

BEHAVIOUR, GENETICS & NEUROBIOLOGY (HBSc)

Department of Psychology

Behaviour, Genetics, and Neurobiology (BGNB) considers physiological and genetic contributions to behaviour. This emerging discipline represents an integrative approach to the study of behaviour that brings together the tremendous gains in knowledge in neuroscience and genetics that have been made in the past few decades. The program combines psychology with life science courses in biology, chemistry, and mathematics to provide excellent preparation for graduate studies in neurosciences.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started. As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using **My Program Plan** found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE2470 Behaviour, Genetics and Neurobiology (Science)

Check out...

How do we treat psychological disorders from a biological perspective? Enrol in PSY346H5 and discover the role of behaviour genetics, structures in the brain, and biochemistry in the nervous system in specific disorders. What's neuroplasticity? Find out in PSY397H5 – a course that examines the plasticity of the brain and its relationship to behaviour.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: Animal assisted therapist; Neuropsychologist; Biological technician; Animal behaviourist; Research technician; Informationist; Regulatory/government affairs specialist.

Workplaces: Educational institutions; Medical/health organizations; Government; Behavioural health clinics; Scientific R&D.



BEHAVIOUR, GENETICS & NEUROBIOLOGY

SPECIALIST Program Plan

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](#). Update your plan yearly.



	1 ST YEAR	2 ND YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enrol in PSY100Y5; BIO152H5, 153H5; CHM110H5, 120H5; and MAT134Y5/ 135Y5/ 137Y5/ 157Y5.</p> <p>Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree. After completion of 4.0 credits you may apply for a program of study (Subject POST) such as a double major in Psychology & Biology.</p> <p>Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.</p>	<p>Enrol in courses PSY201H5, 202H5 or equivalent; BIO205H5, 206H5, 207H5; and PSY290H5. See Second Year Notes for suggested prerequisites for upper year courses. Apply to the Specialist once 8.0 credits have been completed.</p> <p>Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses PSY299Y, BIO299Y and BIO399Y. Visit the EEO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.</p>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p>	<p>Use the Career Learning Network (CLN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the Work-Study program. View position descriptions on the CLN.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Psychology Association of Undergraduate Students of Erindale (P.A.U.S.E). Make sure to go to P.A.U.S.E's Professors Meet & Greet.</p> <p>Visit the Psychology Undergraduate Meeting Place (P.U.M.P. Room) in Deerfield Hall, room 2039. Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Office (EEO).</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p>Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC) to explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.</p>	<p>Embark on a UTM Abroad Co-Curricular Experience to India through the IEC. Travel with a faculty member and decipher how gender, socioeconomic status, ability and caste impact access to education.</p> <p>Prefer traveling in Canada? Check out the IEC's UTM Across Canada program.</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p> <p>Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.</p>	<p>Explore careers through the CC's Extern Job Shadowing Program and register through CLN for sessions Put Your Psychology Degree to Work and Grad School in Psychology sponsored by the department.</p> <p>Considering further education? Attend the CC's Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</p>

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

3 RD YEAR	4 TH OR FINAL YEAR
<p>Attain 1.0 credit from each of the following three streams: Behaviour; Genetics; and Neurobiology. See the Academic Calendar to view course listings for these categories.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements. see the Office of the Registrar and the Psychology Academic Counsellor for assistance. 	<p>Enrol in one seminar from courses: BIO403H5, 404H5, 406H5, 407H5, 478H5, PSY490H5 and 495H5. Enrol in one thesis/ research project from courses: BIO481Y5, PSY400Y5 and 403H5/ 404H5/ 405H5/ 406H5.</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</p>
<p>Get experience in a psychology lab! Apply for PSY399H5 to collect, analyze and report data from experiments concerning the biological bases of psychology. Speak to the Psychology Academic Counsellor for details.</p>	<p>Design and execute an independent senior thesis! Apply for PSY400Y5. Speak to the Psychology Academic Counsellor for application information.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</p> <p>Attend the Psychology department's Colloquium Series, Departmental Brown Bag Series, or the Human Communication Laboratory Research Talk Series to mingle and learn about new psychological discoveries.</p>	<p>Go to the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Conference or the Animal Behaviour Society Conference.</p>
<p>Earn credits overseas! Study for a summer, term or year at one of 120 universities. The Psychology department has identified 6 partners who are most relevant to their students. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange and funding.</p> <p>You can also check out U of T's Summer Abroad Program with psychology courses in Germany and England.</p>	<p>Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoInGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo. See if you are eligible for International Experience Canada.</p>
<p>What's your next step after undergrad?</p> <p>Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a CC Career Counselling appointment. Create a job search strategy — book a CC Employment Strategies appointment.</p> <p>Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (GRE, LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, NSERC).</p>	<p>Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I'm Graduating What's Next?</p> <p>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.</p>

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BEHAVIOUR, GENETICS & NEUROBIOLOGY

Skills developed in Behaviour, Genetics & Neurobiology

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

Communication: writing and speaking effectively, as well as inform and explain ideas.

Research: design experiments and conduct studies; gather, analyze and interpret data; observe and compare people/data/things; and analyze ideas and information.

Critical thinking & problem-solving: make critical decisions under stressful situations, as well as perceive and understand individual differences.

Investigative: understand and identify neurological diseases.

Technical: perform laboratory procedures, maintain laboratory equipment and instrumentation; comply with quality control procedures.

Get involved

Check out student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Psychology Association of Undergraduate Students of Erindale (P.A.U.S.E).
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs.

Services that support you

- AccessAbility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Office (EEO)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of Student Transition (OST)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Department of Psychology

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Faculty Advisor: 905-828-5414
www.utm.utoronto.ca/psychology

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The Grade 12 prerequisites this program are Advanced Functions, Biology and Chemistry. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select Psychology admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study until after second year (Specialist).

Sneak Peek

What are the principles underlying the study of the nervous system and behaviour? Find out in PSY290H5. What's in your genes? Take BIO207H5 to find out about the principles of Mendelian inheritance and modern genetics.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400

www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students

