

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Course Requirements for Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology (PSYC) (48 hours)

Core Requirements (26 hours):

Psychology 101, 203, 204, 208, 301, 310, 316, and 404.

Two courses from each of the following clusters (18 hours):

- Experimental: Psychology 306, 318, or 403.
- Clinical: Psychology 206, 304, or 312.
- Developmental: Psychology 209, 211, or 322.

Major-Related Requirements (4 hours):

Biology 101 or Science 202. (If Science 202 is taken, a course from the Biology course offerings will not satisfy the other general education science course that is required.)

Courses that count in the PSYC major quality point average (MQPA):

All courses with “PSYC” prefix. A minimum MQPA of 2.00 is required to graduate.

Course Requirements for Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology (53 hours) (PSYS)

Core Requirements (42 hours):

Psychology 101, 203, 204, 208, 301, 310, 316, 318, 319, 403, and 404.

Nine hours of Psychology electives.

Major-Related Requirements (11 hours):

Biology 101, 234; Computer Science 141

Courses that count in the PSYS major quality point average (MQPA):

All courses with “PSYC” prefix. A minimum MQPA of 2.00 is required to graduate.

Courses recommended for psychology majors include Philosophy 161 and 201. Students are encouraged to take an internship. No credit in independent study or internship may be counted toward the major requirements. Those students planning to do graduate work in psychology are encouraged to take Psychology 318, 403; Philosophy 161, and 201.

Psychology majors, regardless of whether they pursue graduate studies or enter the work force immediately following graduation, need to be good writers and speakers and need to know how to find, analyze, and use information. To that end, Psychology 204 and 404 are Writing Intensive (WI), Speaking Intensive (SI), and Information Literacy (IL) courses, designed to provide the necessary skills for psychology majors to be good producers and consumers of psychological information as well as effective communicators of that knowledge.

Course Requirements for a minor in Psychology (18 hours)

A minor in Psychology will consist of 18 hours of Psychology courses, including Psychology 101 and excluding Psychology 102.

Course requirements for a minor in Family Studies (19 hours)

Psychology 203.

Sociology 312.

One course from: Psychology 204, Political Science 277, or Sociology 277.

Three courses from: Psychology 209, 211, 322, or Sociology 251.

Students are expected to contact their advisors for a detailed schedule of courses recommended to meet requirements for a major.

PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC)

101. FOUNDATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE. This course is designed to introduce the student to the field of psychology, which is defined as the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Like other sciences, psychology seeks to explain, predict, and control the events it studies. Students will be exposed to the important theories, methods, and landmark findings that have helped to shape psychology as a field of inquiry. An integral focus of the course will be a consideration of how psychology can contribute to the synthesis of a consistent Christian worldview.

Semester course, three hours.

102. EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. A consideration of those aspects of psychology which form the basis for educational methods and their application in the school curriculum including student characteristics; group and individual differences; cognitive and personality development; learning theory; measurement; and evaluation. This course satisfies the Information Literacy (IL) requirement for all education majors.

Semester course, three hours.

202. PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION. A psychological approach to the understanding of religious life with special emphasis on the Judeo-Christian tradition. In addition to traditional areas in the psychology of religion (e.g., religious development, measurement of religion and spirituality, forgiveness, religious conversion, religious orientation and attitudes, etc.) the course will consider issues surrounding the integration of psychology and theology, the innateness of spirituality, the nature of the soul or self, the neuroscience of religious experience, and the role of religion and spirituality in health. Prerequisite: Psychology 101.

Alternate Spring semesters, three hours.

203. STATISTICAL METHODS. This course will examine the mathematical reasoning and methodology underlying decision-making in the sciences. Students will develop skills in the analysis and interpretation of data from scientific experiments, enabling them to be informed consumers of the professional literature. Topics will include descriptive statistics, probability theory, and inferential statistics.

Semester course, three hours.

204. RESEARCH METHODS. Introduction to laboratory techniques in psychological science. Methods of controlled investigation, use of databases for psychology, evaluation of results using SPSS, and writing reports of experiments using APA format will be emphasized. Three lectures and two hours of lab per week. This course meets the Information Literacy (IL) requirement for the Psychology major. Prerequisites: Psychology 101 and 203. *Spring semester only, four hours.*

206. INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING. An introduction to the theories, practices and ethical issues employed in professional counseling. Prerequisite: Psychology 101. *Semester course, three hours.*

208. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY. The scientific study of the way individuals think, feel, and behave under the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others. Our study of social psychology will investigate the relationship between attitudes and behavior, attribution theory, cultural influences, conformity, prejudice, aggression, attraction, altruism, conflict, etc. We will concentrate on applying social psychology to real world experiences and will include in-depth analysis of original literature. *Semester course, three hours.*

209. CHILD DEVELOPMENT. This course is a survey of the child development field. Students will be encouraged to develop an appreciation for the value of science for understanding children and their development. Key theories and research regarding cognition, language, attachment, moral reasoning, and the effects of family and peers will be considered. This course is required for all Early Childhood and Elementary Education majors. *Semester course, three hours.*

211. ADULT DEVELOPMENT AND AGING. Investigation of the psychological, biological, and social aspects of early, middle, and late adult development emphasizing both the opportunities and limitations of aging. *Semester course, three hours.*

214. INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. The psychology of work and organizations. Introduction to the use and application of psychology in the workplace. Prerequisites: Psychology 101 and 208. *Alternate Spring semesters, three hours.*

220. PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE. Fundamental issues facing the social sciences including philosophical issues about human nature, epistemological questions, and implications of social science claims of being scientific. Offered alternate years. Prerequisite: Psychology 101. *Alternate Spring semesters, three hours.*

301. HISTORY AND SYSTEMS OF PSYCHOLOGY. A study of the philosophical and scientific antecedents and trends that have culminated in contemporary psychological science. Beginning in the Classical world and moving through the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and the scientific revolution of the 16th – 18th centuries, this course will trace how psychology emerged as an independent discipline at the end of the 19th century. Significant questions raised by psychology, changing views of the soul or self, and how

American culture in the 21st century has become a psychological society will be considered. Primary works of influential philosophers and scientists will be read. Prerequisite: Twelve hours of psychology. *Fall semester only, three hours.*

303. PSYCHOLOGY OF THE EXCEPTIONAL CHILD. A study of the characteristics, causes, and psychological and educational problems of children who deviate from the norm physically and/or mentally. Prerequisite: Psychology 101 or 102. *Semester course, three hours.*

304. PSYCHOLOGY OF PERSONALITY. A study of the major psychological theories of personality development and their application to applied psychology. Prerequisite: Psychology 101. *Semester course, three hours.*

306. SENSATION AND PERCEPTION. This course covers the physiological basis of sensation and the psychological aspects of perception. Vision, audition, the chemical and the cutaneous senses are investigated as are the perception of time, music, speech and pain. Prerequisite: Psychology 101. *Alternate Spring semesters, three hours.*

310. PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT. This course will include a) an analysis of psychometric principles, including reliability, validity, and standardization; b) an analysis of intelligence, personality, and interest testing, including in-depth investigation of various tests; and c) an analysis of current issues including discrimination in testing. Prerequisites: Psychology 101 and 203. *Semester course, three hours.*

312. ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY. This course provides an overview of the various psychological disorders, as well as theoretical, clinical, and experimental perspectives of the study of psychopathology. Emphasis is placed on classification, etiology, assessment and treatment of the major disorders. Prerequisites: Psychology 101 and three hours of psychology. *Semester course, three hours.*

316. PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY. A study of the biological bases of behavior. Neuroanatomy and fundamental principles of neurophysiology and neural communication will be covered as will be the physiological mechanisms operating in sensation, emotion, consciousness, ingestive behavior, learning and memory, reinforcement, addiction, and psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia. Prerequisite: Psychology 101 or permission of the instructor. *Fall semester only, three hours.*

318. LEARNING AND COGNITION. A study of traditional learning and conditioning as well as the approach to human learning, memory and higher mental processing (language, problem solving, reasoning, etc.) represented by cognitive psychology. Special consideration will be given to a cognitive neuroscience perspective on learning, memory, cognition, and emotion. Prerequisites: Psychology 101, 203 and 204. *Fall semester only, three hours.*

319. LEARNING AND COGNITION LABORATORY. Using computer simulations of animal behavior, areas of laboratory investigation include both classical and operant

conditioning phenomena (e.g., excitatory and inhibitory conditioning, compound conditioning, higher-order conditioning, shaping, extinction, schedules of reinforcement, and stimulus discrimination and generalization). Prerequisites: Psychology 101, 203 and 204. *Fall semester only, one hour.*

320. NATURE OF MIND. A study of such issues as the mind-body problem, the relationship between mind and language; how the mind represents the world; the nature of consciousness; the analogy between mind and computer; science versus folk psychology in describing and explaining the mind; and the nature of mental states such as beliefs, desires, and purposes. Prerequisite: Psychology 101.

Alternate Spring semesters, three hours.

322. MARRIAGE & FAMILY: ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION. The course examines assessment and intervention in marriage and the family. Topics of focus will include premarital, marital, and parenting skills assessments and interventions. This course will focus on primary sources and scientific understanding rather than on developing counseling skills. In addition, we will consider social entrepreneurship in the context of marital and family situations. Prerequisite: Psychology 203, Business 201 or Mathematics 231.

Semester course, three hours.

390. STUDIES IN PSYCHOLOGY. This course, which varies each semester, involves the examination of different areas of psychology with a focus on new areas not covered in regular coursework. *Offered periodically, semester course, one, two or three hours.*

403. ADVANCED STATISTICS. An introduction to multivariate statistics by using computer statistical packages as applied to social science research including such topics as multiple regression, discriminant analysis, factor analysis, multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA), path analysis, and other frequently used multivariate statistical techniques. Prerequisites: Psychology 101, 203 and 204.

Alternate Fall semesters, three hours.

404. ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS. A study of advanced research methods, including an independent research project. An IRB proposal, data collection, and formal written and oral presentation of the study are required. This course meets the Writing Intensive (WI) and Speaking Intensive (SI) requirements for the psychology major. Prerequisites: Psychology 101, 203 and 204.

Semester course, four hours.

460. INDEPENDENT STUDY. Available to junior and senior psychology majors with a minimum of twelve hours in psychology. Prerequisite: Permission of the department chairman.

Semester course, one, two or three hours.

470. INDEPENDENT RESEARCH. Available to junior and senior psychology majors with a minimum of twelve hours in psychology. Prerequisite: Permission of the department chairman.

Semester course, one, two or three hours.

480. INTERNSHIP IN PSYCHOLOGY. An opportunity for upperclass psychology majors, with a minimum of fifteen hours in psychology, to participate in individual field experiences in clinical or counseling settings under the professional supervision of the staff of cooperating institutions. Prerequisite: Permission of the department chair.

Semester course, one to six hours.

499. HONORS IN PSYCHOLOGY. Open only to senior psychology majors who have honors grades. Application must be made to the department and a proposal for the study approved before registering. The student studies under the guidance of department staff and must submit evidence of superior achievement.

Semester course, one, two or three hours.