



University
of Windsor



BEHAVIOUR, COGNITION &
NEUROSCIENCE
EXPERIENCE MAP

BEHAVIOUR, COGNITION & NEUROSCIENCE



HIGHLIGHTS AND SKILLS

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS


Behaviour, Cognition and Neuroscience

Why do we do what we do? Find out in this acclaimed program that probes behaviour through the study of biology related to the brain and the biological aspects of psychology. If you're interested in both biology and psychology, this research based program with a low faculty-to student ratio is for you.

MIN. AVG.* 70% ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS
ENG4U, MHF4U, SCH4U and SBI4U. MCV4U is strongly recommended. SPH4U is recommended. A minimum 70% average of all attempted science and math courses is also required, excluding MDM4U.

FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Understanding and analyzing how the brain works from the cellular level all the way up to human and animal behaviour
- Operating advanced scientific laboratory equipment and instruments
- Formulating, organizing, and maintaining detailed data records; performing statistical analyses
- Designing experimental studies to accomplish targeted goals or test specific hypotheses
- Taking careful measurements and recording precise observations using best practices/field techniques
- Understanding relevant topics in the medical and health sciences with depth and nuance

 Honours * Minimum grade point average for admission to program. A higher average may be required.




BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your

university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.

CAREER PLANNING CYCLE

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation and beyond. It is a fluid, dynamic, and lifelong process. You can move on or return to an earlier stage in the cycle at any time.

	CURRICULUM Courses of study specific to each program
	CO-CURRICULAR Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)
	EXTRACURRICULAR Activities falling outside the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)



EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES USING THIS CHART

Explore a selection of opportunities recommended for students in your program. This chart shows some of your many options – you don't have to do everything on it or limit yourself to it. Engage in opportunities from each of the three categories to set yourself up for success.

HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICE (HIP)

A HIP is an enriching educational experience that can be life-changing and often includes learning outside of the classroom while encouraging meaningful interaction and collaboration, such as:

- Co-op, internship or field experiences
- Research with faculty
- Culminating senior experience
- Capstone courses
- Service-learning
- Learning communities
- Study abroad

ACADEMICS

Your coursework



- Take first year required courses including Cell Biology, Biological Diversity, General Chemistry I and II, and Introduction to Psychology (Fall and Winter)
- Review degree course requirements for all years of study and mesh them with professional or graduate school aspirations
- Meet with BCN academic advisors in Biology or Psychology (strongly recommended)
- Learn more about your program and campus during **Welcome Week**, including participating in the **PASS** program that will coach you on skills necessary to be a successful Faculty of Science student
- Receive peer mentorship from an upper-year **MySci** advisor

EXPERIENCE

Ways to get involved



- Attend biweekly BCN seminars to hear about world-renowned neuroscience research
- Join clubs such as the **BCN Students' Association**, **Science Society** or **Psychology Student Association**
- Begin the process of becoming a **LEAD Medallion Scholar** (in accordance with *Leadership, Engagement, Application, Discover*) – participate in credit and volunteer activities such as being *Engaged* by volunteering in a lab to help with research for professors and graduate students and/or *Discover* research opportunities as part of the **Outstanding Scholars** program **HIP**
- Join the **USci Network** to take part in collaborative and integrative science experiences
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as **VIP - Community Service Learning**

CAREER

Plan ahead for what's next



- Participate in the **Bystander Initiative** workshop to gain skills that will help you be an effective and supportive ally to prevent sexual assault on campus
- Analyze the requirements for graduate or professional schools
- Create lists of things that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and your skills
- Get involved with a part-time job, volunteer opportunity, campus group, or research assistantship
- Meet with a career advisor in **Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL)** for help developing a plan for your future years, including attending a career assessment appointment, attending workshops to learn how to find a summer or part-time job and write a university-level resumé, and dropping in to meet with one of **CDEL's** peer advisors to get answers to your career and job search questions

MIDDLE YEARS

- Take required courses, including those that focus on specific aspects of brain function at the molecular, behavioural and cognitive levels. Courses include principles of neuroscience, behavioural neurobiology, excitable cells, cognitive processes, biology of the synapse
- Consider declaring a minor and/or specialization
- Check in with BCN academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Meet professors you are considering working with for your final year research project **HIP**
- Continue taking courses required as preparation for professional schools
- Study for and take professional school admission tests of interest

- Take part in bi-weekly BCN colloquia in current behaviour, cognitive and neuroscience research
- Continue the process of becoming a **LEAD Medallion Scholar** in ways such as *Applying* your knowledge through a summer research assistant or teaching assistant position within the Biology Department, becoming *Engaged* through service learning opportunities with **Let's Talk Science** and **Science Rendezvous**, and gaining valuable *Leadership* skills through roles within a club or society **HIP**
- Participate in **UWill Discover** undergraduate research conference **HIP**
- Gain a **Global Perspective of Science (GPS)** through an international exchange or by studying abroad **HIP**
- Expand your skills by taking on a summer, part-time or volunteer position

- Explore further educational opportunities by attending the **Graduate and Professional Schools Fair** and researching admission requirements for programs you are interested in
- If you are considering applying to graduate or professional school, be aware of early application deadlines
- Explore opportunities and meet employers through job fairs and employer networking events
- Research career fields and occupations with the help of a **CDEL** career advisor
- Create a **LinkedIn** profile and have it critiqued
- Take part in informational interviews and join online communities like **LinkedIn** and **Ten Thousand Coffees** to connect with people in your target profession or industry

FINAL YEAR

- Complete all required courses for your degree
- Prepare a research-based thesis in behaviour, cognition, or neuroscience (as required for program)
- Meet with an academic advisor to go over graduation requirements
- Apply to graduate through **UWinsite Student**
- Apply your knowledge through a field work or practicum course to culminate your senior experience **HIP**

- Conduct research with a faculty member **HIP**
- Join a professional association in your field such as the **Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association**
- Attend **Ontario Biology Day** to present thesis research **HIP**
- Become a **MySci** advisor to provide academic support and mentorship for first year students
- Become a tutor for **Students Offering Support (SOS)** **HIP**
- Complete **LEAD Medallion Scholars** in two areas for Bronze, three areas for Silver, or four areas for Gold in accordance with *Leadership, Engagement, Application, Discover* **HIP**

- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience
- Set up an in-person mock interview with a career advisor for professional school or job applications
- Meet employers at the annual job fair in January
- Meet with **CDEL** to prepare application documents like a resumé, cover letter, CV, or personal statement for jobs and education programs you are applying to
- Attend **CDEL's** workshops on interview skills and job search strategies
- Use **InterviewStream** to practice your interview skills online

LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



“

The Behaviour, Cognition and Neuroscience program provided me with invaluable academic opportunities. An early integration into research combined with the unrelenting support from admirable faculty truly inspired my passion for science and discovery. I have gained so much from this program and will continue to apply my experiences in research and medicine.”

Jessica Garabon – BSc (Honours) in Behaviour, Cognition and Neuroscience [2016]

18 NUMBER OF GRADUATES (2018)

93.6%

EMPLOYMENT RATE OF GRADUATES

Employment rate of graduates 2 years following degree completion (OUGS Biological Sciences, 2017)

CAREER TRACKS*

Audiologist
Child and youth worker
Clinical psychologist
Clinical research assistant
Community development worker
Counsellor
Doctor
Forensic scientist

Lab technician
Laboratory supervisor
Lawyer
Marine biologist
Medical director
Microbiologist
Neurologist

Optometrist
Pharmaceutical salesperson
Pharmacist
Pharmacologist
Physician's assistant
Professor
Psychiatrist

Public health educator
Public policy analyst
Research neuroscientist
Science journalist
Teacher
Toxicologist
Veterinarian

* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.



COMMON SECTORS FOR GRADUATES

- **Academia:** advanced research in neuroscience, cognition, animal behaviour, human behaviour
- **Biomedical and biotechnical research**
- **Education:** curriculum design, teaching
- **Government:** research and policy development
- **Industry:** consultation, product development/testing
- **Medicine and dentistry**
- **Other healthcare professions**
- **Psychology practice:** private, healthcare, corrections
- **Social service and community agencies**

CAREER-READINESS COMPETENCIES



CRITICAL THINKING
AND PROBLEM
SOLVING



PROFESSIONALISM
AND WORK ETHIC



TEAMWORK AND
COLLABORATION



COMMUNICATION



CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Research scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Learn about our **Bounce Back** program designed to support students struggling to find both personal and academic success in their post-secondary experience
- Build leadership skills and find leadership opportunities at the **Leadership Hub**
- Experience international service learning on an **Alternative Spring Break** team
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Academic Advising**
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting **Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence education through the **Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Office**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**

We've got you covered!

GET IN TOUCH

STUDENT RECRUITMENT
Phone: 519-973-7014
Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860
ask.uwindsor.ca

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2695
Email: biosci@uwindsor.ca

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2217
Email: psychology@uwindsor.ca

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895
Email: careerservices@uwindsor.ca