This major studies the processes of human behavior, how they develop with age and change over time, their neural and physiological underpinnings, and what effect environmental and social influences have on them. Students take courses in five areas (biological, clinical, cognitive, developmental, and social), as well as in research design, measurement, and statistical methods.

Opportunities for Students

- **Undergraduate Honors Program**: Designed to provide advanced research training in preparation for graduate study, the honors program lets students design and carry out their own independent research projects and graduate with Honors.

- **Directed Research**: Students work directly with a faculty member studying issues such as interventions with delinquent youth & gang members or how people recognize shapes, objects, and letters.

- **Field Experience**: Students obtain hands-on experience in mental health centers, schools, business settings, agencies serving the homeless, children’s court, and drug & alcohol abuse programs.

- **Study Abroad**: Immerse yourself in Psychology and related fields while taking courses in universities on five continents.

Notable Courses

- **PSYC 201: The Science of Happiness** — Evaluates scientific research on human happiness. Integrates research from psychology, economics, and neuroscience in the evaluation of personal and public policy choices.

- **PSYC 336: Developmental Psychology** — Child and adolescent behavior and associated theories; exploration of the continuity between child and adult behavior.

- **PSYC 360: Abnormal Psychology** — The commonly diagnosed behavior pathologies; biological, social, cultural, and developmental antecedents of abnormal behavior; principles of learning, perception, and motivation, as they relate to psychopathology.

- **PSYC 422: Human Judgement and Decision Making** — Descriptive and normative models of decision making; topics include probability judgments, inference, correlation, emotion, mental accounting, decision analysis, lens model, equity, social dilemmas, time, risk.
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Lower Division Course Requirements*
- PSYC 100: Introduction to Psychology
- PSYC 274: Statistics I
- MATH 114: Foundations of Statistics

Upper Division Course Requirements*
- PSYC 314: Research Methods
- PSYC 316: Non-Experimental Research Methods

Specialization Course Requirements (select one course from four of the five areas)**

COGNITIVE
- PSYC 301: Cognitive Process
- PSYC 305: Learning and Memory
- PSYC 440: Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience

DEVELOPMENTAL
- PSYC 336: Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 337: Adult Development and Aging
- PSYC 339: Origins of the Mind

CLINICAL
- PSYC 360: Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 361: Introduction to Clinical Psychology
- PSYC 367: Stress, Health, and the Mind-Body Connection

BIOLOGICAL
- PSYC 304: Sensation and Perception
- PSYC 404: Psychophysiology of Emotion
- PSYC 420: Animal Behavior

SOCIAL
- PSYC 355: Social Psychology

Additional Course Requirements*
- Three (3) PSYC courses, two (2) of which must be 400-level

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/psyc. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.