

PROGRESS MONITOR

Behavioral Neuroscience Master's
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This progress monitor is designed to help Behavioral Neuroscience students keep track of courses required for graduation. Please refer to this when planning for classes, research credit, and thesis options. Please email Dr. Unger or your MABN Student representative for further clarifications.

Requirements for MABN
• Required Courses: 23 credits hours • Electives Courses: 9 credits hours • Total Required Credits: 32 Credits • Thesis

Required Courses: The core of the program is four foundational neuroscience courses, two methods course and completion of thesis research:

PSYCH 709.1 Basic Neuroscience: Molecular Neuroscience (3)
 PSYCH 709.2 Basic Neuroscience: Systems Neuroscience (3)
 PSYCH 709.3 Basic Neuroscience: Cognitive Neuroscience (3)
 PSYCH 709.4 Basic Neuroscience: Behavioral Neuroscience (3)
 PSYCH 704.1 Neuroscience Methods I: Statistics and Research Design (3)
 PSYCH 704.2 Neuroscience Methods II: Quantitative Tools in Neuroscience (3)
 PSYCH 771.1* Ethics (1)
 PSYCH 772.2 Colloquium (1)
 PSYCH 772.2 Colloquium (1)
 PSYCH 772.3 Thesis Seminar (2)

**Note: Course number may vary!*

Elective Courses: Students are to complete the remaining credit hours through elective courses. Your credit hours should equal a total of 9 credits. Students can choose electives that are ANY neuroscience-related graduate level course. However, courses not listed on the program website need approval from the program director. Students are allowed to take graduate courses at other CUNYs via E-Permit and departmental permission. More information about the E-Permit can be found here:

<https://www.qc.cuny.edu/registrar/epermit-and-permit/>

Capstone Experiences: Integral to this MA program is a required research thesis serving as the culmination of 2 years of research conducted in the lab of a faculty mentor. The thesis is evaluated by a three-person faculty committee. Students are also required to give an oral presentation on the thesis. Ideally, the presentation will take place at the MABN Colloquium, PSYCH 772.2. Please contact the PSYCH 772.2 instructor and the MABN director at the beginning of the semester in which you plan to defend. If you are not planning to present at the colloquium, the program director needs to be informed about the planned presentation at least 2 weeks ahead of time.

THESIS REQUIREMENTS

BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE THESIS REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, all MABN students are required to:

- 1) give an oral presentation of the thesis,
- 2) receive a 'satisfactory' grade on both the thesis and the oral presentation,
- 3) submit the signed committee approval form (link below) together with a final version of the thesis to the MABN program director.

https://www.qc.cuny.edu/academics/psychology/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/2023/02/MABN_comm_approval_form.pdf

It is the responsibility of the MA student to select 2 full-time faculty members at Queens College who agree to serve on the thesis committee along with the research mentor. Please send the names of your committee members to the MABN program director for approval early in the semester in which you plan to graduate. To ensure that the proposal, thesis, and oral presentation are worthy of a satisfactory grade, students are strongly encouraged to obtain feedback not only from their research mentors, but also their readers, on earlier drafts of all works. If the student and mentor consider it useful, a *research thesis proposal* can be submitted in advance to the student's committee in order to obtain feedback before substantial data collection has begun.

Research Thesis Proposal:

The research thesis proposal should provide an overview of the student's thesis research project, and should contain a strong literature review, working hypotheses for the thesis project, experimental designs and proposed statistical analyses. The proposal can be submitted any time before the research thesis is submitted, to the student's research mentor and thesis committee.

Research thesis:

The thesis itself should thoroughly but concisely summarize the research project and should contribute to the area(s) of research of the mentor's laboratory. It should include all of the sections found in a standard APA format manuscript (or acceptable format of a peer-review journal to which the work is being submitted). Although publication of the work is not required, a document of quality that is acceptable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal is strongly encouraged. If the work is published it can be submitted to fulfill the thesis requirement if it was primarily written by the student, i.e., the student must be the first author. If not, a thesis or manuscript, written by the student, is required.

Oral Presentation of thesis:

Additionally, the student must schedule an oral presentation of the thesis to the research mentor and the assigned readers at least 2 weeks before the end of the semester in which the student plans to graduate. The presentation should be approximately 20-30 minutes in length, and should summarize the work in the thesis using a Power Point presentation. Typically, this is a public presentation with other faculty, students and significant others attending. The MABN colloquium reserves spots for MA thesis presentations at the end of the semester. It is crucial to schedule a presentation date with the PSYCH 7722 instructor before the start of the semester (or within the first couple of weeks).

Timeline and forms for thesis completion:

After the oral presentation of the thesis and after the thesis committee is satisfied with the level of the written thesis (which may entail revisions), all members of the committee must sign the committee approval form (to be provided by student, posted on MABN program site). This form should be submitted together with a final version of the thesis to the MABN program director **no later than one week after the last day of finals the semester in which the student plans to graduate**. The MABN program director will save a copy of this form and then submit it to the Office of Graduate Studies. It is the student's responsibility to make sure the committee has a minimum of three weeks to review the thesis before the oral presentation of the thesis.

COURSEWORK AND ELECTIVES

Note: Courses are generally offered once a year. Elective options may be offered during Summer.

1. Required Courses (23 Credits)

Course	Date Projected	Date Completed	Course Name	Credits	Semester Offered
PSYCH 709.1			Basic Neuroscience: Molecular Neuroscience	3	Fall
PSYCH 709.2			Basic Neuroscience: Systems Neuroscience	3	Fall
PSYCH 709.3			Basic Neuroscience: Cognitive Neuroscience	3	Spring
PSYCH 709.4			Basic Neuroscience: Behavioral Neuroscience	3	Spring
PSYCH 704.1			Neuroscience Methods I: Statistics and Research Design	3	Spring
PSYCH 704.2			Neuroscience Methods II: Quantitative Tools in Neuroscience	3	Fall
PSYCH 771.1*			Ethics	1	Fall
PSYCH 772.2			Colloquium	1	Fall & Spring
PSYCH 772.2			Colloquium	1	Fall & Spring
PSYCH 772.3			Thesis Seminar	2	Spring or Fall**

*Note: Course number may vary!

Semester can change, **please check in the summer after your first year whether the course is offered in fall or spring!

2. Remaining Elective Courses: 9 credits

General Psychology Electives	
PSYCH 735: Psychology of Perception (3)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
PSYCH 738: Cognition (3)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____

PHYS 661: Introduction to Programming (Matlab)	Course Offered: Fall (the spring version is only for physics students; send registration request to Dr. Unger) Course Completed: ____
PSYCH 791.3: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
PSYCH 755: Psychopathology (3)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
PSYCH 756: Clinical Psychopharmacology	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
PSYCH 760: Psychometric Methods (3)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
BIO 700: Genetics (4)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
BIO 710: Molecular Biology (5)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
BIO 714: Cell Biology (4)	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
PSYCH 791.3: Thesis Research	Course offered: Spring & Fall (send registration request to qc_psychology@qc.cuny.edu and cc your mentor). Counts only ONCE towards degree. Course Completed: ____
Other electives (CUNY or non-CUNY) <i>Prior approval by MABN director required</i>	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
Other electives (CUNY or non-CUNY) <i>Prior approval by MABN director required</i>	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____
Other electives (CUNY or non-CUNY) <i>Prior approval by MABN director required</i>	Course Offered: Varies Course Completed: ____

Note: Please use the CUNY Main Course Search for elective options
<https://globalsearch.cuny.edu/CFGGlobalSearchTool/search.jsp>

Also check the list of potential electives of the Cognitive Neuroscience MS program

<https://www.gc.cuny.edu/Page-Elements/Academics-Research-Centers-Initiatives/Masters-Programs/Cognitive-Neuroscience/Curriculum-and-Courses> (only a few of these courses are offered in a given semester)

Keep in mind that you can selective non-neuroscience electives if they make sense for your career goals.

SAMPLE SCHEDULES

Schedule 1			
Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 1	Fall Semester 2	Spring Semester 2
PSYCH 709.1 Basic Neuroscience: Molecular Neuroscience	PSYCH 709.3 Basic Neuroscience: Cognitive Neuroscience	PSYCH 704.2 Neuroscience Methods II: Quantitative Tools in Neuroscience	Elective 2
PSYCH 709.2 Basic Neuroscience: Systems Neuroscience	PSYCH 709.4 Basic Neuroscience: Behavioral Neuroscience	Elective 1	Elective 3
PSYCH 772.2 Colloquium	PSYCH 704.1 Neuroscience Methods I: Statistics and Research	PSYCH 7723 Thesis Seminar	<i>Thesis presentation</i>
PSYCH 771.1* Ethics	PSYCH 772.2 Colloquium		
Credit total: 8	Credit total: 10	Credit total: 8	Credit total: 6

**Note: Course number may vary!*

Schedule 2			
Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 1	Fall Semester 2	Spring Semester 2
PSYCH 709.1 Basic Neuroscience: Molecular Neuroscience	PSYCH 709.3 Basic Neuroscience: Cognitive Neuroscience	PSYCH 704.2 Neuroscience Methods II: Quantitative Tools in Neuroscience	Elective 2
PSYCH 709.2 Basic Neuroscience: Systems Neuroscience	PSYCH 709.4 Basic Neuroscience: Behavioral Neuroscience	PSYCH 7723 Thesis Seminar	Elective 3
PHYS 661 Intro Programming/Matlab	PSYCH 704.1 Neuroscience Methods I: Statistics and Research	PSYCH 772.2 Colloquium	<i>Thesis presentation</i>
	PSYCH 772.2 Colloquium		
Credit total: 9	Credit total: 10	Credit total: 6	Credit total: 6

**Note: Course number may vary!*