

# NEUROSCIENCE & COGNITIVE SCIENCE CURRICULUM

## Catalog Years 2021-22, 2022-23

**PLEASE NOTE:** NSCS has different curriculum requirements depending on your Catalog Year (typically the year you started at UA). Students in catalogs prior to 2021-22 have different requirements than those listed here and should consult the appropriate curriculum sheet. All versions of the NSCS curriculum are available on the NSCS website at [nscs.arizona.edu](http://nscs.arizona.edu).

### UNIVERSITY FOUNDATIONS & GENERAL EDUCATION

**English Composition** (two courses or one of honors)

ENGL 101 – First-Year Composition  
 ENGL 102 – First-Year Composition  
 or ENGL 109H - Honors Composition

**Second Language**

Second-semester proficiency  
 by credit or exam required

**Mathematics**

Requirement met with NSCS course work

**Tier One General Education**

Individuals and Societies (2 courses)  
 Traditions and Cultures (2 courses)

**Tier Two General Education**

Arts (3 units)  
 Humanities (one course)  
 Individuals & Societies (one course)

**Diversity Emphasis** (Gender/Race/Class/Ethnicity/Sexual Orient./Non Western)

One undergraduate course must be taken from the Diversity Emphasis list; certain Tier One and Tier Two courses meet this requirement

### NSCS FOUNDATION COURSES

**Chemistry** (4 units for cog sci; 12 units for neuro)

CHEM 151 – General Chemistry I (4)

**Neuroscience Focus Only**

CHEM 152 – General Chemistry II (4)  
 CHEM 241A – Organic Chemistry (3)  
 CHEM 243A – Organic Chemistry Lab (1)

**Biology**

MCB 181R – Introductory Biology I (3)  
 MCB 181L – Introductory Lab I (1)

**Physics** (4 units for cog sci; 8 units for neuro)

PHYS 102 – Introductory Physics I (3)  
 PHYS 181 – Intro Lab I (1)  
 or PHYS 141 – Intro Mechanics (4)

**Neuroscience Focus Only**

PHYS 103 – Introductory Physics II (3)  
 PHYS 182 – Intro Lab II (1)  
 or PHYS 241 – Intro Elect & Magnetism (4)

**Mathematics**

MATH 122A&B – First Semester Calculus (5)  
 or MATH 125 – Calculus I (3)

**Statistics** (choose one – MATH 263 recommended for pre-health students)

MATH 263 – Introduction to Statistics and Biostatistics (3)  
 or PSY 230 – Psychological Measurement and Statistics (3)

**Philosophy**

PHIL 241 – Consciousness and Cognition (3)

**Cognitive Science Focus Only**

Take 3 courses from at least two categories

**Cognitive Psychology**

**Linguistics**

**Philosophy**

See last page for course listing

### NSCS GATEWAY COURSE

Course	Units	Typically Offered	Prerequisites
NSCS 200 – Fundamentals of Neuroscience & Cognitive Science	3	Spring	MCB 181R/L and PSY 101 or 150A1

### NSCS MAJOR CORE COURSES (TAKE ONLY AFTER NSCS 200 HAS BEEN COMPLETED)

Course	Units	Typically Offered	Prerequisites
NSCS 307 – Cellular Neurophysiology (Honors section available)	3-4	Fall only	NSCS 200, MCB 181R/L, CHEM 151
NSCS 308 – Methods in Neuroscience	1	Fall only	NSCS 200
NSCS 311 – Scientific Programming with MATLAB	3	Fall only	N/A
NSCS 320 – Issues and Themes in Cognitive Science	3	Fall only	NSCS 200, PSY 101 or 150A1
NSCS 321 – Methods in Cognitive Science	1	Fall only	NSCS 200

<b>Neuroscience Focus Only</b>			
NROS 310 – Molecular & Cellular Bio of Neurons ( <i>Honors section</i> )	3-4	Spring only	NSCS 200, MCB 181R/L, CHEM 151
NROS 418 – Fundamental Principles in Systems Neuroscience	3	Spring only	NSCS 200, NROS 307
<b>Cognitive Science Focus Only</b>			
NSCS 344 – Modeling the Mind: Comp Models of Cognition	3	Spring only	Statistics and NROS 311
<b>Take TWO of the following courses (cannot double-dip as emphasis electives)</b>			
ECOL 346 – Bioinformatics	4	Spring	ECOL 320 or ECOL 326 or MCB 304
ISTA 457 – Neural Networks	3	Spring	NSCS 344, MATH 313 rec
LING 432 – Psychology of Language	3	Fall, Spring, Sum	LING 201 or PSY 101
LING 440 – The Bilingual Mind	3	Spring	LING 201 or PSY 325 or PSY 360
NROS 412 – Molecular Mechanisms of Learning and Memory	3	Fall	NROS 307
PHIL 346 – Minds, Brains & Computers	3	Fall, Spring, Sum	None listed
PHIL 439 – Decision Theory	3	Spring	PHIL 241
PHIL 442 – Knowledge and Cognition	3	Fall and Spring	PHIL 241
PSY 313 – Drugs and the Brain	3	Varies	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1 and stats
PSY 321 – Brain Rehabilitation	3	Fall, Spring	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 333 – Judgment and Decision-Making	3	Spring	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 340 – Introduction to Cognitive Development	3	Fall, Spring, Sum	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 405 – Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience	3	Fall	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSYS 407 – Language and Thought: A Cognitive Psychology/Neuroscience Perspective	3	Fall, Spring	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 412 – Animal Learning	3	Fall	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 422 – Introduction to Brain Connectivity	3	Fall, Spring	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 426 – Advanced Human Memory	3	Every other Fall	PSY 300 or PSY 325 or PSY 326
PSY 429 – Advanced Perception	3	Varies	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 433 – Neuroeconomics (Decisions & the Brain – new title 2019)	3	Fall	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1 & NSCS 200
PSY 478 – Sleep and Sleep Disorders	3	Spring	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 496F – Cognitive Psychology	3	Spring	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1

## **NSCS EMPHASIS ELECTIVES**

Choose one emphasis from the options listed on the NSCS Emphasis Course List and complete 15 units from your selected emphasis. The NSCS Emphasis Course List can be found on the NSCS website. A maximum of 6 units of upper-division research, internship, preceptorship (max 3 units) or honors thesis credit can be applied to any emphasis. PLEASE NOTE: Some courses are listed in more than one area of the NSCS curriculum (ie: focus and emphasis). The same course cannot be used to fulfill more than one requirement; separate courses must be taken to fulfill each requirement.

***Cognition***

***Computation***

***Development and Aging***

***Language and Communication Science***

***Neurobiology***

***Philosophy of Mind***

***Thematic***

## NSCS SPECIAL LECTURE AND PROGRAM ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

NSCS students are required to participate in an **NSCS Program Assessment** session after completion of these four core courses: NSCS 307, NSCS 308, NSCS 320 and NSCS 321.

<b>Additional Graduation Requirements</b> <i>(Minimum limits)</i>	
120 Total Units	42 Upper Division Units
2.0 Cumulative GPA	2.0 Major GPA
30 Units Taken at UArizona	
18 NSCS Units Taken at UArizona	
18 of Final 30 Units Taken at UArizona	
Mid-Career Writing Assessment (MCWA) Satisfied	

## COGNITIVE SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOCUS COURSE LISTING

Students in the Cognitive Science Focus must choose 3 courses from at least two of the following categories to complete the Cognitive Science Foundation Focus requirements.

<i>Course</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Typically Offered</i>	<i>Prerequisites</i>
<b>COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY</b>			
LING 440 – The Bilingual Mind	3	Spring	LING 201 or PSY 325 or PSY 360
PSY 333 – Judgement and Decision-Making	3	varies	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1 and stats
PSY 340 – Intro to Cognitive Development	3	Fall, Spring, Sum	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
PSY 426 – Advanced Human Memory	3	Every other Fall	PSY 325 or PSY 326 or PSY 300
PSY 429 – Advanced Perception	3	varies	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
<b>LINGUISTICS</b>			
LING 201 – Introduction to Linguistics	3	Fall, Spring, Sum	None
LING 341 – Language Development	3	Fall, Spring, Sum, Win	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1
LING 432 – Psychology of Language	3	Fall, Spring, Sum, Win	PSY 101 or PSY 150A1 or LING 201
LING 449A - Biolinguistics	3	Spring	None
<b>PHILOSOPHY</b>			
PHIL 202 – Introduction to Symbolic Logic	3	Fall, Spring, Sum	None
PHIL 346 – Minds, Brains and Computers	3	Fall, Spring	Tier I INDVs completed
PHIL 442 – Knowledge and Cognition	3	varies	Two PHIL courses
PHIL 450 – Philosophy of Mind	3	Fall	None