



JACOBS
UNIVERSITY



Study Program Handbook

Psychology

Bachelor of Arts

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1 The Psychology Study Program

1.1 Concept

The study program Psychology deals with the general principles of human behavior, feeling and thought, their empirical investigation and the implications of research findings for theoretical questions and in a variety of applied settings. At the center of this program is the role of human cognitions and feelings for interaction and communication across multiple dimensions of diversity with respect to the individual, dyads and groups or within and between societies. Understanding and explaining related phenomena, such as conflict and cooperation, involves an interdisciplinary view on the interaction of biological, psychological, and cultural processes. The program includes training in analytic and research methods, but also in a range of applied (interpersonal and intercultural) skills.

1.2 Specific Advantages of the Psychology Program at Jacobs University

Psychology is central to the understanding of human behavior. In the last century, many different sub-disciplines of psychology have appeared, with ever growing specialization within these. The largest professional association in psychology lists over 50 divisions! The psychology program at Jacobs, in contrast, tries not only to provide a well-founded basis in psychology, but to counter the fractions within the psychological and brain sciences and also underscores the importance of the big picture.

At the heart of understanding human behavior in the framework of the Jacobs Psychology BA is a multi-level approach that starts with biological constraints and that leads via an understanding of neuroscience to individual mental processes, such as perception and memory. These processes, however, are also shaped by and interact with the social context, including culture. It is critical not only to analyze these different levels as such, but to see how they relate to each other. This necessitates interfaces to other disciplines: the natural sciences as well as the social sciences, such as sociology or political science. What characterizes the study of psychology at Jacobs is this connected approach that bridges multiple levels as well as details with a holistic view. The key theme across all majors in the social and behavioral sciences at Jacobs is diversity. Thus, the psychological aspects of diversity will be studied and approached within a multi-layered approach.

1.3 Program-Specific Qualification Aims

A BA in Psychology at Jacobs prepares for careers in intercultural relations, diversity management, human resources, information and media, sales and advertising, politics, non-governmental organizations, as well as graduate studies in a variety of psychological disciplines.

1.4 The Jacobs University Employability and Personal Development Concept

Jacobs University's educational concept aims at fostering employability which refers to skills, capacities, and competencies which transcend disciplinary knowledge and allow graduates to quickly adapt to professional contexts. Jacobs University defines employability as encompassing not just technical skills and understanding but also personal attributes and qualities enabling students to become responsible members of their professional and academic fields as well as of the societies they live in.

Graduates of JU will be equipped with the ability to find employment and to pursue a successful professional career, which means that

- graduates possess the ability to acquire knowledge rapidly, to assess information and to evaluate new concepts critically;
- graduates have communicative competences which allow them to present themselves and their ideas and to negotiate successfully;
- graduates are familiar with business-related processes and management skills and are able to manage projects efficiently and independently.

Graduates of JU will also be equipped with a foundation to become globally responsible citizens, which includes the following attributes and qualities:

- graduates have gained intercultural competence; they are aware of intercultural differences and possess skills to deal with intercultural challenges; they are familiar with the concept of tolerance;
- graduates can apply problem-solving skills in negotiating and mediating between different points of view;
- graduates can rely on basic civic knowledge and have an understanding for ethical reasoning; students are familiar with the requirements for taking on responsibility.

1.5 Career Options

Careers in fields related to human interaction and communication, including intercultural relations, diversity management, human resources, information and media, sales and advertising, politics, non-governmental organizations. The program is also a good preparation for advanced graduate studies in a variety of psychological disciplines.

1.6 More Information and Contact

For more information please contact the study program coordinator:

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Telephone: +49 421 200-3423

or visit our program website: <http://www.jacobs-university.de/psych>

2 The Curricular Structure

2.1 General

The undergraduate education at Jacobs University equips students with the key qualifications necessary for a successful academic, as well as professional career. By combining disciplinary depth and transdisciplinary breadth, supplemented by skills education and extracurricular elements, students are prepared to be responsible and successful citizens within the societies they work and live in.

The curricular structure provides multiple elements enhancing employability, transdisciplinarity, and internationality. The unique Jacobs Track, offered across all study programs, provides a broad range of tailor-made courses designed to foster career competencies. These include courses which promote communication, technology, business, (German) language, and management skills. The World Track, included in the third year of study, provides extended company internships or study abroad options. Thus students gain training on the job and intercultural experiences. All undergraduate programs at Jacobs University are based on a coherently modularized structure, which provides students with a broad and flexible choice of study plans to meet their major as well as minor study interests.

The policies and procedures regulating undergraduate study programs at Jacobs University in general can be found on the website.

2.2 The Jacobs University 3C-Model

Jacobs University offers study programs according to the regulations of the European Higher Education Area. All study programs are structured along the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates credit transfer between academic institutions. The three-year undergraduate program involves six semesters of study with a total of 180 ECTS credits. The curricular structure follows an innovative and student-centered modularization scheme - the 3C-Model - which groups the disciplinary content of the three study years according to overarching themes:

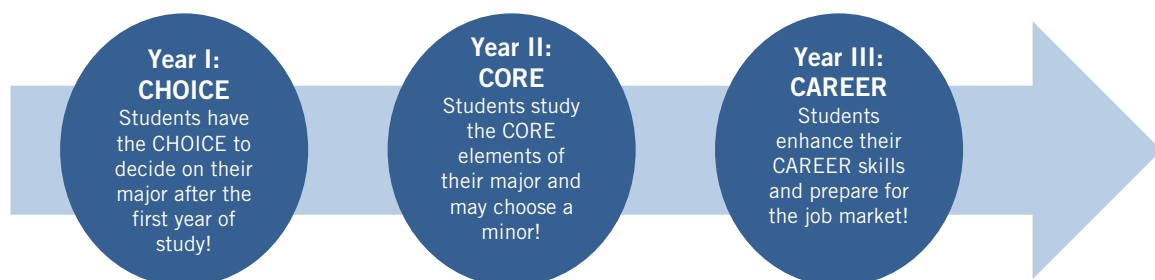


Figure 1: The Jacobs University 3C-Model

2.2.1 YEAR 1 - CHOICE

The first study year is characterized by a broad offer in disciplinary and interdisciplinary education. Students select three CHOICE modules from a variety of study programs. As a unique asset, our curricula allow students to select their study program freely from among the three selected CHOICE modules during their first year of study.

2.2.2 YEAR 2 - CORE

In the second year, students take three in-depth, discipline-specific CORE modules. One CORE module can also be taken from a second, complementary discipline, which allows students to incorporate a minor study track into their undergraduate education. Students will generally qualify for a minor if they have successfully taken at least one CHOICE module and one CORE module in a second field, and this extra qualification will be highlighted in the transcript.

2.2.3 YEAR 3 - CAREER

During their third year, students must decide on their career after graduation. In order to facilitate this decision, the fifth semester introduces two separate tracks. By default students are registered for the World Track.

1. The World Track

In this track there are two mandatory elective options:

- **Internship**

The internship program is a core element of Jacobs University's employability approach. It includes a mandatory semester-long internship off-campus (minimum 16 weeks in full-time) which provides insight into the labor market as well as practical work experience related to the respective area of study. Successful internships may initiate career opportunities for students. For more information, please contact the Career Services Center (<http://www.jacobs-university.de/career-services/contact>).

- **Study Abroad**

Students can take the opportunity to study abroad at one of our partner universities. Several exchange programs allow you to be directly enrolled at prestigious partner institutions worldwide. Jacobs University's participation in Erasmus+, the European Union's exchange program, provides an exchange semester at a number of European universities including Erasmus study abroad funding. For more information, please contact the International Office (<http://intoffice.user.jacobs-university.de/outgoing/>).

2. The Campus Track

Alternatively, students may also opt to follow the Campus Track by continuing their undergraduate education at Jacobs, namely by selecting an additional CORE module during their third year and redistributing the remaining courses and modules across the third year. This opportunity can be used by students to more intensively focus on their major or to fulfill the minor requirements for a second field of interest.

In the sixth semester, all students select from a range of specialization courses within their study program and concentrate on their Bachelor thesis in the context of a Project/Thesis Module.

All students attend a mandatory set of career skills courses and events throughout their studies. These equip them with necessary skills for their 5th semester and their future career.

2.3 The Jacobs Track

The Jacobs Track, another stand-alone feature of Jacobs University, runs parallel to the disciplinary CHOICE, CORE, and CAREER modules across all study years and is an integral part of all study programs. It reflects our commitment to an in-depth methodological education, it fosters our transdisciplinary approach, it enhances employability, and equips students with extra skills desirable in your general field of study. Additionally, it integrates essential language courses.

Mathematics, statistics, and other methods courses are offered to all students within a comprehensive Methods Module. This module provides students with general foundations and transferable techniques which are invaluable to follow the study content not only in the study program itself but also in related fields.

The Skills Module equips students with general academic skills which are indispensable for their chosen area of study. These could be, for example, programming, data handling, presentation skills, and academic writing, scientific and experimental skills.

The transdisciplinary Triangle Module offers courses with a focus on at least one of the areas of business, technology and innovation, and societal context. The offerings comprise essential knowledge of these fields for students from other majors as well as problem-based courses that tackle global challenges from different disciplinary backgrounds. Working together with students from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds in these courses broadens the students horizon by crossing the boundaries of traditional disciplines.

Foreign languages are integrated within the Language Module. Communicative skills and foreign language competence foster students intercultural awareness and enhance their employability in a globalized and interconnected world. Jacobs University supports its students in acquiring and improving these skills by offering a variety of language courses at all proficiency levels. Emphasis is put on fostering German language skills, as they are an important prerequisite for students to learn about, explore, and eventually integrate into their host country. Hence, acquiring 10 ECTS credits in German is a requirement for all students. Students who meet the requirements of the German proficiency level (e.g. native speakers) are required to select courses in any other language program offered.

2.4 Modularization of the Psychology Program

2.4.1 Content

Year 1

Take the mandatory module listed below and select two further CHOICE modules from those offered for all other study programs.

Introduction to Psychology (CH16-IntroPysch)

This module is a broad introduction to the field of psychology including: sensation, perception, and attention; learning and memory; intelligence, language, and cognition; emotion and motivation; development, personality, and social behavior. The module also teaches the research methods used by psychologists across these areas to study the origins and variations in human behavior including experimental design, psychophysics, and the rationale of neuro-scientific methods. This module provides the foundation for higher-level modules in Biology, Brain, and Cognition; Humans in Social Context; and Applied Psychology.

Year 2

Take all three modules or replace one with a CORE module from a different study program.

Biology, Brain and Cognition (CO40-BioBrainCog)

The module provides an introduction to what is known about the link between the brain, cognitive processes and behavior. Starting from the organization of the neural systems and the neuroanatomy of the brain, the module focuses on the neurobiological bases of cognitive processing in the areas of perception, motor control, attention, emotion, memory, learning, language etc. What is the social brain? How is the brain involved in making decisions? What is neuro-economics? What do drugs do to the brain and how do they alter behavior? These and other questions as well as critical perspectives are addressed in this module. The methods to study the link between brain, mind, and behavior, as well as their pros and cons, will also be discussed.

Humans in Social Context (CO41-HumSoCo)

Humans are profoundly social beings, and their thinking, feeling, and action is fundamentally shaped by the social context. Both proximal factors in the current social context (such as the presence or absence of others), as well as distal ones (such as evolution or culture) affect how people perceive themselves and others and how they interact with others. Specific questions addressed in this module include: How do we perceive ourselves and others? How can we change others behavior through social influence? Which factors predict conformity or deviance in groups? What is the role of stereotypes in intergroup conflicts? The answers to these questions contribute to improving the interactions of individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Applied Psychology (CO42-ApplPsych)

This module focuses on implications of the biological and cognitive processes, as well as social and cultural factors, that underlie human behavior for applications in domains such as business, education, health, politics, and society. Three processes are central across these domains: (a) decision making (of individuals, in groups, in institutions), (b) behavioral change (in terms of marketing approaches; maintenance and restoration of health; in organizations) and (c) conflict

analysis & resolution (e.g., mediation, negotiation). In all these domains, diversity plays a major role, therefore the impact of age, gender and cross-cultural variance will be addressed. The module also covers applied methods (intervention, training, evaluation).

Some CORE Modules require students to have taken a specific CHOICE Module. Please see the Module Handbook for details regarding pre-requisites.

Year 3

In the 3rd year students follow the World Track by default:

1. World Track

5th Semester

- Internship / study abroad

6th Semester

- Psychology Project / Thesis Module
- Program-specific Specialization Module
Exemplary course offering:
 - The psychology of consumer behavior
 - Business Psychology and Cross-Cultural Economic Psychology
 - Implicit Leader Development and Personnel Training
 - Diversity and Demographic Change: The Psychology of healthy and pathological aging
 - Demographic Change Management
 - Attention and psychological disorders
 - Psychology of Conflict and Conflict Resolution
 - Thinking about thinking: The role of meta-cognition in judgment formation
 - Diagnostic, Test development , and Educational Psychology
 - Personality and Differential psychology

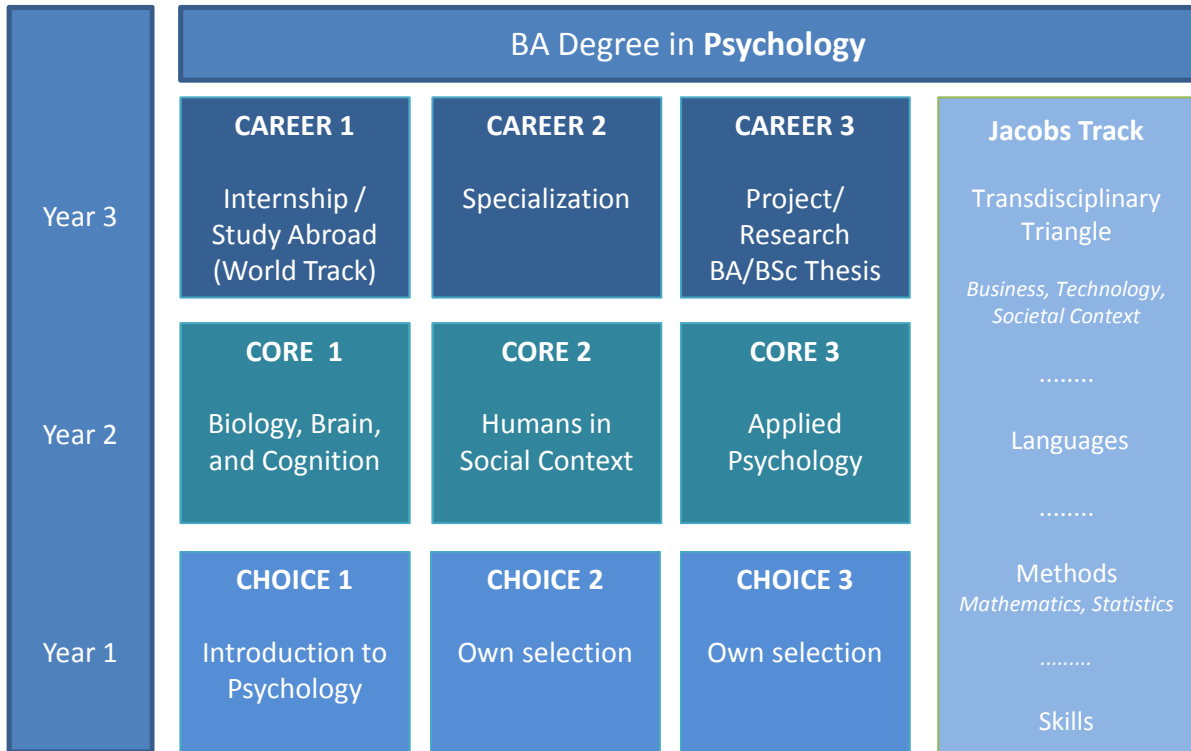
2. Campus Track

Students who do not enter the World Track follow the Campus Track.

5th and 6th Semester

- Program-specific Project / Thesis Module
- Program-specific Specialization Module
(please see World Track for exemplary course offering)
- Additional CORE Module

2.4.2 Structure



YEAR 1 *Take three CHOICE modules, two free selection*
YEAR 2 *Take three CORE modules, one CORE module can be substituted by a CORE module from a second study program to pursue a minor*
YEAR 3 *Alternatively Campus Track with a 4th CORE module instead of internship/study abroad module*

Figure 2: Psychology Module Structure

3 Appendix 1a/1b: Mandatory Course Plans for World Track and Campus Track

Jacobs University Bremen reserves the right to substitute courses by replacements and/or reduce the number of mandatory/mandatory elective courses offered

Appendix 1a - Mandatory Course Plan for World Track

Psychology – World Track										
Matriculation Fall 2015										
Program-Specific Modules					Jacobs Track Modules (General Education)					
Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits		Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits		
Year 1 - CHOICE					45					20
<i>Take the mandatory CHOICE module listed below, this is a requirement for the Psychology program.</i>										
CH16-IntroPsych	Module: Introduction to Psychology			m						15
CH16-710103	Introduction to Psychology I	Lecture	m	1	5					
CH16-710113	Methods in Psychology and Neuroscience I	Seminar	m	1	2,5					
CH16-710111	Introduction to Psychology II	Lecture	m	2	5					
CH16-710114	Methods in Psychology and Neuroscience II	Seminar	m	2	2,5					
Module: CHOICE (own selection)			e	1/2		30				
<i>Students take two further CHOICE modules from those offered for all other study programs. ²</i>										
Year 2 - CORE					45					20
<i>Take all three modules <u>or</u> replace one with a CORE module from a different study program. ²</i>										
CO40-BioBrainCog	Module: Biology, Brain, and Cognition			me		15				
CO40-710212	Attention, Sensation and Perception	Lecture	m	4	5					
CO40-710201	Neurobiological Foundations of Psychology	Lecture/Seminar	m	3	5					
CO40-710102	Learning and Memory	Lecture/Lab	m	3	5					
CO41-HumSoCo	Module: Humans in Social Contexts			me		15				
CO41-701101	Group Processes and Intergroup Relations	Lecture	m	3	5					
CO41-730102	Social Cognition	Lecture	m	3	5					
CO41-701102	Current debates in Group Processes and Intergroup Relations	Seminar	m	4	2,5					
CO41-730222	Current debates in Social Cognition	Seminar	m	4	2,5					
CO42-ApplPsych	Module: Applied Psychology			me		15				
CO42-710231	Business Psychology (Industrial and Organizational Psychology)	Seminar	m	4	5					
CO42-710232	Current Topics in Applied Psychology	Seminar	m	3	5					
CO42-710302	Judgement and Decision Making	Seminar	m	4	5					
Year 3 - CAREER					45					5
CA02 / CA03	Module: Internship / Study Abroad			m		5			20	
CA01-CarSkills	Module: Career Skills			m		5				
CA15-PSYCH	Module: Project/Thesis PSYCH			m		15				
CA15-710303	Project PSYCH		m	6	5					
CA15-710304	Thesis PSYCH		m	6	10					
CA-S-PSYCH	Module: Specialization Area PSYCH			m		10				
				me		5/6			10	
<i>Take four specialization courses (2,5 ECTS each) ²</i>										
Total ECTS										180

¹ Status (m = mandatory, e = elective, me = mandatory elective)

² For a full listing of all CHOICE / CORE / CAREER / Jacobs Track modules please consult the **CampusNet online catalogue** and / or the module handbook (on our website).

³ You are required to take six Triangle Area courses *in total*. Select **two from each of the three triangle areas** (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT)

Appendix 1b - Mandatory Course Plan for Campus Track

Psychology – Campus Track										
Matriculation Fall 2015										
Program-Specific Modules					Jacobs Track Modules (General Education)					
Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits		Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits		
Year 1 - CHOICE				45					20	
<i>Take the mandatory CHOICE module listed below, this is a requirement for the Psychology program.</i>										
CH16-IntroPsych	Module: Introduction to Psychology			m						15
CH16-710103	Introduction to Psychology I	Lecture	m	1	5					
CH16-710113	Methods in Psychology and Neuroscience I	Seminar	m	1	2,5					
CH16-710111	Introduction to Psychology II	Lecture	m	2	5					
CH16-710114	Methods in Psychology and Neuroscience II	Seminar	m	2	2,5					
Module: CHOICE (own selection)			e	1/2					30	
<i>Students take two further CHOICE modules from those offered for all other study programs. ²</i>										
Year 2 - CORE					45					20
<i>Take all three modules <u>or</u> replace one with a CORE module from a different study program. ²</i>										
CO40-BioBrainCog	Module: Biology, Brain, and Cognition			me					15	
CO40-710212	Attention, Sensation and Perception	Lecture	m	4	5					
CO40-710201	Neurobiological Foundations of Psychology	Lecture/Seminar	m	3	5					
CO40-710102	Learning and Memory	Lecture/Lab	m	3	5					
CO41-HumSoCo	Module: Humans in Social Contexts			me					15	
CO41-701101	Group Processes and Intergroup Relations	Lecture	m	3	5					
CO41-730102	Social Cognition	Lecture	m	3	5					
CO41-701102	Current debates in Group Processes and Intergroup Relations	Seminar	m	4	2,5					
CO41-730222	Current debates in Social Cognition	Seminar	m	4	2,5					
CO42-ApplPsych	Module: Applied Psychology			me					15	
CO42-710231	Business Psychology (Industrial and Organizational Psychology)	Seminar	m	4	5					
CO42-710232	Current Topics in Applied Psychology	Seminar	m	3	5					
CO42-710302	Judgement and Decision Making	Seminar	m	4	5					
Year 3 - CAREER					45					5
COXX	Module: Additional (4th) CORE module			m		5/6			15	
CA01-CarSkills	Module: Career Skills									
CA15-PSYCH	Module: Project/Thesis PSYCH			m					15	
CA15-710303	Project PSYCH		m	5	5					
CA15-710304	Thesis PSYCH		m	6	10					
CA-S-PSYCH	Module: Specialization Area PSYCH			m					15	
				me		5/6			15	
<i>Take six specialization courses (2.5 ECTS each) ²</i>										
Total ECTS									180	

¹ Status (m = mandatory, e = elective, me = mandatory elective)

² For a full listing of all CHOICE / CORE / CAREER / Jacobs Track modules please consult the **CampusNet online catalogue** and / or the module handbook (on our website).

³ You are required to take six Triangle Area courses *in total*. Select two from each of the three triangle areas (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT)