



# The Psychology Honors Program

## What Is It?

The Psychology Honors Program at the University at Buffalo, SUNY is a year-long program designed to enable students to complete an individual research project (i.e., Honors Thesis) under the supervision of a faculty advisor. It consists of two parts:

- 1) The Honors Seminar (PSY 497), which meets only during the Fall semester. The topics covered in this course are intended to help students design, execute, write, and defend their Honors Thesis.
- 2) Completion of the Honors Thesis, which students work on during both the Fall and Spring semesters, and defend in an oral examination at the end of Spring semester.

## Benefits

The Psychology Honors Program is particularly beneficial for students who plan to pursue graduate study in psychology or related disciplines. The skills learned and experiences gained in the Psychology Honors Program augment graduate applications and provide an excellent foundation for graduate-level work in any field. Most importantly, participating in the Psychology Honors Program gives students a chance to get hands-on experience with research.

## Who Is Eligible?

- Senior psychology majors with at least a 3.0 GPA (overall and in psy) who have secured a Psy Dept. faculty member to serve as advisor on their project  
*\*Important Note:* Faculty are most likely to agree to advise students who have previously worked as research assistants in their lab
- Prior or concurrent completion of PSY 450 (Advanced Research Methods) is a requirement

## How to Apply?

Go to the Psy Honors Program website (<http://psychology.buffalo.edu/undergraduate/psychology-honors-program/>) for more information and the application.



## Program Timeline

### Freshman/Sophomore/Junior Year:

- Develop a relationship with faculty by serving as a research assistant

### Summer Before Senior Year:

- Read literature in area of interest (coordinate with faculty advisor)

### Fall Semester:

- Take PSY 497: Honors Seminar
- Write Research Proposal (first part of Honors Thesis)

### Spring Semester:

- Take PSY 497 credits under faculty advisor
- Collect data (typically; some students collect data in Fall or work with an existing dataset)
- Write and revise full version of Honors Thesis
- Orally defend Honors Thesis to faculty committee
- Graduate with one of three levels of Honors in Psychology: **Honors**, **High Honors**, or **Highest Honors**
- The Feldman-Cohen Award is granted to the best Honors Thesis (execution and oral defense)

## Questions? Contact:

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