
- Completed at least 12 credits at WWU
- Completed the pre-major sequence with a GPA of 2.9 or higher

BNS Pre-Major Sequence (40 credits)

Biology

| Course | Credits | Prerequisites |
|--|---------|--|
| ___ 204 Intro to Evolution, Ecology & Biodiversity | 5 | CHEM 161 or CHEM 175 or concurrent |
| ___ 205 Intro to Cellular & Molecular w/lab | 5 | BIOL 204; CHEM 161/175; CHEM 162/176 or concurrent |
| ___ 206 Intro to Organismal w/lab | 5 | BIOL 205; CHEM 162/176; CHEM 225 or concurrent |

Chemistry

| Course | Credits | Prerequisites |
|-------------------------------|---------|--|
| ___ 161 General Chemistry I | 5 | MATH 114 or suitable math assessment score |
| ___ 162 General Chemistry II | 5 | CHEM 161 |
| ___ 163 General Chemistry III | 5 | CHEM 162 |

Psychology

| Course | Credits | Prerequisites |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| ___ 101 Introduction to Psychology | 5 | None |
| ___ 220 Behavioral Neuroscience | 5 | PSY 101 |

BNS Major Required Courses (66 - 71 credits)

BNS (29 credits)

| Course | Credits | Prerequisites |
|--|---------|---|
| ___ 301 Statistics for Neuroscience | 5 | CHEM 161, PSY 220, and declared BNS pre-major |
| ___ 302 Experimental Methods & Neuroscience Comm | 5 | BNS 301 & declared BNS major or instructor permission |
| ___ 305 Cellular & Molecular Neuroscience | 5 | BIOL 205, BNS 301, CHEM 162, PSY 220 |
| ___ 306 Systems Neuroscience | 5 | BNS 305 or instructor permission |
| Choose one course from: | | |
| ___ 327 Cognitive Neuroscience Lab | 4 | BIOL 205, BNS 301, CHEM 163 and PSY 220 |
| ___ 328 Techniques in Behavioral Neuroscience | 4 | BIOL 205, BNS 301, CHEM 163 and PSY 220 |
| ___ 428 Advanced Techniques in Behavioral Neuroscience | 4 | BNS 305 or instructor permission |

BNS Seminar Requirement

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| ___ 401 Advanced Topics in BNS | 5 | BNS 302; BNS 306 or concurrent; one course from PSY 319, 321, 322, 323, 324; or instr permission |
|--------------------------------|---|--|

Department of Psychology Behavioral Neuroscience Program

Phone: 360-650-2148 Email: BNS@wwu.edu

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Biology (8 credits)

Course

____ 327 Fundamentals of Molecular Biology

____ 328 Cell Biology

Credits Prerequisites

4 BIOL 205 and CHEM 351

4 BIOL 327

Psychology (15 credits)

Course

____ 323 Psychopharmacology

Choose two courses from:

____ 319 Cognitive Neuroscience

____ 321 Learning

____ 322 Motivation

Credits Prerequisites

5 PSY 220; PSY 305 or BNS 301; instructor permission

5 PSY 210, 220, and 305; or declared BNS major and BNS 301; or instructor permission

5 PSY 220; PSY305 or BNS 301

5 PSY 220; PSY 305 or BNS 301; or instructor permission

Chemistry (4 credits)

Course

____ 351 Organic Chemistry

Credits Prerequisites

4 CHEM 163 or CHEM 225 or concurrent

Physics (5 credits)

Choose one course from:

____ 114 Principles of Physics I

____ 161 Physics with Calculus I

Credits Prerequisites

5 MATH 115 or 118 or suitable math assessment score

5 MATH 124 or concurrent OR MATH 134 or concurrent OR MATH 138 or concurrent

Electives Under Advisement (5 – 10 credits)

Choose two courses from the following list. Note: Credits from BNS 330, 327, 328, 428, and PSY 319, 321, and 322 may only be applied once.

BIOL: 321, 322, 324, 325, 401, 410, 432, 476, 482, 484, 486

BNS: 327, 328, 330, 428

CHEM: 352, 353, 375, 471, 472,

CSCI: 482

MATH: 124

PHYS: 115, 116, 162, 163

PSY: 210, 310, 319, 321, 322, 324, 410, 420, 421, 421, 422, 424

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