# South Dakota State University

**Bachelor of Arts**
**Major: Psychology**
**Specialization: Teaching**
**2026-2027 Sample 4-Year Plan**
**Total Degree Requirements: 120 credits**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Student** | | **Student ID#** | | **Student Phone #** | |
| **Advisor** | | **Minimum GPA** | 2.50 | **Minor/Career Interest(s)** | |

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree within four years. For official program requirements, please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog.

## FIRST YEAR

**Fall**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EDFN 102 | Introduction to Teaching | | 3 | | |
| ENGL 101 | Composition I (SGR #1) | p. Placement; Grade of C or higher required. | 3 | | |
| Modern Foreign Language Course | Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language (SGR #4) | Placement testing is required to determine proficiency level. | 4 | | |
| PSYC 101 | General Psychology (SGR #3) | Grade of C or higher required. | 3 | | |
| SGR #6 | Natural Science | BIOL 101-101L suggested | 3-4 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 16-17 | | |

**Spring**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AIS 211 | South Dakota American Indian Culture & Education | | 3 | | |
| Modern Foreign Language Course | Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language (SGR #4) | p. 101 | 4 | | |
| PSYC 441 | Social Psychology | p. PSYC 101; Domain II: complete three courses in each domain | 3 | | |
| SGR #5 | Mathematics | p. Placement, MATH 103 recommended; Grade of C or higher required. | 3 | | |
| SGR #6 | Natural Sciences | | 3-4 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 16-17 | | |

## SECOND YEAR

**Fall**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PSYC Domain III Elective | | p. PSYC 101; complete three courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| Modern Foreign Language Course | Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language | p. 102 | 3 | | |
| PSYC 375-375L | Research Methods in Psychology and Lab | p. ENGL 101 with a C or better and (MATH 103 or MATH 114 or STAT 281 with a C or better) | 4 | F | |
| SGR #1 | Written Communication | p. ENGL 101; ENGL 201 recommended | 3 | | |
| SGR #2 | Oral Communication | CMST 101 recommended; Grade of C or higher required. | 3 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 16 | | |

**Spring**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PSYC 367 | Psychological Gender Issues | p. PSYC 101 Domain II: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| PSYC 376-376L | Research Methods II and Lab | p. PSYC 375 | 4 | S | |
| PSYC Domain III Elective | | p. PSYC 101; Domain III: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| Modern Foreign Language Course | Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language | p. 201 | 3 | | |
| SGR #3 | Social Sciences | SGR #3 satisfied by coursework from 2 disciplines; one must fulfill civics requirement. | 3 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 16 | | |

**Information Subject to Change. This is not a contract.**

p. = Course Prerequisite c. = Course Corequisite
Semester: F = Fall, S = Spring, SU = Summer

## THIRD YEAR

**Fall**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EDFN 340 | Adolescent Development in Educational Contexts | Education program consent required. | 3 | | |
| EDFN 351 | Teaching and Learning I | Education program consent required. | 1 | | |
| PSYC 305 | Learning and Conditioning | p. PSYC 101; Domain I: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| PSYC 327 | Child Psychology | p. PSYC 101; Domain II: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| PSYC 451 | Psychology of Abnormal Behavior | p. PSYC 101; Domain III: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| PSYC Domain I Elective | | p. PSYC 101; Domain I: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 16 | | |

**Spring**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EDFN 352 | Teaching and Learning II | Education program consent required. | 3 | | |
| PSYC 406 | Cognitive Psychology | p. PSYC 101; Domain I: complete 3 courses in each domain. | 3 | | |
| PSYC 409 | History and Systems of Psychology | p. PSYC 375; Capstone | 3 | | |
| SPED 100 | Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities | | 3 | | |
| General Electives | | Taken as need to reach 120 credits; PSYC 364 or PSYC 443 suggested. | 2-4 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 14-16 | | |

## FOURTH YEAR

**Fall**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EDFN 453-453L | Teaching and Learning III and Lab | Education program consent required. | 7 | | |
| SEED 450 | 7-12 Reading and Content Literacy | Education program consent required. | 2 | | |
| SEED 415 | 7-12 Social Science Methods | | 3 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 12 | | |

**Spring**

| Prefix + Number | Course Title | Prerequisites/Comments | Credits | Semester | Grade |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EDFN 454 | Teaching and Learning IV | p. EDFN 453; c. SEED 456; Education program consent required; Capstone | 11 | | |
| SEED 456 | Capstone/Action Research | c. EDFN 454 | 1 | | |
| | | **Total Credit Hours** | 12 | | |

## COMMENTS/NOTES

Students from all academic majors can pursue graduation with Fishback Honors College distinction. View the Honors program requirements.

### Teacher Education Program Progression Requirements

**Acceptance into Teacher Education**

- A grade of "C" or better is required in education coursework (classes with AIS, EDFN, SPED, or SEED prefixes).
- An overall GPA of 2.5 is required.
- A GPA in the academic major of 2.6 is required.
- Completion of program application and professional licensure location form.

**Acceptance into Residency I**

- A grade of "C" or better is required in education coursework (classes with AIS, EDFN, SPED, or SEED prefixes).
- An overall GPA of 2.5 is required.
- A GPA of 2.7 is required in both major and education courses.
- The teacher candidate must take the Praxis content exam.
- The teacher candidate is also required to complete a criminal background check with field placements, a TB test with negative reading, and CPR and first aid certification.

**Acceptance into Residency II**

- A grade of "C" or better is required in education coursework (classes with AIS, EDFN, SPED, or SEED prefixes).
- An overall GPA of 2.5 is required.
- A GPA of 2.7 is required in both major and education courses.
- The teacher candidate must take the Praxis PLT exam.

### Academic Requirements

- A grade of "C" or better is required in education coursework (classes with AIS, EDFN, SPED, or SEED prefixes).
- A grade of "C" or better is required in academic major coursework (classes with PSYC prefix).
- An overall GPA of 2.5 is required.
- A GPA of 2.7 is required in both major and education courses.

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Semester: F = Fall, S = Spring, SU = Summer

As part of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, students in this program must complete/earn:

- a minimum of 33 upper division credits (300-400 level courses)
- a capstone course in the major
- a minor, second major, or teaching specialization
- 6+ credits of Modern Foreign Language coursework, including completion of the 202-level

### Certification and Licensure

- Completion of an approved teacher preparation program.
- Completion of an approved South Dakota Indian studies course.
- Pass the state designated content knowledge test or 2.7 GPA in content major coursework.
- Pass the state designated pedagogy test.
- Apply online with the South Dakota Department of Education.
- Written recommendation from institution of higher education (SDSU) verifying program completion.

Testing into a higher-level language course may reduce time to graduation. To begin coursework above the 101 level, take the free modern language placement test. Students with any modern language experience are strongly encouraged to complete the placement test.