

Course Descriptions for the Psychology Department

Attention Students: The following course descriptions and prerequisites apply to those students who have declared a Psychology Major prior to Fall, 2004.

PSYC 100 - General Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Introduction to psychology: historical origins; methods of investigation; topics such as sensation, perception, learning, cognition, motivation, and emotion; fields such as physiological, development, personality, social, abnormal, testing, applied psychology, and psychotherapy.

PSYC 101 - Introduction to Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Introduction to the scientific study of behavior, including an overview of the history of psychology, biological basis of behavior, sensation/perception, consciousness, learning, memory, cognition, language, motivation, emotion, intelligence, development, personality, psychological disorders, therapy, social behavior, and psychological testing. Majors/minors only.

PSYC 201 - See new course number 301.

PSYC 223 - See new course number 315.

PSYC 224 - See new course number 320.

PSYC 241 - Statistical Methods for Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Statistical concepts and methods related to psychological testing and research, including measures of central tendency, variance, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, correlation, regression, non-parametric tests, use of computer aids. Lab Required.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: MATH 154, PSYC 100 or 101, 243 or concurrent enrollment.

PSYC 242 - Research Methods

(3 Semester Hours)

Introduction to the fundamentals of psychological research including experimental, non-experimental, and quasi-experimental designs; emphasis on critical analysis of research, interpretation of data (with use of computer aids), and scientific writing. Lab Required.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 241, 243, 244 or concurrent enrollment.

PSYC 243 - Statistical Methods for Psychology Lab

(1 Semester Hour)

Companion lab course to PSYC 241. Data management and statistical analysis using SPSS.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 241 or concurrent enrollment.

PSYC 244 - Research Methods Lab

(1 Semester Hour)

Companion lab course to PSYC 242. Provides students with hands-on exercises applying their theoretical knowledge of research design. Students gain practical experience with literature searches, experimental and non-experimental designs, and scientific writing in APA style.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 242 or concurrent enrollment.

PSYC 251 - Brain and Behavior

(3 Semester Hours)

Biological basis of behavior; structure and function of the sensory and effector mechanisms, neural and endocrine systems, and their underlying physiological substrates.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: BIOL 150, PSYC 100 or 101, or consent of instructor.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 261 - Experimental Methods

(3 Semester Hours)

Introduces the basic principles of experimental designs. Provides students with fundamental background for planning, conducting, and critiquing experimental research in psychology. Emphasizes scientific writing, including APA style; and data interpretation using inferential, descriptive, and relational statistics. Includes how to generate and test hypotheses, search the scientific literature, the nature of variables, types of measurement, types and assessment of reliability and validity, and ethical issues in empirical research.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PHIL 220, PSYC 100 or 101, 241, 243.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 265 - Nonexperimental Methods

(3 Semester Hours)

Introduces the basic principles of nonexperimental and quasi-experimental designs. Provides students with fundamental background for planning, conducting, and critiquing nonexperimental, quasi-experimental, and qualitative research in psychology. Emphasizes philosophy of science and scientific writing, including APA style. Methods and designs may include quasi-experimental, correlational, meta-analytic, survey, longitudinal, narrative, participatory action, ethnographic, focus groups, and mixed methodologies. Statistical procedures include those appropriate to these methods and designs.

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PHIL 220, PSYC 100 or 101, 241, 243.

PSYC 298 - Special Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 299 - Independent Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisite: Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 301 - Introduction and Overview of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 201]

History of alcohol and other mood-altering drugs in the United States, the myths and stereotypes of alcohol use, the socio-cultural factors that contribute to drug use, and the patterns and progressions of alcoholism and other drug dependency.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 310 - Psychology of Sex Differences

(3 Semester Hours)

Explores sex and sex differences from a biosocial or evolutionary psychology perspective. Examines evolution of sexual reproduction, the two sexes, sexually dimorphic morphology, behavior, and emotion. Identifies and examines different reproductive strategies employed by males and females (including nonhuman species), and resulting conflicts of interests between the sexes. Particular focus given to sex differences in sexuality, courtship, jealousy, mating systems, and parenting.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 315 - Psychology of Women

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 223]

Women's biological, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral functioning will be reviewed. Topics of special concern to women (e.g., discrimination, sexual harassment, parenting, etc.) will also be discussed.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 319 - African and Black Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

A biopsychosocial/spiritual review of topics in psychology from an Africentric perspective. A survey course examining and contrasting basic theories, research, and concepts in African psychology and Black psychology. Selected features of the discipline of Western psychology are critiqued from an African-centered perspective.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 320 - Psychology of Race, Culture, and Ethnicity

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 224]

Theories and research on psychological, social, and cultural influences in prejudice, racism, ethnic identification, stereotyping, and racial conflict.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 321 - Psychology of Marriage

(3 Semester Hours)

Exploration of theories and research on psychological processes in interpersonal attraction, intimacy, marriage, and family relationships.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 325 - Applied Sport Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Explores the relationship of psychological factors to performance in sports. Emphasizes the application of psychological techniques to sport and exercise, including such topics as: personality, motivation, arousal, anxiety, competitiveness, and aggression. Examines psychosocial aspects of team versus individual sports, performance enhancement strategies, and injury avoidance and recovery. Self-assessment and activities facilitate growth and development in personal abilities to enhance performance in a sport and in a variety of non-sport settings.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 330 - Forensic Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Examines the interaction of psychology and law. Topics include basic assumptions of law and professional and academic psychology; psychological malpractice; role of mental health experts as expert witnesses, diagnosticians, treatment providers, and advisors in tort law, family law, mental health law, criminal law, and alternative dispute resolution including mediation. Covers fundamental legal procedures, roles of mental health professionals who interact with the legal system, psychological research on legal issues, and common ethical and legal issues related to psychological practices in these areas. Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 332 - Psychological Disorders

(3 Semester Hours)

An introduction to the biological, psychological, and social determinants of psychopathology and maladaptive behaviors. Focus on the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of these disorders. This course is designed for students not majoring in Psychology.

Not open to majors in Psychology.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 351 - Comparative Animal Behavior

(3 Semester Hours)

An examination of the ecological and social determinants of the evolution of adaptive behavioral strategies for various classes of behavior across species, including foraging, courtship and reproduction, mating systems, aggression, territoriality, and parenting. Field trips to observe animals.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 352 - Developmental Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Research and theories of normal human development from conception through adult maturity, old age, and death. Focus on growth and change in biological, cognitive, and social processes in psychological development. This course is designed for students not majoring in Psychology. Not open to majors in Psychology.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 362 - Psychology of Religion

(3 Semester Hours)

Examines the religious experience from a psychological perspective, including methods of developing spiritual awareness, classic writings in the field, and review of empirical research.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 398 - Special Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 399 - Independent Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101.

PSYC 401 - Cognition

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered 512]

Contemporary theories and research regarding cognitive processes: perception, pattern recognition, attention, memory, representation of knowledge, mental imagery, psycholinguistics, concept formation, problem-solving, and reasoning. Explores the application of these theories to study skills, education, neuropsychology, cognitive development, intelligence, and computer models of cognition.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 402 - Learning

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered 511]

Systematic theories of learning and problem solving in animals and humans, with a discussion of the relation of such theories to theories of psychopathology, education, and psychotherapy.

Prerequisites: Psychology major or minor. Junior standing. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 410 - Social Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 521]

Contemporary theories and empirical research related to person perception, affiliation, interpersonal attraction, group structure and dynamics, social influence, attitude change, aggression, prosocial behavior, and prejudice.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 415 - Lifespan Development

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 522]

Research and theories of normal human development from conception through death, with emphasis on changes in physical, cognitive, and social-emotional processes with age.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 430 - Motivation and Emotion

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 411]

Animal and human research related to needs, desires, feelings, and purposes that arouse and direct behavior.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 432 - Health Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Explores the relationship between behavioral principles/personality and physical health/illness.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 433 - Community Psychology

(4 Semester Hours)

History and principles of human services delivery systems of community mental and physical health in settings affected by poverty, social discord, and dehumanizing factors in urban living. Lab Required.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 434 - Psychology of Death and Dying

(3 Semester Hours)

Theoretical and empirical research on the psychological nature of death and dying in the human lifespan process will be fully examined.

Lab Required.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251, 435 or concurrent enrollment.

PSYC 435 - Psychology of Death and Dying Lab

(1 Semester Hour)

Companion lab course to PSYC 434. Observation and data collection from various institutions and community settings related to concerns of illness, health maintenance, dying, death, and funerals.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251, 434 or concurrent enrollment.

PSYC 436 - Personality

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 531]

A survey of the major contemporary theories of personality and relevant research and applications related to each theory.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 438 - Abnormal Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 532]

Causes, diagnosis, and treatment of various mental disorders: schizophrenia, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, childhood disorders, sexual dysfunctions, and other conditions covered in DSM IV.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 442 - Psychological Assessment

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 542]

Basic concepts of measurement theory including reliability, validity, and scaling; developing and standardizing tests, behavioral observation, unobtrusive measures, intelligence tests, personality assessment, including projectives and vocational tests.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 443 - Advanced Statistics

(3 Semester Hours)

Advanced statistical methods using computer statistical packages. Topics include factor analysis, multiple regression, and multivariate analysis of variance.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 445 - Research Practicum

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 541]

Students design and conduct an experiment or other empirical research in a specific area of psychology. Highly recommended for undergraduates considering graduate school.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of B (3.0) or higher in each: PSYC 241, 242, 243, 244. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 251.

PSYC 452 - Evolutionary Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Examination of the biosocial development of adaptive behavioral strategies for various classes of behavior including altruism, intergenerational conflict, courtship, parenting, territoriality, sibling rivalry, aggression.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 455 - Neuropsychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Clinical neuropsychology: brain damage and organic syndromes, diagnosis, and biological therapies.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 456 - Psychopharmacology

(3 Semester Hours)

Study of psychopharmacological prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental disorders; secondary focus on psychopharmaco-dynamics and neurochemistry of drugs which derive their primary effect by acting on the central nervous system.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 457 - Psycholinguistics Research

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 547]

Students participate in on-going studies in the areas of speech, language, and reading under the mentorship of the professor. Students study a current research topic in detail, formulate a research hypothesis, design an experiment, and collect and statistically analyze the data. The final product for the course is dissemination of the research report at a major conference and/or submission of the APA-style manuscript to a major journal.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of B (3.0) or higher in each: PSYC 241, 242, 243, 244. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 251. Consent of instructor.

PSYC 458 - Psychobiology Research

(3 Semester Hours)

New Course Number [Course previously numbered PSYC 544]

Students participate in on-going laboratory research on the psychobiology of learning and memory. Emphasis is on theoretical and methodological issues, research design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of B (3.0) or higher in each: PSYC 241, 242, 243, 244. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 251. Consent of instructor.

PSYC 462 - Industrial/Organizational Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Human problems in industry and business: motivation, morale, efficiency, human relations, occupational fatigue and rest, accident proneness, human engineering, and leadership.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 465 - Couple and Family Systems

(3 Semester Hours)

Imparts an understanding of individuals in systems and introduces the practice of therapeutic intervention at the couple and family level. Some of the major approaches are critically reviewed, demonstrated, and practiced. Students explore themselves, their own backgrounds and biases, their ability to work therapeutically at the systemic level, and sensitivities relating to cultural and other differences in people from various backgrounds. Covers ethics and professional issues in working with people in systems. Requires participation in self-development exercises such as role-playing, as well as self, peer, and instructor critiques of one's performance.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 490 - Teaching Internship

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Guided teaching of undergraduate laboratories. May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 498 - Special Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 499 - Independent Studies

(3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 510 - Capstone Course: The History and Future of Psychology

(3 Semester Hours)

Survey of major trends in philosophy and science culminating in the establishment of scientific psychology, with attention to theories and systems that have influenced psychology to the present time. Review and critique of psychology and the biopsychosocial model. Future of psychology and its biopsychosocial model. Future of psychology and its methods and models. Course fulfills capstone requirement.

Prerequisites: Senior psychology majors only. All required courses for the major completed or currently in progress.

PSYC 511 - See new course number 402.

PSYC 512 - See new course number 401.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 515 - Capstone Seminar

(3 Semester Hours)

Seminar focuses on a faculty-selected topic to be investigated using the biopsychosocial perspective. The topic of this seminar may be related to the focus of the annual Bellarmine

Forum, other major university forum, or a selected issue of current social importance. Students will review and integrate their learning in psychology. Course fulfills capstone requirement. Prerequisites: Senior psychology majors only. All required courses for the major completed or currently in progress.

PSYC 521 - See new course number 410.

PSYC 522 - See new course number 415.

PSYC 531 - See new course number 436.

PSYC 532 - See new course number 438.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 540 - Honors Seminar

(3 Semester Hours)

For departmental Honors-Eligible students, this seminar examines a faculty-selected topic from one or more of the biopsychosocial perspectives. Students will complete an extensive literature review on the topic. Prerequisites: Senior psychology majors only. Consent of department Chair.

PSYC 541 - See new course number 445.

PSYC 542 - See new course number 442.

PSYC 544 - See new course number 458.

NEW COURSE

PSYC 545 - Honors Research Thesis

(3 Semester Hours)

Departmental Honors-Eligible students design and conduct empirical research in a specific area of psychology. The completed research report, written in APA style, is the student's Honors Thesis.

Prerequisites: Senior psychology majors only. Consent of department Chair.

PSYC 547 - See new course number 457.

PSYC 598 - Special Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.

PSYC 599 - Independent Studies

(1-3 Semester Hours)

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Psychology major or minor. Grade of C (2.0) or higher in each: PSYC 100 or 101, 242, 244, 251.