

Psychology

Division of Social Sciences

- **Major: 34 credit hours**
- **Minor: 18 credit hours**
- **Major/Minor GPA required for graduation: 2.00**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Capstone: Research Methods and Senior Thesis (W) (PSY 496)**
- **Research: Research Methods and Senior Thesis (W) (PSY 496)**

Description of Major: Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes, and its goals are to understand, explain, predict, and change behavior. Psychology majors learn the skills needed to conduct scientific investigations of psychological topics through courses in statistics and research methods. Majors complete a research project and are encouraged to make professional presentations based on their findings. They also learn the major theories and practical applications of psychology while simultaneously gathering the skills necessary to think critically and challenge popular misconceptions about human behavior. To prepare students for success in the major and in their work after graduation, the psychology major includes professional development courses at the beginning and end of the curriculum. The university's mission is reflected in the psychology major through its special emphasis on exposing students to diverse perspectives, imparting the skills needed to develop personal and ethical responsibility, and mentoring of students as they develop discipline-specific communication and intellectual competencies. In addition, the curriculum is guided by the American Psychological Association's quality benchmarks and learning goals for the undergraduate psychology major.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings to discuss how psychological principles apply to behavioral phenomena.
- Demonstrate scientific reasoning and problem solving, including effective research methods.
- Develop ethically and socially responsible behaviors for professional and personal settings in a landscape that involves increasing diversity.
- Develop the professional skills needed for success after graduation.

Preparation: Psychology majors go on to a variety of careers, including mental health clinics, crisis centers, substance abuse programs, social work agencies, eldercare facilities, human resources and personnel departments, criminal justice facilities, and the educational system. The program also prepares students to enter graduate school in psychology and other relevant areas, some of which are industrial organization, school/community, child, social, health psychology, counseling, clinical social work, occupational therapy, sport psychology, law, divinity, and criminal justice.

Eighteen of the 35 credit hours required for the major must be upper level. No more than 4 credit hours of internship credit may be accepted toward a psychology major.

The psychology program also offers a minor, which emphasizes current theoretical perspectives on the development of personality and personal growth. To minor in psychology, the student must complete 20 credit hours in psychology and at least 9 of the 20 credits taken to meet minor requirements must be upper level. No more than four credit hours from PSY 350, PSY 355 and PSY 404 may be counted toward a psychology major or minor.

PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS 33 crs.

PSY 153	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 201	PSYCHOLOGY CORNERSTONE	1
PSY 301	PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS	3
PSY 315	ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 396	RESEARCH METHODS	3
PSY 496	SENIOR THESIS (W)	3
PSY 498	PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR	2
ADDITIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ELECTIVES		15

PSYCHOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS 18 crs.

PSY 153	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 315	ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
ADDITIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ELECTIVES		12

Psychology (PSY)

PSY 153 3

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Principles and facts necessary for an introduction to the scientific understanding of human behavior on a biological and social-personal level. Provides an introduction to basic concepts necessary for specialization in the field.

PSY 200 0-1

APPLIED SPORT PSYCHOLOGY

This course allows students the opportunity to apply sport psychology theories to sport or other performance-based activities (e.g., band, choir, debate, etc.). Specific topics will include assessment, goal setting, practice journals, routines, stress management, visualization, self-confidence, and persistence. This course can be repeated. No more than three credit hours may be applied to the sport psychology minor or the psychology minor or major; may also be used for up to three elective credit hours. Prerequisite: PSY 153 or instructor consent.

PSY 201 1

PSYCHOLOGY CORNERSTONE

This course is an introduction to the psychology major. The class will provide an overview of APA-style writing, preparing for graduate school, diversity in psychology, subfields of psychology, career opportunities, journal article reading, and psychological research. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 210 3

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

This course is an overview of human development across the lifespan from fetal development through childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and death. Topics include theories and research about physical, cognitive, and social development. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 211 3

STRESS MANAGEMENT

An introduction to psychological aspects of stress – the etiology and the physiological and psychological consequences of stress. Practical and theoretical experience in a variety of stress management techniques (stress management planning, progressive relaxation, autogenic training, hypnosis, systematic desensitization, and implosive therapy). Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 230 3

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

This course introduces the field of substance abuse and addiction and covers causal factors, theoretical models, assessments, and treatments. Research papers, case studies, and observational methods will be incorporated. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 250 3

CHILD WELFARE

This course covers the history of child welfare, defining and recognizing child maltreatment, professional responses to child maltreatment, the skills necessary to work with child victims, and child abuse prevention. The course is designed for students pursuing careers in criminal justice, education, social work, sociology, psychology, nursing, paralegal, and other areas where knowledge of child maltreatment and advocating for children might be necessary. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 255 2

INTRODUCTION TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

An introduction to the field of occupational therapy. This course will require observation and service-learning hours at locations working with children, the elderly, or other populations that occupational therapists assist. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 265 3

PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER

A psychological examination of the individual development of gender. Findings from psychological research on gender will be reviewed including interpersonal relations, stereotypes of men and women, physical and mental health, media portrayals, educational biases, career decisions, and individual differences in abilities and personalities. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 275 3

BIOPSYCHOLOGY

This course will provide an overview of physiological psychology and includes topics such as structure and function of the central nervous system, biological foundations of behavior and personality, brain damage, sensation and perception, sex, sleep, substance abuse and addiction, psychopathology, stress, and mental health. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 280-289 1-4

SPECIAL TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Prerequisite: PSY 153.

PSY 299 0-3

RESEARCH PRACTICUM

This course provides students with the experience of engaging in psychology research under the supervision of a faculty member. Students will also learn about the process of presenting and/or publishing research. This course may be repeated. Up to 6 credits may count as electives in the psychology major or minor. Prerequisites: PSY 153, 3.00 overall GPA, and instructor consent.

PSY 301 3

PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS

This course will introduce students to descriptive and inferential statistics used in psychology. Topics will include the interpretation, analysis, and reporting of psychological data. Prerequisite: PSY 201.

PSY 304 3

CROSS-CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY

This course will provide an overview of the impact of cultural effects on human behavior by focusing on similarities and differences from a global perspective utilizing theories of personality. The purpose of this course is to enhance student sensitivity and awareness of diversity aimed at reducing ethnocentric thinking while sharpening critical thinking skills. Prerequisite: PSY 153.

Psychology (PSY)

PSY 305 FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY This class provides an overview of forensic, criminal, and legal psychology, including such topics as interrogations, lie detection, forensic identification, profiling, jury selection, eyewitness testimony, and the death penalty. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 370 PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY An investigation of human sexual behavior, including but not limited to sexuality in its cultural, biological, and social contexts. Examined will be such topics as conception and contraception, physiological and anatomical factors, sexual dysfunction, and variations in sexual behavior. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3
PSY 315 ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY A study of the development and characteristics of mental disorders such as anxiety disorders, personality disorders, psychotic disorders, somatoform disorders, and mood disorders will be examined. Various treatment modalities will also be considered. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 375 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT This course will cover the basic theories relating to the foundations of testing and measurement. The purpose of this course is to help students understand the use of testing, reliability, validity, designing tests and surveys, and gaining an understanding of the many psychological tests currently used in counseling, education, and the workplace. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3
PSY 320 MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY This class provides an overview of military psychology including such topics as fitness-for-duty evaluations, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, neuropsychological conditions, substance abuse, and the psychology of terror. In addition, the course will explore psychology careers working with the military. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 380-389 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY Prerequisite: PSY 153.	1-4
PSY 321 PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY OF DEATH AND DYING This course will provide a study of death and dying and includes topics such as fear of death, care of the dying, grief, suicide, euthanasia, acceptance of death, children and death, funeral customs, legal aspects of death, and death education. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 396 RESEARCH METHODS This course will introduce students to research methods in psychology. Course topics will include searching and reading the research literature, designing studies, analyzing research data, and writing APA style empirical reports. Prerequisite: PSY 301.	3
PSY 322 PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY OF HUMAN AGING This course will provide a study of human aging and includes topics such as myths and theories of aging, the psychological, sociological, and biological aspects of human aging, effects of aging on personality, intelligence, memory, sensory functioning, and mental health. Service-learning component is required. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 398 ETHICS IN RESEARCH AND THERAPY Same as ABA 398. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3
PSY 330 BASIC PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS Same as ABA 330. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 399 RESEARCH PRACTICUM This course provides students with the experience of engaging in psychology research under the supervision of a faculty member. Students will also learn about the process of presenting and/or publishing research. This course may be repeated. Up to 6 credits may count as electives in the psychology major or minor. Prerequisites: PSY 153, 3.00 overall GPA, and instructor consent.	0-3
PSY 350 EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY: HUMAN GROWTH AND LEARNING Same as EDU 350. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 401 SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY An examination of social interactions, the impact of the group on the individual, and the impact of the individual on the group. Focus is on interpersonal behavior and feelings – liking, love, aggression, conformity, communications and attitude formation, and change. Same as SOC 401. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3
PSY 365 COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY This course will provide an introduction to the concepts and methodologies of cognitive psychology. Course topics may include the history of cognitive psychology, research methods, perception, attention, learning and memory, reasoning, problem solving, language, decision making, consciousness, and intelligence. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 404 EARLY ADOLESCENTS AND SCHOOLING (W) Same as EDU 404. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3

Psychology (PSY)

PSY 405 INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY This course will provide a study of the application of psychological methods and techniques to the solution of human problems industry and business and includes topics such as behavior in organizations, group behavior, organizational climates, interviewing techniques, motivation, leadership, and employment law. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 492 BIOPSYCHOLOGY CAPSTONE This course is the capstone experience for biopsychology majors. The goals are to provide students the opportunity to learn about biopsychology topics and engage with current research in the field. An emphasis will be placed on field trips and guest speakers to allow for greater lifelong learning. Same as BIO 492. Prerequisite: PSY 275.	1
PSY 417 THEORIES OF PERSONALITY A systematic review of the major personality theories, emphasizing a study of the development and dynamics of personality and its measurement, specifically as related to the individual student. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 496 SENIOR THESIS (W) This course will guide students through a senior thesis project involving an independent research project that includes a literature review, research design, implementation of procedures, data collection, data analysis, and reporting of results. Prerequisite: PSY 301, 396.	3
PSY 425 POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY This course will provide an overview of positive psychology and includes topics such as history and philosophical foundations of positive psychology, biopsychosocial influences on wellbeing, measurement of wellbeing, and promoting personal health in students. Prerequisite: PSY 153. Recommended prerequisite: PSY 301.	3	PSY 498 PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR This course is designed for psychology and biopsychology majors to prepare them for graduate school and for the professional field. Students will make professional plans for entry into graduate school or the workforce. The course will emphasize self-awareness and lifelong learning. Prerequisite: PSY 153 and junior/senior standing.	2
PSY 450 CLINICAL AND COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY Introduction to the various techniques of counseling. Course will include an overview of humanistic, psychoanalytic, behavior, and cognitive therapy approaches. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3	PSY 499 RESEARCH PRACTICUM This course provides students with the experience of engaging in psychology research under the supervision of a faculty member. Students will also learn about the process of presenting and/or publishing research. This course may be repeated. Up to 6 credits may count as electives in the psychology major or minor. Prerequisites: PSY 153, 3.00 overall GPA, and instructor consent.	0-3
PSY 465 SPORT AND HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY This course will cover primary theories and applications in sport and health behaviors. Theories will be drawn from social psychology, health psychology, cognitive psychology, exercise psychology, and sport psychology. Specific topics will include personality characteristics, motivation, goal-setting, attributions, concentration, imagery, aggression, group dynamics, communication and counseling techniques, research methodologies, and behavior modification. Same as PED 465. Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3		
PSY 470 INTERNSHIP IN PSYCHOLOGY (W) Prerequisite: PSY 153.	3-8		
PSY 480 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN PSYCHOLOGY Prerequisite: PSY 153.	1-4		
PSY 490 SEMINAR IN PSYCHOLOGY Prerequisite: PSY 153.	1-4		