South Dakota State University

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

Student _____ **Student ID#** _____ **Student Phone #** _____

Advisor _____ **Minimum GPA** 2.5 **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		
PSYC 101	General Psychology (SGR #3)	Grade of C or higher required	3		
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities	SGR #4 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines or a foreign language sequence.	3-4		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences	BIOL 101-101L suggested	3-4		
		Total Credit Hours	15-17		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
AIS 211	South Dakota American Indian Culture and Education		3		
PSYC 441	Social Psychology	p. PSYC 101; Domain II: complete three courses in each domain.	3		
SGR #2	Oral Communication	Grade of C or higher required. CMST 101 recommended	3		
SGR #5	Mathematics	p. Placement; Grade of C or higher required.	3		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3-4		
		Total Credit Hours	15-16		

SECOND YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
PSYC 327	Child Psychology	p. PSYC 101; Domain II: complete 3 courses in each domain.	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	
PSYC Domain III Elective		p. PSYC 101; Domain III: complete 3 courses in each domain.	3		
Natural Sciences		See AHSS Natural Science list in the catalog.	3-4		
SGR #1	Written Communication	p. ENGL 101; ENGL 201 recommended	3		
		Total Credit Hours	16-17		

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		
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities	SGR #4 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines or a foreign language sequence.	3-4		
SGR #3	Social Sciences	SGR #3 satisfied by coursework from 2 disciplines; one must fulfill civics requirement.	3		
		Total Credit Hours	16-17		

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		

Information Subject to Change. This is not a contract.

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

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
PSYC 305	Learning and Conditioning	p. PSYC 101; Domain I: 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		
SPED 100	Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities		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		
General Electives		Taken as need to reach 120 credits; PSYC 364 or PSYC 443 suggested.	6		
		Total Credit Hours	17		

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.

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
- Natural Sciences Coursework: 10+ credits in any two lab sciences; must include two prefixes.

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

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.