The structure proposed is built on the restructure of undergraduate Psychology units offered in 2009. This restructure was based on a considered view of the nature of Psychology as a discipline and the way in which the discipline could best be taught.

Psychology is (with others) an evolving discipline in which the specialized sub-areas, and their content, are subject to frequent change. In contrast, the methodologies of Psychology are well established and less subject to change. To reflect this dichotomy of the content and the methods of Psychology the restructured program was built around a ‘spine’ of methods units complemented by a set of elective units from which students could choose. The progression of the methods units was recognized by setting the Level 2 unit as a pre-requisite for the Level 3 units. The elective units did not require pre-requisites, which allowed the School to offer them in alternate years, achieving a significant teaching efficiency without diminishing the students’ learning experience.

The proposal for the BA major retained the basic reform in the 2009 restructure. The proposal was for:

- two introductory psychology units (PSYC1101 and PSYC1102)
- a ‘spine’ of methods units taught at Levels 2 and 3, with the Level 2 unit (PSYC2203) pre-requisite for the Level 3 units (PSYC3302 and PSYC3303)
- a choice of three elective units (from PSYC2209, PSYC2212, PSYC2213, and PSYC2214), with PSYC2209 and PSYC2212 offered together in even-numbered years and PSYC2213 and PSYC2214 offered together in odd-numbered years.

Although the elective units are all numbered 22XX, they can be taken in either the second or third year of study, and the School does not regard them as Level 2 units; all are academically suited to study in a student’s second or third year of study. A normal progression through the major would therefore be:

PSYC1101, PSYC1102; PSYC2203 and 1 or 2 of the 2 electives offered in that calendar year; PSYC3302, PSYC3303 and 1 or 2 of the 2 electives offered in that year.

The major structure is thus either 2+2+4 (if only one elective is chosen in the second year of study) or 2+3+3 (if both electives are chosen in the second year of study). It would be possible to restrict students to one elective in their second year of study, thereby enforcing a 2+2+4 structure; the School does not favour this option because it would restrict student choice. The same structure has been proposed for the Psychology major to be offered in the BSc.