What is Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour?

Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (PNB) is the scientific study of brain and behaviour. It covers a wide range of topics from perception (how we see objects, process speech sounds, hear music); to cognition (how we think); to emotion and social behaviour (how we feel, how we interact with others); to psychopathology (how and why does behaviour sometimes go wrong); to development and evolution (how does the organism develop in these various domains; what is the role of genetics in development, what is the role of environment); and how the brain develops and how experience influences its development. Students who graduate from our programs are well prepared for pursuing postgraduate training and careers in science, medicine and related health fields, speech pathology, clinical psychology, and the business world.

HERE'S A QUICK LOOK AT THE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, NEUROSCIENCE & BEHAVIOUR (PNB)

- Honours B.Sc. Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (also with Specializations in Mental Health and Music Cognition)
- Honours B.A. Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (also with a Specializations in Mental Health and Music Cognition)
- Honours B.Sc. Biology and Psychology
- Honours B.A. Psychology and Another Subject (B.A.)
- Honours Arts & Science and Psychology (also with a specialization in Music Cognition)
- Honours iSCI with a concentration in Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour
- B.A. Psychology (3-yr)
- Minor in Psychology

Ontario High School Requirements for 2015 Entry for Students Interested in Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour

The PNB Department offers both Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degrees through the Faculty of Science, and Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degrees through the Faculty of Social Sciences. Following are the requirements for the Ontario High School Curriculum.

Faculty of Science (Life Sciences I) (B.Sc.)

Ontario High School Curriculum Requirements:

- Six Grade 12 U/M courses including:
  - English (ENG4U)
  - Advanced Functions (MHF4U)
  - Biology (SBI4U)
  - One of Chemistry (SCH4U), Physics (SPH4U), or Calculus & Vectors (MCV4U)

Note: Applicants without Calculus & Vectors will be required to take an equivalent Calculus course in Year 1.

Anticipated percentage cut-off high 87-90%.

English Language Proficiency: TOEFL – 86 overall with a minimum score of 20 in each of the four components (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening).

Faculty of Social Sciences (Social Sciences I) (B.A.)

Ontario High School Curriculum Requirements:

- Six Grade 12 U/M courses including:
  - English (ENG4U)
  - Biology (SBI4U), Advanced Functions (MHF4U), and Calculus & Vectors (MCV4U) are recommended.

Note: Applicants without these courses will be required to take equivalent courses in Year 1.

Anticipated percentage cut-off high 70-78%.

What’s the Difference Between Hons. B.Sc. and Hons B.A. Programs in Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour?

The Honours B.Sc. programs are for those students interested in the natural sciences, and thinking about a career in health-related fields, or interested in studying the link between the brain and behaviour. The Honours B.A. programs are for those students interested in fields that focus less on the biological and more on the psychological aspects of human behaviour. The psychology courses do not differ between the faculties. It is basically the other courses you take along with Psychology that create the difference. And this is particularly true in Year 1. (See Year 1 Programs below).
Year 1 (Effective 2015)

Year 1 - Life Sciences I
Required courses in Year 1 for admission to the Hons BSc Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (PNB) degree program in Year II
Psych 1XX3 – Foundations of PNB
Math 1A03 – Calculus I or Math 1LS3 - Math for Life Sciences
Biology 1A03 – Cellular & Molecular
Biology 1M03 – Biodiversity, Evolution & Ecology
One of Chemistry 1A03 – Intro I, Physics 1B03 – Mechanics and Waves, Physics 1L03 – Physics of Living Systems, Biophys 1S03 – Biophysics of Movement & the Senses

Note 1: Psych 1X03 (or 1F03) must be completed by end of Year 2. Psych 1X03 is recommended in Year 1.
Note 2: Both a Physics and a Chemistry must be completed by the end of Year 2.
Note 3: Students without Grade 12 Calculus & Vectors must complete Math 1F03 – Intro to Calculus & Analytic Geometry.

Note 4: Students applying to the 3-yr BA Psych program only require Math 1K03, Math 1K03, and no Biology.

Year 1 – Social Sciences I
Required courses in Year 1 for admission to the Hons BA Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour (PNB) degree program in Year II
Psych 1XX3 – Foundations of PNB
One of Biology 1A03 – Cellular & Molecular, Biology 1M03 – Biodiversity, Evolution & Ecology, Biology 1P03 – Introductory Biology, or credit in Grade 12 Bio U
One of Math 1A03 – Calculus I, Math 1LS3 – Math for Life Sciences, Math 1M03 – Calculus for Social Sciences

Note 1: Psych 1X03 (or 1F03) must be completed by end of Year 2. Psych 1X03 is recommended in Year 1.
Note 2: Students without Grade 12 Advanced Functions U must complete Math 1K03 – Intro Calculus for Social Sciences - and depending on mark may have to complete Math 1F03 – Intro to Calculus & Analytic Geometry.
Note 3: Bio 1M03 & Bio 1A03 are recommended.
Note 4: Students applying to the 3-yr BA Psych program only require Psych 1X03, Math 1K03, and no Biology.

PSYCHOLOGY, NEUROSCIENCE & BEHAVIOUR Year II Programs – Effective 2016
Admission Requirements

Hons B.Sc. Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour degree program
Limited Enrollment Program.
Any Level I program (normally Life Sciences I) with a minimum GPA of 6.0 (67-69%) , although typically it is somewhat higher than the minimum, and must include PSYCH 1XX3 with a grade of at least B- (70-72%).

Hons B.A. Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour degree program
Limited Enrollment program
Any Level I program (normally Social Sciences I) with a minimum GPA of 6.0 (67-69%) , although typically it is somewhat higher than the minimum, and must include PSYCH 1XX3 with a grade of at least B- (70-72%).

B.A. Psychology program (3-yr)
This is not a limited enrollment program.
Any Level I program (normally Social Sciences I) with a minimum GPA of 3.5 (59-60%) and must include Psych 1X03 with a grade of at least C- (60-62%).

For students from other Canadian provinces, for International students, part-time students, and transfer students, information on Admissions Requirements can be found on the Registrar Office web site under ‘Future Students’ http://registrar.mcmaster.ca

View McMaster’s Viewbook 2015 http://future.mcmaster.ca/programs/viewbook/

Applications are made through the Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) http://www.ouac.on.ca