Neuroscience (HBSc)

Department of Psychology

Neuroscience is the field that explores neurobiological, physiological, genetic, and epigenetic contributions to behaviour. This emerging discipline represents an integrative approach to the study of behaviour that brings together the tremendous gains in knowledge that have been made in the past few decades. The program combines courses in psychology and biology to provide excellent preparation for graduate studies in the 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, although there are many more! 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.

Program of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE2470 Neuroscience (Science)

Check out...

What is neuroplasticity? Find out in PSY397H5 – a course that examines how brain structures are organized in response to internal and external factors. How do we understand psychological disorders from a biological perspective? Enrol in PSY346H5 and discover the role of genetics, brain structures, and biochemistry in various disorders, along with the implications for prevention or treatment.

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.

Career Paths for graduates: Research technician; Neuropsychologist; Researcher; Medical careers; Veterinarian; Science educator.

Workplaces: Educational institutions; Medical/health organizations; Government; Research centres, Industrial research and development.
### 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](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

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### NEUROSCIENCE SPECIALIST Program Plan

#### 1ST YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrol in PSY100Y5, BIO152H5, 153H5, CHM110H5, 120H5; and (MAT132H5, 134H5).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree. After completion of 4.0 credits you may apply for a program of study (Subject POS) such as a double major in Psychology &amp; Biology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a <em>Study Skills</em> course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.</td>
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#### 2ND YEAR

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<tr>
<td>Enrol in (PSY201H5, PSY202H5) or equivalent, and PSY290H5. One of the following: BIO202H5, BIO205H5, BIO206H5, 207H5, PSY214H5, PSY215H5, PSY216H5, PSY217H5, PSY218H5, PSY244H5, PSY280H5. See Second Year Notes for suggested prerequisites for upper years. Apply to the Specialist once 8.0 credits have been completed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses in Psychology or Biology. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.</td>
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<td>Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend the Get Hired Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>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 &amp; Greet.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visit the Psychology Undergraduate Meeting Place (P.U.M.P. Room) in Deedhall Hall, room 2083. Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.</td>
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#### 3RD YEAR

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<td>Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore your culture and other cultures through weekly/regular conversations. Language Conversation Circles, debates, and activities to enhance your global and intercultural mindset.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage in programs like the Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) or learn about and prepare for a future UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore careers through the CC's Job Shadowing Program and register through CLN for sessions Put Your Psychology Degree to Work and Grad School in Psychology sponsored by the department.</td>
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<td>Consider further education? Attend the CC's Graduate &amp; Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrol in one seminar from courses: BIO403H5, 404H5, 406H5, 407H5, 408H5, PSY490H5, 495H5 and 498H5. Enrol in one thesis research project from courses: BIO481Y5, PSY400Y5 and 403H5. 404H5 405H5 406H5 496H5 499H5.</td>
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#### 4TH OR FINAL YEAR

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<td>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</td>
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<td>Attend the Psychology department's Brown Bag Series and the Biology department's Seminar Series to mingle and learn about new scientific discoveries.</td>
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<td>Earn credits overseas! Apply to study for a summer, term or year at one of 140+ universities. The Psychology department has identified partners which are most relevant to our students. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange, funding and travel safety.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn about working 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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I'm Graduating What's Next? Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.</td>
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**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**

**BUILD SKILLS**

**BUILD A NETWORK**

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**

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

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*Revised on: 8/5/2022*  
Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.
NEUROSCIENCE

Skills developed in Neuroscience

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: write and speak effectively, as well as inform and explain ideas.
Research: design experiments and conduct studies; assemble and analyze data; make observations and comparisons to arrive at valid conclusions
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; ensure compliance with ethics policies and best practices for research.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- 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)

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

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

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

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

Department of Psychology

Deerfield Hall, 4th Floor, Room 4098
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

Academic Counsellor: 905 828-5414
www.utm.utoronto.ca/psychology