Cognitive Science Major Changes

Changes will go into effect in 2025-26 academic year.

Students have the option to follow the major requirements in place during any of their years at Northwestern.

Those who would like to switch from following the previous major requirements to the new ones can indicate that they are following the 2025-26 catalog year (or later) on their petition to graduate. During that process, the registrar will update your degree progress in Caesar to reflect the new requirements.

Current Major Requirements (14 courses)	**New Major Requirements** (13 courses) (changes in red)
4 Required Intro Courses	*3 Required Intro Courses*
COG SCI 110-0 Intro to Cognitive Science	COG SCI 110-0 Intro to Cognitive Science
COG SCI 202-0 Evaluating Evidence	~~COG SCI 202-0 Evaluating Evidence~~
STAT 202-0 Intro to Stats & Data Science *OR* PSYCH 201-0 Statistical Methods in Psychology	STAT 202-0 Intro to Stats & Data Science *OR* PSYCH 201-0 Statistical Methods in Psychology
COMP SCI 110-0 Intro to Computer Programming *OR* COMP SCI 111-0 Fundamentals of Computer Programming	COMP SCI 110-0 Intro to Computer Programming OR COMP SCI 111-0 Fundamentals of Computer Programming OR STAT 201-0 Intro to Programming for Data Science
COG SCI 366-0 Cognitive Science Proseminar	COG SCI 366-0 Cognitive Science Proseminar
Themes (choose one course in each of 5 themes below)	*Themes (choose one course in each of 5 themes below)*
Brains & Bodies	*Brains & Bodies*
COG SCI 210-0 Language & the Brain	COG SCI 210-0 Language & the Brain
LING 250-0 Sound Patterns in Human Language	LING 250-0 Sound Patterns in Human Language
MUS THRY 251-0 Intro to Music Cognition	MUS THRY 251-0 Intro to Music Cognition
PSYCH 221-0 Intro to Neuroscience	PSYCH 221-0 Intro to Neuroscience
NEUROSCI 326-0 Neurobiology of Learning & Memory	NEUROSCI 326-0 Neurobiology of Learning & Memory
Learning over Lifetimes	*Learning over Lifetimes*
COG SCI 211-0 Learning, Representation, & Reasoning	COG SCI 211-0 Learning, Representation, & Reasoning
PSYCH 228-0 Cognitive Psychology	PSYCH 228-0 Cognitive Psychology

PSYCH 244-0 Developmental Psychology	PSYCH 244-0 Developmental Psychology
	CSD 392-0 Language Development & Usage
Models & Machines	*Models & Machines*
COG SCI 207-0 Intro to Cognitive Modeling	COG SCI 207-0 Intro to Cognitive Modeling
COMP SCI 348-0 Intro to AI	COMP SCI 348-0 Intro to AI
LING 260-0 Formal Analysis of Words & Sentences	LING 260-0 Formal Analysis of Words & Sentences
LING 334-0 Intro to Computational Linguistics	LING 334-0 Intro to Computational Linguistics
PHIL 225-0 Minds & Machines	PHIL 225-0 Minds & Machines
PHIL 325-0 Philosophy of Mind	PHIL 325-0 Philosophy of Mind
Reasoning & Rhetoric	*Reasoning & Rhetoric*
LING 270-0 Meaning	LING 270-0 Meaning
PHIL 255-0 Theory of Knowledge	PHIL 255-0 Theory of Knowledge
POLI SCI 335-0 Political Psychology	POLI SCI 335-0 Political Psychology
PSYCH 333-0 Psychology of Thinking	PSYCH 333-0 Psychology of Thinking
PSYCH 373-0 Decision Making	PSYCH 373-0 Decision Making
	COG SCI 202-0 Evaluating Evidence
Collective Cognition	*Collective Cognition*
ANTHRO 377-0 Psychological Anthropology	ANTHRO 377-0 Psychological Anthropology
COG SCI 345-0 Presenting Ideas & Data	COG SCI 345-0 Presenting Ideas & Data
LOC 214-0 Culture & Cognition	LOC 214-0 Culture & Cognition
LOC 308-0 Redesigning Everyday Organizations	LOC 308-0 Redesigning Everyday Organizations
LOC 313-0 Learning & Thinking in Organizations	LOC 313-0 Learning & Thinking in Organizations
PSYCH 344-0 Cultural Psychology	PSYCH 344-0 Cultural Psychology
4 Electives chosen from theme list or electives list below. 5 of the 9 theme + elective courses must be at 300-level or above.	*4 Electives chosen from theme list or electives list below. 5 of the 9 theme + elective courses must be at 300-level or above.*

Current Electives	**New Electives** (changes in red)
ANTHRO 360-0 Language and Culture	ANTHRO 360-0 Language and Culture
ANTHRO 361-0 Talk as Social Action	ANTHRO 361-0 Talk as Social Action
ANTHRO 389-0 Ethnographic Methods and Analysis	ANTHRO 389-0 Ethnographic Methods and Analysis
BIOL_SCI 302-0 Fundamentals of Neurobiology	BIOL_SCI 302-0 Fundamentals of Neurobiology
CSD 301-0 Anatomy and Physiology of the Vocal Mechanism	CSD 301-0 Anatomy and Physiology of the Vocal Mechanism
CSD 302-0 Anatomy and Physiology of the Peripheral Hearing Mechanism	CSD 302-0 Anatomy and Physiology of the Peripheral Hearing Mechanism
CSD 303-0 Brain and Cognition	CSD 303-0 Brain and Cognition
CSD 306-0 Psychoacoustics	CSD 306-0 Psychoacoustics
CSD 309-0 Culture, Language and Learning	CSD 309-0 Culture, Language and Learning

CSD 310-0 Biological Foundations of Speech and Music	CSD 310-0 Biological Foundations of Speech and Music
CSD 342-0 Language and Cognition in Atypical Development	CSD 342-0 Language and Cognition in Atypical Development
CSD 373-0 Introduction to Learning Disabilities	CSD 373-0 Introduction to Learning Disabilities
CSD 376-0 Diagnostic & Remedial Approaches for Children With Learning Problems	CSD 376-0 Diagnostic & Remedial Approaches for Children With Learning Problems
CSD 382-0 Autism Spectrum Disorder	CSD 382-0 Autism Spectrum Disorder
CSD 388-0 Attention Deficit Disorder and Related Disorders	CSD 388-0 Attention Deficit Disorder and Related Disorders
CSD 392-0 Language Development and Usage	CSD 392-0 Language Development and Usage
CSD 406-0 Medical Aspects of Audiology	~~CSD 406-0 Medical Aspects of Audiology~~
CSD 444-0 Development and Disorders of Mathematics	~~CSD 444-0 Development and Disorders of Mathematics~~
CSD 457-0 Language Science	~~CSD 457-0 Language Science~~
	COMM_ST 227-0 Communication and Technology
	COMM_ST 351-0 Technology and Human Interaction
	COMP SCI 314-0 Technology and Human Interaction
COMP_SCI 325-0 Artificial Intelligence Programming	COMP_SCI 325-0 Artificial Intelligence Programming
	COMP SCI 330-0 Human Computer Interaction
COMP_SCI 337-0 Natural Language Processing: Classical Approaches	COMP_SCI 337-0 Natural Language Processing: Classical Approaches
COMP_SCI 338-0 Practicum in Intelligent Information Systems	COMP_SCI 338-0 Practicum in Intelligent Information Systems
COMP_SCI 344-0 Design of Computer Problem Solvers	COMP_SCI 344-0 Design of Computer Problem Solvers
	COMP SCI 347-0 Conversational AI
COMP_SCI 349-0 Machine Learning	COMP_SCI 349-0 Machine Learning
COMP_SCI 371-0 Knowledge Representation and Reasoning	COMP_SCI 371-0 Knowledge Representation and Reasoning
COMP_SCI 372-0 Designing and Constructing Models with Multi-Agent Languages	COMP_SCI 372-0 Designing and Constructing Models with Multi-Agent Languages
ECON 330-0 Behavioral Economics	ECON 330-0 Behavioral Economics
LING 300-0 Topics in Linguistics	LING 300-0 Topics in Linguistics
LING 315-0 Experimental Approaches to Word Form Processing	LING 315-0 Experimental Approaches to Word Form Processing
LING 316-0 Experimental Syntax	LING 316-0 Experimental Syntax
LING 317-0 Experimental Pragmatics	LING 317-0 Experimental Pragmatics
LING 321-0 Bilingualism	LING 321-0 Bilingualism
LING 330-0 Research Methods in Linguistics	LING 330-0 Research Methods in Linguistics
LING 341-0 Language Typology	LING 341-0 Language Typology
LING 342-0 Structure of Various Languages	LING 342-0 Structure of Various Languages
LING 350-0 Fundamentals of Laboratory Phonology	LING 350-0 Fundamentals of Laboratory Phonology

LING 360-0 Fundamentals of Syntax	LING 360-0 Fundamentals of Syntax
LING 370-0 Fundamentals of Meaning	LING 370-0 Fundamentals of Meaning
LING 371-0 Reference	LING 371-0 Reference
LING 372-0 Pragmatics	LING 372-0 Pragmatics
LING 373-0 Implicature	LING 373-0 Implicature
LING 450-1 Laboratory Phonology I	~~LING 450-1 Laboratory Phonology I~~
LING 460-2 Syntactic Analysis II	~~LING 460-2 Syntactic Analysis II~~
LRN_SCI 301-0 Design of Learning Environments	LRN_SCI 301-0 Design of Learning Environments
LRN_SCI 401-0 Knowledge Representation for the Learning Sciences	~~LRN_SCI 401-0 Knowledge Representation for the Learning Sciences~~
LRN_SCI 425-0 Introduction to Design for the Learning Sciences	~~LRN_SCI 425-0 Introduction to Design for the Learning Sciences~~
LRN_SCI 426-0 Design of Technological Tools for Thinking and Learning	~~LRN_SCI 426-0 Design of Technological Tools for Thinking and Learning~~
LRN_SCI 429-0 Design of Learning Environments	~~LRN_SCI 429-0 Design of Learning Environments~~
MUSIC_ED 437-0 Psychology of Music Teaching & Learning	~~MUSIC_ED 437-0 Psychology of Music Teaching & Learning~~
	MUSIC 320-0 Listening in the Age of the Algorithm
	MUS THRY 341-0 Sound to Structure
	MUS THRY 348-0 Corpus Studies
NEUROSCI 320-0 Animal Behavior	NEUROSCI 320-0 Animal Behavior
NEUROSCI 360-0 Neuroscience of Brain Disorders	NEUROSCI 360-0 Neuroscience of Brain Disorders
NEUROSCI 377-0 Neurobiology of Sensation and Perception	NEUROSCI 377-0 Neurobiology of Sensation and Perception
PHIL 250-0 Elementary Logic II	PHIL 250-0 Elementary Logic II
	PHIL 253-0 Intro to Philosophy of Language
PHIL 327-0 Philosophy of Psychology	PHIL 327-0 Philosophy of Psychology
PHIL 330-0 Practical Reasoning and Choice	PHIL 330-0 Practical Reasoning and Choice
PHIL 350-0 Advanced Logic	PHIL 350-0 Advanced Logic
PHIL 351-0 Advanced Topics in Philosophical Logic	PHIL 351-0 Advanced Topics in Philosophical Logic
PHIL 353-0 Philosophy of Language	PHIL 353-0 Philosophy of Language
PSYCH 324-0 Perception	PSYCH 324-0 Perception
PSYCH 327-0 Brain and Cognition	PSYCH 327-0 Brain and Cognition
PSYCH 328-0 Brain Damage and the Mind	PSYCH 328-0 Brain Damage and the Mind
PSYCH 336-0 Consciousness	PSYCH 336-0 Consciousness
	PSYCH 345-0 Presenting Ideas and Data
PSYCH 370-0 Cognitive Development	PSYCH 370-0 Cognitive Development
PSYCH 372-0 Language and Cognition	PSYCH 372-0 Language and Cognition
PSYCH 374-0 Human Memory	PSYCH 374-0 Human Memory
PSYCH 461-0 Reasoning and Representation	~~PSYCH 461-0 Reasoning and Representation~~
PSYCH 466-0 Analogy and Similarity	~~PSYCH 466-0 Analogy and Similarity~~
Also relevant sections of:	Also relevant sections of:
ANTHRO 390-0 Topics In Anthropology	ANTHRO 390-0 Topics In Anthropology
CSD 369-0 Special Topics in Communication Sciences and Disorders	CSD 369-0 Special Topics in Communication Sciences and Disorders

COMP_SCI 396-0 Special Topics in Computer Science	COMP_SCI 396-0 Special Topics in Computer Science
LRN_SCI 451-0 Topics in Learning Sciences	~~LRN_SCI 451-0 Topics in Learning Sciences~~
MUS_THRY 335-0 Selected Topics in Music Theory	MUS_THRY 335-0 Selected Topics in Music Theory
MUS_THRY 336-0 Selected Topics in Music Cognition	MUS_THRY 336-0 Selected Topics in Music Cognition
MUS_THRY 435-0 Selected Topics in Music Theory	~~MUS_THRY 435-0 Selected Topics in Music Theory~~
MUS_THRY 436-0 Selected Topics in Music Cognition	~~MUS_THRY 436-0 Selected Topics in Music Cognition~~
PHIL 410-0 Seminar: Special Topics in Philosophy	~~PHIL 410-0 Seminar: Special Topics in Philosophy~~
PHIL 426-0 Seminar in Philosophy of Mind	~~PHIL 426-0 Seminar in Philosophy of Mind~~
	PSYCH 330-0 Special Topics in Cognition/Neuroscience
PSYCH 391-0 Advanced Seminar in Cognition or Neuroscience	PSYCH 391-0 Advanced Seminar in Cognition or Neuroscience
PSYCH 460-0 Special Topics in Cognition	~~PSYCH 460-0 Special Topics in Cognition~~
PSYCH 470-0 Topics in Brain, Behavior, and Cognition	~~PSYCH 470-0 Topics in Brain, Behavior, and Cognition~~