The Brain and Cognitive Science major introduces the student to a simple question: How do intelligent systems work? Our world provides two examples of complex intelligent systems—human beings (and possibly some other animals) and intelligent computer systems. Brain and Cognitive Science majors investigate the brain and behavior of intelligent biological systems (e.g., people) from the perspective that the brain is a kind of computer. Consequently, students must learn about how brains and computers work, and how these can explain what we know about mental functions including perception, learning, memory, and language. Brain and Cognitive Science majors make use of discoveries from a number of different disciplines, including psychology, neuroscience, computer science, linguistics, philosophy, and anthropology, and has applications to the development of technology in education, health, language sciences, and design.

The Brain and Cognitive Science major provides fundamental training in psychology, neuroscience, and computation, and it allows a great deal of flexibility with regard to more advanced courses. The major requires training in statistics, a laboratory course, and the capstone course. Students should contact our Undergraduate Advising Office for help in creating a plan of study and research that best meets their goals and interests.

Academic Advising

The Psychology Undergraduate Advising Office is open to help students choose patterns of courses relevant to their interests, as well as to help students explore graduate school, professional school, and career options. Advising is done by an award-winning staff of academic professionals along with mentoring by faculty for students with research interests. Peer registration assistants are also available to help with the registration process.

Undergraduate Degree Programs in Psychology

BSLAS in Brain & Cognitive Science (p. 1)

BSLAS in Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/#majortext) with the following concentrations:

- Behavioral Neuroscience (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/behavioral-neuroscience/)
- Clinical/Community Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/clinical-community-psychology/)
- Cognitive Neuroscience (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/cognitive-neuroscience/)
- Cognitive Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/cognitive-psychology/)
- Developmental Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/developmental-psychology/)
- Diversity Science (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/diversity-science/)
- Intradisciplinary Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/intradisciplinary-psychology/)
- Organizational Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/organizational-psychology/)
- Personality Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/personality-psychology/)
- Social Psychology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/psychology-bslas/social-psychology/)

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 04/2022