Computer Science and Psychology

Directors of undergraduate studies: James Aspnes (Computer Science), 401 AKW, 432-1232, james.aspnes@yale.edu; Woo-kyoung Ahn (Psychology), 319 SSS, 432-9626, woo-kyoung.ahn@yale.edu

Computer Science and Psychology is an interdepartmental major designed for students interested in integrating work in these two fields. Each area provides tools and theories that can be applied to problems in the other. Examples of this interaction include cognitive science, artificial intelligence, and biological perception.

Prerequisite
The prerequisite for the major is PSYC 110, from which students who have scored 5 on the Advanced Placement test in Psychology are exempt. Beyond the prerequisite, the major requires fourteen term courses as well as a senior project.

Requirements of the Major

The major for the Class of 2021 and previous classes
With DUS approval, the following changes to the requirements of the major may be fulfilled by students who declared their major under previous requirements.

The major for the Class of 2022 and subsequent classes
Eight of the fourteen courses must be in computer science: CPSC 201, 202, 223, 323, and 365 or 366, and three advanced computer science courses in artificial intelligence (examples of such courses are those in the range CPSC 470 through CSPC 477). MATH 244 may substitute for CPSC 202. CPSC 480 and 490 may not be counted as one of these courses.

The remaining six courses must be in psychology, including PSYC 200; at least one from PSYC 210–299; at least two Psychology courses from the social science point of view; and at least two courses from the natural science point of view. At least one of the two psychology courses from both the social science point of view and the natural science point of view must be designated as Core in the course listings. Refer to the Psychology program overview for a listing of courses that fulfill the social science and natural science requirements.

With the permission of both directors of undergraduate studies, a course in cognitive psychology or cognitive science that is highly relevant to the major and that is not counted as one of the six courses in Psychology may substitute for one of the courses in artificial intelligence. An additional course in psychology and an examination arranged with the instructor of PSYC 200 may substitute for PSYC 200.

Credit/D/Fail
No course in Computer Science taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the major; no more than one course in Psychology taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the major. No 200-level course in Psychology taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted.

Senior Requirement
Students must take either CPSC 490 or PSYC 499, and the project must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies in each department.

Advising
The entire program of each student majoring in Computer Science and Psychology must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies in each department.

Requirements of the Major

Prerequisite PSYC 110
Number of courses 14 term courses beyond prereq (not incl senior project)
Specific courses required CPSC 201, 202, 223, 323, and 365 or 366; PSYC 200
Distribution of courses 8 courses in Comp Sci, with 3 advanced AI courses; 6 courses in PSYC, incl PSYC 200; at least 1 additional course from PSYC 210–299; at least 2 from social science point of view and 2 from natural science point of view, with 1 designated Core course from each, as specified
Substitution permitted For CPSC 202, MATH 244; for 1 course in AI, 1 course in cognitive psychology or cognitive science; for PSYC 200, 1 addtl course in PSYC and exam arranged with instructor
Senior requirement CPSC 490 or PSYC 499, with project approved by DUS in each dept