**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, 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](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans).

**Program 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](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

### 1ST YEAR
- 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 Pass) such as a double major in Psychology & Biology.
- Start strong and get informed with *utmONE* and LAUNCH through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). Join a Peer Facilitated Study Group!
- **Behaviour, Genetics & Neurobiology:** Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses PSY299Y, BIO299Y and BIO399Y. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.
- Attend the Peer Facilitated Study Group through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE).
- Join a Peer Facilitated Study Group through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE).
- **Planning your academic calendar:** Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses PSY299Y, BIO299Y and BIO399Y. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.
- **Building skills:** Attend the Event Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.
- **Building a network:** Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Psychology Association of Undergraduate Students of Erin (P.A.U.S.E). Make sure to go to P.A.U.S.E’s Professors Meet & Greet.
- **Building a global mindset:** Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.
- **Planning for your future:** Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.

### 2ND YEAR
- **Enrol in:** courses PSY204H5, 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.
- **Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR):** Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.
- **Building skills:** Use the Career Learning Network (CLN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.
- **Building a network:** Attend the Event Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.
- **Building a global mindset:** Attend the International Education Centre (IEC) event. Start with the International Education Week events and learn about the diversity, culture, and international opportunities on campus!
- **Planning for your future:** Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.

### 3RD YEAR
- **Enrol in:** courses PSY300H5, 301H5, 302H5, and 303H5. Consider applying for a program of study (Subject Pass) such as a double major in Psychology & Biology.
- **Get experience:** Enrol in courses PSY399H5 to collect, analyze and report data from experiments concerning the biological bases of psychology. Speak to the Psychology Academic Counsellor for details.
- **Establish a professional presence on social media:** e.g., LinkedIn.
- **Planning for your future:** Attend the Psychology department’s Colloquium Series, Departmental Brown Bag Series, or the Perception, Cognition, and Language Research Talk Series to mingle and learn about new psychological discoveries.

### 4TH OR FINAL YEAR
- **Getting experience:** 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.
- **Design and execute an independent senior thesis:** Apply for PSY400Y5. Speak to the Psychology Academic Counsellor for application information.
- **Establish a professional presence on social media:** e.g., LinkedIn.
- **Planning for your future:** Attend the Psychology department’s Colloquium Series, Departmental Brown Bag Series, or the Perception, Cognition, and Language Research Talk Series to mingle and learn about new psychological discoveries.

### Special Notes
- **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.
- **Planning your academic calendar:** Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses PSY299Y, BIO299Y and BIO399Y. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.
- **Building skills:** Attend the Event Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.
- **Building a network:** Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Psychology Association of Undergraduate Students of Erin (P.A.U.S.E). Make sure to go to P.A.U.S.E’s Professors Meet & Greet.
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*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.*

Revised on: 6/4/2018

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.
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.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- 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).
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

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

Department of Psychology

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Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

Academic Counsellor: 905-828-3958
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