

Standards for Declaring a Psychology Major Under Impaction

Policy for Declaration of Major (BA or BS):

The criteria for students to be declared as psychology majors when newly admitted to the university (declaration at admission) are described at: <https://www.sjsu.edu/admissions/impaction/index.php>

Matriculated Students (i.e., current SJSU students) can be admitted into the major when the student meets four criteria:

- a. The students "SJSU GPA in the major" can be computed.
- b. The minimum GPA of all courses considered as "units in the major" is ≥ 2.75
- c. Not on University probation.
- d. If the student has ≥ 71 units of coursework that could count towards an undergraduate degree from SJSU, the student must have completed a minimum of twelve (12) "units in the major."

Definitions:

"SJSU GPA in the major" for purposes of declaration of major:

- a. Is the GPA of those courses (at SJSU or otherwise) that have a PSYC or STAT prefix and any course listed as "Preparation for the Major" in the university catalog; and,
- b. Must include at least 6 units of coursework at SJSU.

"Units in the major":

- a. Is the sum of all qualifying units towards the major from courses taken at SJSU or transferred to SJSU that meet the "Preparation for the Major", "Lower Division Core", "Upper Division", or "Psychology Electives" sections of the program requirements listed in the university catalog.
- b. Note that these definitions differ from those used for computing eligibility to graduate since they include preparation for the major).

Background:

Given Psychology's Status as an impacted major at SJSU, certain criteria must be met before current or entering students can be admitted into the major. The intent of the policy is to ensure that students admitted to the major have a reasonable likelihood of successful completion of the degree program. This policy focuses on admission to the major as a matriculated student. **Implicit in the policy is that a "first semester" not-yet-declared-as-Psychology student (either freshman or transfer) will generally not be able to declare their major as Psychology as it is unlikely that they will meet the requirements for matriculated students.**

Dissemination:

Posted as policy on the department webpage.

Scope:

This policy covers both the BA and BS programs in Psychology. It does not cover the MA and MS programs in Psychology.

History:

Accepted as Department policy effective January 28, 2011

Vote: Yes (26), No (0), Abstain (0)

Policy revised on April 22, 2011

Votes in attendance: Yes (12), No (0), Abstain (0)

Votes via email (ending April 29, 2011): Yes (1), No (0), Abstain (0)

Policy revision effective January 2018 voted on May 2018

Votes in attendance: Yes (18), No (1), Abstain (0)

Policy reformatted and website links updated on March 2021