

Psychology

FACULTY: L. Cohen, M. Wiediger.

The psychology major introduces students to the fundamentals of scientific psychology, providing a firm basis of psychological knowledge and research experience. Course offerings are varied, and cover all the major schools of thought in psychology. Many careers in psychology require at least a master's degree and many graduate programs recommend a broad background in different areas of psychology. Therefore, requirements for the major correspond to the basic course requirements for entrance into graduate school. In addition, students can also gain practical experience and academic credit through internships with a wide range of social service agencies.

The psychology department makes use of multimedia equipment for classroom instruction, and students benefit from extensive interaction with faculty members both in and out of class. The department also provides opportunities for students to engage in original research and to attend regional and national professional conferences. Academic achievements of psychology students are recognized through membership in the department's chapter of Psi Chi, the national psychology honors society.

Psychology Major

Students majoring in psychology for either the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science degree will complete a minimum of 34 hours in the department. Required courses include Psychology 201, 221, 222, and 495; and seven courses from the following: Psychology 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 305, 321, 322, 325, 326, 327, 331, 332, 335 and 357. At least three of these seven elective courses must be at the 300 level.

The department strongly recommends that Psychology 221 and 222 be taken in sequence.

Additional courses may be selected in consultation with the advisor. Students are encouraged to explore relationships between psychology and other disciplines by taking courses in different fields (e.g., biology, criminal justice, philosophy, sociology), and to consider developing a second major or minor in one of these areas.

Students majoring in psychology must maintain a 2.0 GPA overall and attain a C or better in all Psychology courses.

Psychology Minor

Students minoring in Psychology will complete a minimum of six courses in the department. Required courses include Psychology 201, 221, and at least four courses from the following: Psychology 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 305, 321, 322, 325, 326, 327, 331, 332, 335 and 357. At

least two of these four elective courses must be at the 300 level. Psychology 495, Senior Seminar, may be substituted for one of the electives.

Courses

PSYC 201. GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) Principles and facts basic to a scientific understanding of human behavior, the functions of emotion, motivation, learning, intelligence, thinking, sensation, perception, etc. Offered every semester.

PSYC 221. ELEMENTARY STATISTICS. (3) The use and interpretation of basic descriptive and inferential statistics. Emphasis upon application of statistical methods to problems of the behavioral and social sciences. Prerequisite: Math 125 or permission of instructor. Offered every semester.

PSYC 222. RESEARCH METHODS. (4) Use of experimental methodology for the study of bases of behavior. Scientific method, methods of data collection and analysis, experimental design and hypothesis testing. Prerequisites: Psychology 201 and 221. Offered every spring.

PSYC 242. DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) Survey course in human growth and development during childhood, adolescence and adulthood, as well as a general introduction to the principles, methods and content of the field. Topics include physical growth and motor development; the development of language and thought; and social, emotional and personality development. Although the emphasis will be upon normal patterns of development, the sources and nature of individual differences will also be considered. Prerequisite: Psychology 201. Offered every semester.

PSYC 243. BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION. (3) An introduction to the principles of behavior modification and their application. Emphasis is given to the development of basic skills, an understanding of ethical issues, and an appreciation of the social implications of behavior modification. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 244. ADOLESCENCE. (3) Adolescent development, needs and problems. Topics to be covered include biological, cognitive, social, emotional, and personality development; the contexts for development including families, peers, schools, and culture; and adolescent problems involving drugs, juvenile delinquency, stress, health, depression, and suicide. Also, the school's /teacher's role in assessment, coordination, and referral of students to health and social services. Prerequisite: Psychology 201. Offered every spring.

PSYC 245. EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) An examination of the teaching process from a psychological perspective. Topics to be covered include basic learning and motivational processes, human development, measurement and evaluation procedures and classroom management. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 246. HUMAN SEXUALITY. (3) This course will focus on the psychological aspects of human sexual behavior including such topics as: sexual myths, gender identities and roles, learning sexuality, sexual response and dysfunction and variations in human sexual behavior. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 305. ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) The study of the origins, development and treatment of abnormal, maladaptive or “deviant” behavior in society; processes that may induce such behavior and factors which may alter it. Prerequisite: Psychology 201. Offered every fall.

PSYC 321. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) Analysis of the psychological processes in relation to social situations and interpersonal behavior. How language, perception, learning, thinking, motivation, traits and attitudes determine and result from social interaction and group processes. Same as Sociology 321. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 322. LEARNING. (3) An examination of theories and research in both animal and human learning. Topics include classical and instrumental conditioning, verbal learning, remembering, forgetting, problem solving. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 325. PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) The biological bases of behavior including structure and function of the nervous system, sensory and motor processes, and higher CNS functions including motivation, learning and consciousness. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 326. SENSATION AND PERCEPTION. (3) The biological foundations of sensory system functioning with special consideration of the integrating properties of the CNS. Such topics as visual illusions, auditory information processing (including language), and spatial orientation are included. Laboratory demonstrations periodically. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 327. MEMORY AND COGNITION. (3) A survey of the theory and research in the study of human memory and cognitive processes including attention, language, and problem solving. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 331. PSYCHOLOGICAL MEASUREMENT. (3) Survey of psychological tests that are in use, especially in the clinical-counseling field. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 332. ADVANCED STATISTICS. (3) The use and interpretation of the more complex univariate analysis of variance and regression designs and distribution-free tests. Emphasis will be upon the application of the procedures to behavioral data and Monte Carlo methods for assessment of their robustness to violations of assumptions underlying their use. Prerequisites: Psychology 221 and 222.

PSYC 335. INDUSTRIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) An examination of the theory and research of personnel processes in industry including selection, motivation, evaluation, supervision, work conditions, and job satisfaction. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 357. THEORIES OF PERSONALITY. (3) An in-depth study of personality structure and dynamics proposed by various schools of thought. Prerequisite: Psychology 201.

PSYC 495. SENIOR SEMINAR. (3) Current issues in the field of psychology are researched and presented in a seminar setting using class discussion and debate. Students practice the writing, oral communication, and critical thinking skills necessary to succeed in their future careers and in graduate school. Prerequisite: Psychology 201, senior standing, and Psychology major or minor, or permission of the instructor.