

Psychology

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Department of Psychology
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Web site: www.mnsu.edu/psych/psych.html

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Psychology is the scientific study of the effects of individual, social, physiological, developmental and environmental factors on thoughts, feelings and behavior. Psychology courses seek to teach students about the methods of psychological inquiry and the findings of psychological research.

Students study psychology because they wish to prepare for a professional career as a psychologist, because they are planning a career in which the understanding of human behavior is important, or simply because they wish to develop a greater understanding of themselves and others. The practice of psychology at the professional level requires a graduate degree beyond the bachelor's degree.

Psychology Honors Degree

The purpose of the psychology departmental honors degree program is to provide top-level psychology students with an opportunity to obtain specialized research training that will make them better research scholars and more competitive applicants for graduate school in psychology and psychology-related programs. Regardless of participation in the university-level honors program. These top psychology students would obtain research experience modeled after graduate-level training, which is both similar to and recognized by other university.

Admission to Major is granted by the department. Department admissions requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (C).
- completion of PSYC 201 (Statistics) with a grade of "C" or better.

Contact the department for application procedures.

PSYCHOLOGY BA, BS

Required General Education:

PSYC 101 Psychology (4)

Required for Major:

PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)

PSYC 409 History and Systems (3)

Required Restricted Electives (23-24 credits):

Choose one of the following:

PSYC 207 Introduction to Behavior Analysis (4)

PSYC 211 Research Methods and Design (4)

Choose two of the following:

PSYC 404 Memory and Cognition (4)

PSYC 407 Advanced Behavior Analysis (4)

PSYC 413 Sensation and Perception (4)

PSYC 421 Biopsychology (4)

Choose three of the following:

PSYC 340 Social Psychology (4)

PSYC 419 Psychometric Theory (4)

PSYC 433 Child Psychology (4)

PSYC 436 Adolescent Psychology (4)

PSYC 455 Abnormal Psychology (4)

PSYC 456 Personality Theories (3)

Required Electives (5-7 credits):

PSYC xxx PSYC xxx

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:

Language (8)

Required Minor: Yes. Any.

PSYCHOLOGY MINOR

Required for Minor (General Education):

PSYC 101 Psychology (4)

Choose 17 credits of electives, including at least 8 credits at the 400 level.

PSYC Elective

PSYC Elective

PSYC Elective

PSYC 400 Level Elective

PSYC 400 Level Elective

PSYC 400 Level Elective

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. Any Psychology course in which a grade of less than C (or P) is earned will not be counted toward a major or a minor in psychology.

P/N Grading Policy. No more than 8 credits of the major or 4 credits of the minor may be taken for P/N credit. PSYC 291 is only available on a P/N basis. PSYC 497 and PSYC 499 are also normally taken for P/N credit.

Teaching Psychology. Students who intend to gain initial licensure to teach psychology in Minnesota schools need to meet the requirements of the social studies BS (teaching) program as described in the social studies section of this bulletin.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PSYC 101 (4) Psychology

This course is designed to provide a thorough introduction to the broad spectrum of theories and applications that make up the field of psychology.

F, S

GE-5

PSYC 103W (3) Psychology Today

Introduces students to major issues in society that impact their lives, behaviors, and the way they think. Course requires student to critically address controversial and non-controversial issues through clear argumentations, intensive writings, research and presentations.

GE-1C, 2

PSYC 201 (4) Statistics for Psychology

This course emphasizes understanding the conceptual basis of common statistical procedures and applying those procedures to the problems of organizing information and making inferences from data. Topics include: summarizing data, the logic of inference, estimation, analysis of variance, and correlation.

Pre: MATH 112 F, S

PSYC 202 (1) Careers in Psychology

Exploration of various degrees and types of careers available in psychology, and what psychologists do.

F, S

PSYC 206 (4) The Human Mind

An overview of psychology from the cognitive perspective. What we know about the mental processes that underlie human activities and how we study them.

S

GE-5

PSYC 207 (4) Introduction to Behavior Analysis

This is a unit/mastery and laboratory course designed to introduce the student to the science of behavior analysis: the study of how behavior is influenced by its interactions with environmental events. The subject matter will be illustrated by human and animal experiments.

F, S

PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 211 (4) Research Methods and Design

An introduction to the major components of internally valid investigations. Includes use of computers in psychological research.

Pre: PSYC 201 F, S

PSYC 230 (3) Child Care Psychology

This course is designed to develop an understanding of major variables that impact the psychological development of children. Emphasis will be placed on what parents and other care givers can do to maximize the healthy psychological development of their children.

F, S

PSYC 240 (3) Personal Adjustment

Understanding oneself and increasing one's satisfaction in living.

F, S

PSYC 291 (1-4) Tutoring Psychology

Application of the principles of learning to the instruction of students.

Permission required. Pre: PSYC 101 F, S

PSYC 303 (3) Introduction to Clinical Psychology

This course is designed for psychology majors who plan careers in professional psychology (clinical, school, etc.). The purpose of the course is to assist students in developing the skills necessary to compete for graduate school placement. It is advised that students complete this course during their sophomore or junior year.

Pre: PSYC Major and 3.0 GPA F, S

PSYC 340 (4) Social Psychology

An exploration of theories and research related to the ways that the social environment affects people's behavior.

Pre: PSYC 101 F, S

PSYC 404 (4) Memory and Cognition

A survey of the research and theories describing how humans perceive, elaborate, store, recover and use information. Emphasis is placed on understanding and evaluating the experimental strategies used to gather data about human mental processes.

Pre: PSYC 201 and 207 or 211 S

PSYC 405 (4) Motivation

Major concepts of human motivation and emotion, presentation of learned cognitive and biological influences on sustained behavior.

Pre: PSYC 201, 207 or 211, or consent Variable

PSYC 407 (4) Advanced Behavior Analysis

The science and technology of Behavior Analysis. The application of the principles of operant and respondent conditioning to the understanding and modification of human behavior. The primary mode of instruction is unit/mastery based on the text. There will also be a lab component involving human and animal experiments.

Pre: PSYC 207 F, S

PSYC 409 (3) History and Systems

Examination of the historical origins of the principal contemporary psychological theories.

Pre: Two of PSYC 404, 407, 413, or 421 Senior Status Recommended F, S

PSYC 413 (4) Sensation & Perception

How the senses respond to environmental stimuli and how the information they provide is organized into meaningful patterns that make up our experience of the physical world. The effects of maturation and learning in altering those patterns are also considered.

Pre: PSYC 101, 201, 207 or 211 F

PSYC 419 (4) Psychometric Theory

An overview of development, use, and validation of psychological tests. Topics include reliability and validity, test construction, item analysis, ethics, test administration and scoring, and computerized testing.

Pre: PSYC 201 F

PSYC 420 (4) Drugs and Behavior

Drug and alcohol use and abuse including history, biology, psychology, sociology, and clinical treatment and prevention of abuse.

Pre: PSYC 421 S

PSYC 421 (4) Biopsychology

Biological basis of psychological processes and behavior. Basic topics such as neuroanatomy and neuron function are presented as well as more general ones such as sensation and movement, sleep, memory and learning, schizophrenia and depression.

Pre: PSYC 201, and either 207 or 211 F, S

PSYC 422 (4) Neuropsychology

Detailed analysis of the relationship between human behavior and brain function. Basic topics will include cerebral asymmetry, memory, language, and attention as well as behavioral deficits such as learning disabilities, psychiatric disorders, and disconnection syndromes associated with neurological abnormalities.

Pre: PSYC 421 Variable

PSYC 429 (3) Drug Dependence

Examination of psychological theories relevant to the prevention and treatment of drug abuse.

Pre: PSYC 101 F

PSYC 433 (4) Child Psychology

Physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and personality development from conception to preadolescence. Focus on interplay between maturation and experience.

Pre: PSYC 101 F, S

PSYC 436 (4) Adolescent Psychology

This class covers the development of the individual from the age of 11 to 19 years of age. Discussion will include aspects of both normal and abnormal development.

F, S

PSYC 441 (3) Attitudes

Examining cultural, social, and individual influences on attitude development and change through lectures and discussions of theories and findings, and through experiential activities.

Pre: PSYC 101 Variable

PSYC 442 (3) Group Psychology

Exploring factors affecting leadership and effective group processes through lectures and discussion of theories and findings and through experiential activities.

Pre: PSYC 101 Variable

PSYC 443 (3) Advanced Social Psychology

An in-depth examination of social psychological research in laboratory and field settings.

Pre: PSYC 201, 211, and 340 ALT

PSYC 451 (3) Methods of Enhancing Performance

The role of psychological factors in performance and psychological methods of performance enhancement. Factors examined will include attention, motivation, decision making, mental rehearsal, arousal, and self management.

Pre: 8 PSYC credits F

PSYC 453 (3) Human Factors

The person-machine system; the strengths, operating limits, and tendencies of its human component.

Pre: PSYC 201 and 211 or 217 F

PSYC 455 (4) Abnormal Psychology

This course is designed to increase the student's awareness and understanding of abnormal psychology. Students will become familiar with clinical descriptions, course of onset, and treatment regimens specific to various disorders.

Pre: 8 PSYC credits F, S

CD-Related

PSYC 456 (3) Personality Theories

Major theories of normal personality formation, organization, and structure.

Pre: 8 PSYC credits F, S

PSYC 458 (3) Cultural Psychology

Cultural psychology is an interdisciplinary field that unites psychologists, anthropologists, linguists and philosophers to study how cultural meanings, practices and institutions influence and reflect individual human psychologies. Cultural influences on cognition, perception, emotion, motivation, moral reasoning, and well-being will be discussed with a view towards understanding divergent mentalities by drawing primarily from studies comparing Eastern and Western cultures, as well as some ethnic group companions within the United States. Students should come out of this course with an appreciation for the capacity for humans to create psychological diversity.

CD-Related

PSYC 460 (3) Psychology of Women

Psychological study of women in historical and functional perspective. Role of hereditary, physiological, and socialization variables on women's thinking, feelings, and behavior.

Pre: PSYC 101 S

CD-Core

PSYC 461 (3) Marketing Psychology

Analysis of product marketing and consumer purchasing strategies and their determinants.

Pre: 8 PSYC credits F

PSYC 462 (3) Management Psychology

Managerial behavior, problems, and effects in planning, problem-solving, decision-making, supervision, leadership, conflict, communication, appraisal, motivation, training, and information systems in organizational environments.

Pre: 8 PSYC credits Variable

PSYC 463 (4) Survey of Industrial/Organizational Psychology

An examination of the psychological aspects of human behavior in the work place. Topics include history of Industrial/Organizational psychology, job analysis, performance measurement, predictors of performance, making personnel decisions, training, satisfaction, social perception, motivation, communication, group process, leadership, and organizational culture.

Pre: PSYC 201, 207 or 211 F

PSYC 466 (3) Psychology of Aging

Aging process and development during the adult years; psychology and psychological concerns of the aging individual; dealing with death.

Pre: PSYC 101 S

PSYC 476 (3) Behavior Therapy

Principles and procedures of behavior therapy in clinical areas. Emphasis is placed on procedures for developing more appropriate behaviors through positive and negative reinforcement, modeling, and cognitive procedures. Decreasing problematic behaviors through decelerating consequences and exposure techniques is also presented.

Pre: PSYC 207 or 211 Variable

PSYC 478 (4) Health Psychology

The interface of behavioral and medical science is explored. Research on

environmental and learning factors in the etiology and treatment of physical disease and rehabilitation is examined. Specific topics include pain management, medical compliance, behavior disorders in nursing homes and on chronic illnesses.

Pre: Three courses in PSYC Variable

PSYC 489 (1-5) Advanced Topics

Application of psychology to topics of current interest. May be retaken for credit.

Variable

PSYC 490 (1-3) Workshop

Topics to be announced. May be retaken for credit.

F, S

PSYC 491 (1) In-Service: Issues in Behavior Therapy

Current issues in Behavior Therapy are addressed. Students participate in off-campus didactic activities such as attendance at grand rounds at local hospitals, attendance at national, regional or local professional conferences, and augment learning with library research. Topics vary and students may repeat for credit.

Pre: Consent. Academic and experience in human services strongly recommended. F, S

PSYC 495 (2) Honors Seminar in Psychology

The honors seminar is required for all psychology honors students and will provide a forum for discussing common concerns such as the process of writing an IRB proposal, writing in APA style, time management issues, and professional development. F, S

PSYC 497 (1-8) Field Experience

A learning experience integrated with the student's course of study, to be developed with an advisor and the field experience coordinator. May be retaken for credit up to an 8 credit total for all enrollments. Available for P/N grading only.

Pre: 9 credits of PSYC F, S

PSYC 499 (1-4) Individual Study

Individualized learning under faculty supervision.

F, S