

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE - PSYCHOLOGY**  
**CREDENTIAL GRANTED: UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE**  
RED DEER POLYTECHNIC- SCHOOL OF ARTS & CULTURE

**UPDATED: JUNE 2022**

You are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer Polytechnic and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer (if applicable). You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit (if applicable), admission requirements for future programs, or eligibility to graduate from Red Deer Polytechnic. Please consult with an Advisor if you have any questions.

Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

- See the [Academic Calendar](#)
- Psychology is the scientific study of thought, emotion, and behaviour with a focus on the dynamic interplay of biology and environment. Psychology is unique in that it can be studied as an arts discipline (covering such topics as social psychology and personality) or a science discipline (covering such topics as visual perception and the neurological processes involved in memory formation).
- You will learn about the various topics within Psychology (e.g., social, cognitive, developmental, clinical, neuro/biological, health) as well as take elective courses that interest you and add breadth to your education.
- Throughout your degree you will have the opportunity to participate in experiential learning, such as community service and applied research, providing you valuable hands-on exposure to the application of psychology to solve problems and create positive social impact. Research in, and application of, psychology are valued within a wide variety of contexts such as universities, schools, hospitals, clinics, legal professions, corporations, and non-profit organizations.
- The skills you will develop as a psychology student include critical thinking, academic writing, research and analysis, the scientific method, interpersonal communication, and emotional intelligence. These will prepare you for future employment, as well as for graduate level education in psychology or a related field, or for entry into professional programs (e.g., law and medicine).

**WHAT IS THIS GUIDE?**

- This is an Academic Planning Guide, prepared by the Student Connect Centre to help you register for courses towards your desired program.

- If you are transferring to another institution to complete your degree, we strongly advise that you read the Academic Calendar of your destination institution for full information.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:**

### **General Degree Requirements:**

- Minimum 102 (34 courses) from Arts & Sciences.
- Maximum of 48 Junior Credits (16 courses) allowed in degree (200 level).
- Maximum of 18 credits (6 courses) outside of the School of Arts & Science.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 with a passing grade of at least “D” in each course.
- Students must meet RDP Residency Requirement.

### **Psychology Major**

- Minimum 45 credits (15 courses) in Major.
- Maximum 72 credits (24 courses) of PSYC are allowed in the degree.
  - Courses in addition to the required 45 credits can count towards Arts & Sciences electives.

## **WHAT IS A TERM? TERMS ARE THE PERIOD IN WHICH YOUR STUDIES TAKE PLACE. AT RDP, WE OFFER FOUR TERMS.**

- Fall term (September through December)
- Winter Term (January through April)
- Spring term (May through June): Spring term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.
- Summer Term (July through August): Summer term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.

## **HOW MANY COURSES SHOULD I TAKE A TERM?**

- The maximum number of courses you can take in the Fall or Winter terms is 5 courses and 2 courses in the Spring or Summer terms (optional).
- To complete your program in four years, you would need to take the maximum number of courses per term (5 courses in the Fall and 5 courses in the Winter), or 10 course per year. Some students will complete 10 courses in a year by taking 4 courses in the Fall, 4 courses in the Winter, and 2 courses in the Spring (or a combination thereof).
- We encourage you to find the best course load for you to be successful in your courses and your program!
- When determining your course load keep in mind your funding, if applicable. For course load requirements for funding purposes, please visit [www.rdpolytech.ca/psfunding](http://www.rdpolytech.ca/psfunding).

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF I TAKE LESS THAN 10 COURSES A YEAR?**

- This is a personal decision. In taking less than 10 courses per year, you may need an extra term or year to complete your program. For example, some students will take 3-4 courses per term (6-8 per year) and take 5-6 years to complete their degree, which is completely acceptable for this program.

## **WHAT IF I COMPLETED COURSES AT ANOTHER POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION?**

Once you are admitted to RDP, you can then apply to have your post-secondary courses assessed for transfer credit through our [Recognition of Prior Learning Office](#). Once admitted to RDP you can complete an [RPL application form](#) and provide the Polytechnic Assessors with any and all transcripts, course outlines/descriptions, or other documentation necessary to support your PLAR application.

**NOTE:** To qualify for a Red Deer Polytechnic program credential, students must complete at least 50% of the credit requirements for the credential through enrolment in RDP courses.

## REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM AUDIT

- Refer to the **Registration** tab on your Loop account to view **Registration Tips and Tricks** for information on:
  - Registering in classes
  - Waitlisting
  - Checking Prerequisites and Corequisites
    - Courses listed as **prerequisites** must be completed before you start the course in question.
    - Courses listed as **co-requisites** must be taken at the same time as the course in question.
  - Viewing Your Schedule
  - And much more!
- You can also see for yourself exactly which criteria each course will meet, by using Grad Tracker. To access this, log in to the Loop and select Online Services→Student Services→Grad Tracker.
- After you have completed your registration, if you would like an advisor to review your registration please submit a [Registration Review Form](#).

## GRADUATION CHECKLIST (UNOFFICIAL)

REQUIREMENT	PREREQUISITE(S)	COMMENTS	COMPLETED
<b>PSYCHOLOGY CORE - Must complete a minimum of 45 credits in Psychology including the following:</b>			
<b>PSYC 260</b> (3 Credits)	Principles of Psychology I		
<b>PSYC 261</b> (3 Credits)	Principles of Psychology II	PSYC 260	
<b>PSYC 313</b> (3 Credits)	Research Methods	PSYC 260 Prerequisite or Corequisite: PSYC 261	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This course is available in the <b>Fall term only</b>.</li> <li>• Credit will not be given for both PSYC 312 and PSYC 313.</li> <li>• <b>PSYC 313 and PSYC 314 should be completed in second year as they are prerequisites to the 3000 level Advanced Topics Courses and for 4<sup>th</sup> year courses (4000).</b></li> </ul>
<b>PSYC 314</b> (3 Credits)	Data Analysis	Math 30-1 or 30-2 or equivalent and PSYC 260. Prerequisite or Corequisite: PSYC 261	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This course is available in the <b>Winter term only</b>.</li> <li>• Credit will not be given for both PSYC 312 and PSYC 314.</li> <li>• <b>PSYC 313 and PSYC 314 should be completed in second year as they are prerequisites to the 3000 level Advanced Topics Courses and for 4<sup>th</sup> year courses (4000).</b></li> </ul>
<b>PSYC 341</b> (3 Credits)	Social Psychology	PSYC 260 & 261 or SOC 260 & SOC 261	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SOC 341- Social Psychology is an equivalent</li> </ul>

			course and will also fulfil this requirement.	
<b>PSYC 375</b> (3 Credits)	Brain and Behavior	PSYC 260		
<b>PSYC 353-</b> Child Development <b>or PSYC 357-</b> Adulthood and Aging (3 Credits)		PSYC 260 and PSYC 261		
<b>PSYC 358-</b> Cognitive Psychology <b>or PSYC 369-</b> Sensation and Perception (3 Credits)		PSYC 260 & PSYC 261 Note: For U of A bound students only, the additional prerequisite or co-requisite of either STAT 251 or PSYC 314 is required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These courses are available in the <b>Winter term only</b>.</li> </ul>	
<b>PSYC 383-</b> Personality <b>or PSYC 389-</b> Abnormal Psychology (3 Credits)		PSYC 260 and PSYC 261	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSYC 389 is not to be taken by students who have credit in PSYC 489.</li> </ul>	
<b>3000 Level PSYC</b> (3 Credits)	Advanced Topics Course	PSYC 313, PSYC 314, <b>and</b> PSYC 389 <b>or</b> PSYC 357 <b>or</b> PSYC 391  (This will depend on the specific sub-topic-please see <a href="#">RDP Timetable</a> for clarification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These courses shift in topic each year, but the course number remains the same. Students can take a special topic for credit more than once as long as it is a different sub-topic.</li> </ul>	
<b>3000 Level PSYC</b> (3 Credits)	Advanced Topics Course	PSYC 313, PSYC 314, <b>and</b> PSYC 389 <b>or</b> PSYC 357 <b>or</b> PSYC 391  (This will depend on the specific sub-topic-please see <a href="#">RDP Timetable</a> for clarification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These courses shift in topic each year, but the course number remains the same. Students can take a special topic for credit more than once as long as it is a different sub-topic.</li> </ul>	
<b>3000 Level PSYC</b> (3 Credits)	Advanced Topics Course	PSYC 313, PSYC 314, <b>and</b> PSYC 389 <b>or</b> PSYC 357 <b>or</b> PSYC 391  (This will depend on the specific sub-topic-please see <a href="#">RDP Timetable</a> for clarification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These courses shift in topic each year, but the course number remains the same. Students can take a special topic for credit more than once as long as it is a different sub-topic.</li> </ul>	

<b>PSYC 4705</b> (3 Credits)	Research in Psychology	PSYC 313 and PSYC 314	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This course is available in the <b>Winter term only.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Senior Psychology</b> (3 Credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">See note #2 below.</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Senior Psychology</b> (3 Credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">See note #2 below.</a></li> </ul>	
<b>REQUIRED SCIENCE CORE</b>				
<b>BIOL 217</b> (3 Credits)	Introduction to Cell Biology	Biology 30 and Chemistry 30		
<b>BIOL 218</b> (3 Credits)	Evolution & Biological Diversity	Biology 30		
<b>BIOL 317-</b> Molecular Genetic and Heredity Biology <b>or BIOL 318-</b> Principles of Ecology (3 Credits)		BIOL 317 requires BIOL 217  BIOL 318 requires BIOL 218		
<b>MATH 202-</b> Intro. Calculus I <b>or MATH 203-</b> Calculus I <b>or MATH 221-</b> Linear Algebra (3 Credits)		MATH 202 requires MATH 30-1 (Anti-requisite: MATH 203)  MATH 203 requires MATH 31 (Anti-requisite: MATH 202)  MATH 221 requires Math 30-1		
<a href="#">Science Elective</a> (3 Credits)				
<a href="#">Science Elective</a> (3 Credits)				
<a href="#">Science Elective</a> (3 Credits)				
<b>BREADTH ELECTIVES</b>				
<b>ENGL 219</b> (3 Credits)	Essay Writing & Critical Read	ELA 30-1 or equivalent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required</li> </ul>	
<a href="#">Indigenous Studies Elective</a> (3 Credits)				
<a href="#">Wellness Elective</a> (3 Credits)				
<a href="#">Social Science Elective</a>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This cannot be a PSYC course</li> </ul>	

(3 Credits)				
<a href="#"><u>Social Science Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This cannot be a PSYC course</li> </ul>	
<a href="#"><u>Social Science Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This cannot be a PSYC course</li> </ul>	
<a href="#"><u>Humanities Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be mindful of your Junior/Senior credit split when completing electives. Remember, a maximum of 48 Junior Credits (16 courses) allowed in the degree (200 level).</li> </ul>	
<a href="#"><u>Humanities Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)				
<a href="#"><u>Art &amp; Science Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)				
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<a href="#"><u>Art &amp; Science Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)				
<a href="#"><u>Open Elective</u></a> (3 Credits)				
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### YEAR 1 RECOMMENDED SCHEDULE

FIRST TERM	SECOND TERM
<b>PSYC 260</b> (3 credits)	<b>PSYC 261</b> (3 Credits)
<b>ENGL 219</b> (3 credits)	<b>Breadth Elective</b> (3 credits)
<b>BIOL 217</b> - <i>Can be taken either term</i> (3 credits)	<b>BIOL 218</b> - <i>can be taken either term</i> (3 credits)
<b>MATH 202 or MATH 203 or MATH 221</b> - <i>can be taken either term</i> (3 credits)	<b>Breadth Elective</b> (3 credits)

<b>Breadth Elective (3 credits)</b>	<b>Breadth Elective (3 credits)</b>
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## IMPORTANT NOTES

1. It is your responsibility to ensure that you check and meet any course pre-requisites.
2. All 200 level courses are classified as Junior level courses and all 300/3000, and 4000 level courses are classified as Senior level courses.

## COURSE CATEGORIZATION/ELECTIVE LIST

The information below outlines which course fall under each course category. In order to qualify, the course you take must be three credits and university transferable. If you are not sure if a course qualifies, please email [studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca](mailto:studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca).

Humanities Elective	Social Science Electives	Science Electives	Open Electives	Arts and Science Electives
Art (ART) Creation (CREA) Drama (DRAM) Music (MUSI) Film (FILM) Classics (CLAS) English (ENGL) History (HIST) Philosophy (PHIL)	Anthropology (ANTH) Communications (COMM) Economics (ECON) Indigenous Studies (INDS) Political Science (POLI) Psychology (PSYC) Sociology (SOCI)	Astronomy (ASTR) Biology (BIOL) Biochemistry (BIOC) Chemistry (CHEM) Computer Sciences (CMPT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>CMPT 261 is not considered a Science Elective for Science students.</i></li> </ul> Mathematics (MATH) Physics (PHYS) Statistics (STAT) General Science (SCIE)	Any courses from the other categories, or any three-credit university level course.	<a href="#">Click here</a> to view 2022-2023 Arts and Science courses offerings in more detail.

**Indigenous Studies Elective:** Choose at least 1 course from the following list.

<b>ANTH 321</b>	Survey Latin America	<b>HIST 379</b>	Indigenous Peoples and Canada
<b>ANTH 327</b>	Cultures in a Global Context	<b>INDS 205</b>	Indigenous Peoples in Canada
<b>ANTH 356</b>	Survey: Indigenous Canada	<b>POLI 223</b>	Canadian Political Issues
<b>ENGL 385</b>	Indigenous Literature	<b>POLI 321</b>	Canadian Governance
<b>HIST 372</b>	The Prairie West in Canada	<b>SOCI 307</b>	Indigenous Peoples in Canada
<b>HIST 373</b>	Canada to 1867	<b>SOCI 368</b>	Race and Ethnicity in Canada
<b>HIST 374</b>	Canada Since 1867		

**Wellness Elective:** Choose at least 1 course from the following list (Psychology majors cannot use PSYC courses to meet the Wellness Elective, courses must be from a different subject).

<b>ANTH 204</b>	Global Citizenship	<b>PHIL 300</b>	Professional Ethics
<b>ANTH 331</b>	Anthropology of Gender	<b>PHIL 348</b>	Gender & Sexuality
<b>ANTH 363</b>	Anthropology of Religion	<b>PHIL 355</b>	Philosophy of the Environment
<b>ENGL 387</b>	Topics: Ecocentrism	<b>PHIL 357</b>	Philosophy of Religion
<b>FINS 150</b>	Personal Finance	<b>PHIL 386</b>	Bioethics
<b>HIST 325</b>	Science & Religion	<b>POLI 283</b>	Global Issues
<b>HIST 330</b>	Health & Healing	<b>POLI 324</b>	Politics of Healthcare
<b>HIST 357</b>	Gender & Sexuality	<b>PSYC 341</b>	Social Psychology
<b>INTD 325</b>	Mindfulness, Meditation & the Body	<b>PSYC 357</b>	Adult Development & Aging

<b>INTD 370</b>	Intersections of Global Health	<b>PSYC 367</b>	Human Sexuality
<b>INTD 375</b>	Social Gerontology	<b>PSYC 380</b>	Positive Psychology
<b>KNSS 210</b>	Personal Fitness & Wellness	<b>PSYC 389</b>	Abnormal Psychology
<b>KNSS 214</b>	Introduction to Personal Physical Fitness	<b>PSYC 391</b>	Health Psychology
<b>KNSS 244</b>	Introduction to Nutrition	<b>SOCI 301</b>	Sociology of Gender
<b>KPAC 255</b>	Yoga For Beginners	<b>SOCI 371</b>	Sociology of Families
<b>KPAC 296</b>	Flexibility & Relaxation	<b>SOCI 373</b>	Sociology of Aging
<b>PHIL 201</b>	Values & Society	<b>SOCI 374</b>	Sociology of Health
<b>PHIL 202</b>	Knowledge & Reality	<b>SOCI 376</b>	Sociology of Religion

## WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Experiential learning opportunities are woven throughout the program in the form of community service-learning, applied study opportunities, and independent research studies.

- **Community service-learning:** These opportunities can be found in a variety of senior level psychology courses (e.g. PSYC 341, PSYC 353, PSYC 357, PSYC 380 and PSYC 355) and you are encouraged to connect with your instructor to learn more. You will complete a minimum of 18 hours in community partner agencies (typically non-profit and human service-oriented) volunteering on a project that benefits the organization and student learning.
- **Applied Study:** Social Sciences (SOSC 4901) is an elective course that will provide you further experience in making connections between academic learning and employment or volunteer work (which may be completed during the spring/summer prior to the course credit). With substantial involvement (120 hours minimum), students will work with a faculty member to engage in critical reflection and connection to academic learning in relation to work or volunteer responsibilities in a setting related to their study. In addition to SOSC 4901, you also have the option to take an Applied Studies course in Science (SCIE 4901) or in Humanities (HUMN 4901) for additional work-integrated learning experiences across different disciplines.

**For more info about Work Integrated Learning Opportunities Contact:**

- Dr. Daniel Haas (Chair of Humanities and Social Sciences) [Daniel.Haas@rdpolytech.ca](mailto:Daniel.Haas@rdpolytech.ca)
- Dr. Anomi Bearden (Head of Psychology) [Anomi.Bearden@rdpolytech.ca](mailto:Anomi.Bearden@rdpolytech.ca)

## CONTACT INFORMATION AND HELPFUL RESOURCES

Red Deer Polytechnic Student Connect Centre	<a href="mailto:studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca">studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca</a> <a href="http://www.rdpolytech.ca/SCC">www.rdpolytech.ca/SCC</a> 403.342.3254
Red Deer Polytechnic website	<a href="http://rdpolytech.ca">rdpolytech.ca</a>
Transfer Alberta Guide	<a href="http://transferalberta.alberta.ca">transferalberta.alberta.ca</a>