The Department of Psychology PhD program gives students a research-intensive environment within a close-knit community of faculty and students. There are four overlapping areas of specialization—behavioral neuroscience, cognition, perception, and personality/social—with crosscutting themes in health, affective science, and life span development.

The students are apprentices in faculty laboratories as they work to become experts in psychological science. During the time in the program, the responsibility for collaboration in research shifts from faculty member to student, culminating in the student's dissertation.

In addition to the apprenticeship relationship, there are required courses, advanced seminars, a colloquium series, assignments as teaching assistants, and work leading up to the dissertation.

**Programs**

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**
- Psychology (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/science/psychology/psychology-phd/)

**Courses**

**Psychology Courses**

Search PSYC Courses using FocusSearch (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/class-search/?subject=PSYC)

**PSYC 5010. Human Cognitive Processes. 4 Hours.**
Offers a graduate-level introduction to cognitive psychology. Covers such topics as attention, memory, and reasoning—cognitive processes that partially operate invisibly, "behind the scenes" of everyday experience. Examines central questions within the field of cognitive psychology and the unique challenges associated with investigating them. Considers applications of findings in human cognition to other areas, including artificial intelligence.

**PSYC 5100. Proseminar in Psycholinguistics. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in psycholinguistics, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5110. Proseminar in Cognition. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in cognition, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5120. Proseminar in Sensation. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in sensation, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5130. Proseminar in Perception. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in perception, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5140. Proseminar in Biology of Behavior. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in the biological basis of behavior, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5150. Proseminar in Clinical Neuroscience. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in clinical neuroscience, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5160. Proseminar in Personality. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in personality, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5170. Proseminar in Social Psychology. 3 Hours.**
Serves as first-level graduate course in social psychology, focusing on theoretical, experimental, and methodological issues. Includes faculty lectures, student presentations, and discussion. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 5180. Quantitative Methods 1. 3 Hours.**
Provides first course in a two-course sequence that surveys a variety of quantitative methods used in experimental psychology. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology.

**PSYC 5181. Quantitative Methods 2. 3 Hours.**
Continues PSYC 5180. Provides second course in a two-course sequence that surveys a variety of quantitative methods used in experimental psychology. Requires permission of instructor for students who are not enrolled in the PhD program in psychology.

**PSYC 6962. Elective. 1-4 Hours.**
Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

**PSYC 7210. Seminar in Cognition. 3 Hours.**
Addresses current theoretical and empirical issues in cognition. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.
PSYC 7240. Seminar in Biology of Behavior. 3 Hours.
Addresses current theoretical and empirical issues in the biological basis of behavior. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 7250. Seminar in Clinical Neuroscience. 3 Hours.
Addresses current theoretical and empirical issues in clinical neuroscience. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 7270. Seminar in Social Psychology. 3 Hours.
Addresses current theoretical and empirical issues in social psychology. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 7300. Advanced Quantitative Analysis. 3 Hours.
Covers selected advanced methods of quantitative analysis used in experimental psychology. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 7301. Research Methodologies Psychology. 3 Hours.
Introduces students to a range of conceptual and methodological issues in the conduct of experimental psychology research by department faculty members. Specific course content depends on which faculty members conduct the course in a given semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 7302. Ethics and Professional Issues. 3 Hours.
Identifies and investigates ethical issues (such as privacy, fairness, social responsibility, or animal use) that research psychologists face in acquiring and using scientific knowledge. Also addresses broader professional issues relevant to pursuing a career as a research psychologist in an academic, government, or industrial setting.

PSYC 7990. Thesis. 3 Hours.
Conducts theoretical and experimental research for the master's degree. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 7996. Thesis Continuation. 0 Hours.
Continues research for the master's degree.

PSYC 8400. Research Lab. 1 Hour.
Offers laboratory work in experimental psychology. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 8401. Research Project. 3 Hours.
Conducts research project in selected area of experimental psychology. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 8402. Special Topics in Psychology. 3 Hours.
Offers in-depth analysis of critical topics in psychology. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 8403. Research Issues in Psychology. 3 Hours.
Offers in-depth analysis of research issues in psychology. Specific topics vary by semester. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 9000. PhD Candidacy Achieved. 0 Hours.
Indicates successful completion of the doctoral comprehensive exam.

PSYC 9986. Research. 0 Hours.
Offers the student the opportunity to conduct doctoral research. May be repeated without limit.

PSYC 9990. Dissertation Term 1. 0 Hours.
Conducts theoretical and experimental research for the PhD degree.

PSYC 9991. Dissertation Term 2. 0 Hours.
Offers dissertation supervision by members of the department.

PSYC 9996. Dissertation Continuation. 0 Hours.
Continues research for the PhD degree.