## Major: COGNITIVE SCIENCE

**Importance of an early start:** This is a course-intensive and/or sequential program, and students who intend to pursue this major must begin taking classes for the major sometime in their first year at UCSC.

**Qualification requirements and/or prerequisites for the major:** Students may petition to declare the major once they have completed PSYC 2: Intro to Psychological Statistics (or equivalent), PSYC 20: Intro to Cognitive Psychology, calculus, and computer programming with a 2.8 or better grade point average, with no single grade lower than a C and with no course taken P/NP.

**Frosh who intend to pursue this major should do the following things prior to the beginning of fall term...**

- Determine your math placement by completing an assessment in ALEKS as soon as possible, and by July 16 at the very latest. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu) for information about ALEKS. If you completed a college-level math course, or scored 3 or better on an AP calculus exam, or 5 or better on an IBH mathematics exam, you may be able to use that for placement instead of the ALEKS assessment. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/) for information on placement based on college courses or AP/IBH.

**...and should take these courses their first term:**

- PSYC 20: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

**Sample first year plan:**

**Fall:** PSYC 20: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

**Winter:** MATH 3: Precalculus, and Computer Programming (see course list in General Catalog)

**Spring:** Calculus (see course list in General Catalog)

**Skills important for success in this major:** Critical reading skills, analytical writing abilities, and formal reasoning skills.

**Other information:**

- Students who are not prepared to begin calculus should take preparatory courses offered by the mathematics and applied mathematics and statistics departments, including precalculus.
- Students considering cognitive science as a major should consult with the undergraduate adviser or peer adviser as early as possible.

**Links to More Information:**

- [http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/) (general info)
- [http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/](http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/) (major requirements, course descriptions, etc.)
- [http://psychology.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/cog-science-major/](http://psychology.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/cog-science-major/) (program website)

**Questions? Contact an Adviser!**

Undergraduate Advisor

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