

Descriptions of psychology courses

(from 2004-06 College catalog)

PSY 101 General Psychology

3 credits DIII

Designed for non-Psychology majors. The student will be exposed to contemporary issues in psychology and their application to human development as well as to the traditional areas such as sensation, perception, learning, personality theory, and abnormal behavior. Three lecture hours per week. Students completing PSY 103 cannot take PSY 101 for credits.

PSY 203R Research Methods and Statistics I

3 credits

This is the first of a two-course sequence (with PSY 204R) integrating statistics and research methods in psychology. The course covers basic research design principles and descriptive statistics, and introduces the normal curve and the sampling distributions underlying inferential statistics. Three lecture hours per week. Limited to Psychology majors and minors. Required of Psychology majors. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 203. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 204R Research Methods and Statistics II

4 credits

This is the second of a two-course sequence (with PSY 203R) integrating statistics and research methods in psychology. The course covers more complex research designs and inferential statistical methods, including one- and two-way analysis of variance and selected non-parametric techniques. Students will design and conduct an independent research project. Three lecture hours and two laboratory hours per week. Limited to Psychology majors and minors. Required of Psychology majors. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 204. Prerequisite: PSY 203R.

PSY 210 Introduction to Learning

3 credits DIII

This course presents an overview of research in animal and human learning including topics in reflexive behavior, classical and operant conditioning. Emphasis will be placed on behaviorism as a philosophy of science, reasoning about cause and effect, evolutionary mechanisms, animal research ethics, and the application of learning in institutional and clinical environments. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 301. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 211 Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

3 credits DIII

Introduction to the study of perception, memory, thought, language, attention, and reasoning. Connections with other cognitive sciences, including linguistics, neuroscience, computer science, and philosophy of mind, will be explored. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 212 Introduction to Biological Psychology

3 credits DIII

This course introduces basic neuroanatomy and neurophysiology and the methods of biological psychology, and explores the biological bases of psychological development, behavior, and behavior disorders. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 215 Introduction to Abnormal Psychology

3 credits DIII

This course describes the various forms of abnormal behavior. It covers the etiology, development and treatment of the major psychological disorders. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 302. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 216 Introduction to Social Psychology

3 credits DIII

This course is an introduction to theory and research in social psychology, the scientific study of how people's thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and behavior are affected by others. Topics include perception of the self and others, attitudes and persuasion, conformity, compliance and obedience, altruism, aggression, social influence and group decision-making. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 250. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 217 Introduction to Personality Psychology

3 credits DIII

Personality psychology is the scientific study of the whole person and of individual differences. The course will survey major theories of personality. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have

received credits for PSY 303. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 218 Childhood and Adolescence 3 credits DIII

This course stresses the interaction of biological, psychological, and social factors which affect the human organism from birth through adolescence. Various theoretical points of view, e.g. Freud, Piaget, Erikson, are presented. Three lecture hours per week. *Students taking PSY 218 cannot take for credits either PSY 251 or PSY 252, and conversely, students taking PSY 251 or PSY 252 cannot take PSY 218 for credits. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 206. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 251 Child Growth * 3 credits DIII

This course is designed to provide students with an integrated exposure to child development. A broad theoretical background is combined with principles of application. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 252 Adolescent Psychology * 3 credits DIII

This course provides the student with a broad theoretical and practical basis for the understanding of this dynamic period of development. Theoretical models are reviewed within the context of important issues of the adolescent experience. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 255 Psychology of the African-American I 3 credits DIII

This course introduces the student to social psychological thinking and research from the African-American perspective. It is designed to give the student insight into the social and psychological dynamics of African-Americans that exist among themselves and with their broad social environment. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101 or PSY 103.

PSY 256 Psychology of the African-American II 3 credits DIII

A unique, non-lecture learning experience designed to improve and increase the student's knowledge and understanding of the African-American people by participation, observation and self-analysis in a group setting. Three hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 255 or permission of the Department Chairperson.

PSY 320H Honors: Foundations of Psychology 3 credits DIII

Emphasis will be placed on those areas of general psychology, both developmental and experimental, which will allow the honors student to gain insights into how and why human beings behave as they do. In a seminar setting, with fieldwork and library related activities, students will explore the major perspectives in psychology and the work of noted psychologists. Students completing PSY 101 or PSY 103 cannot take this course for credits. Limited to Honors Program students, upon approval of the instructor, Department Chairperson, and Honors Coordinator. First consideration given to Freshmen Honors Program Psychology majors.

PSY 321 Group Dynamics 3 credits

This course will survey group theory, practice and research. Special attention will be given to group dynamics and processes, human relations training, organizational development, problem solving and leadership. The theoretical foundations of group psychotherapy and various methods of group counseling will be explored as they relate to individuals with physical and/or psychological disorders. Prerequisite: PSY 215.

PSY 322 Adulthood & Old Age 3 credits DIII

This course follows the development of the human being beyond adolescence into adulthood and old age, examining the impact of biological, psychological, and social factors upon the aging process. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 207. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 323 Attention and Memory 3 credits DIII

This course examines attention and memory from three perspectives: What do we know about attention and memory? What are some possible explanations of these phenomena? What are the practical and theoretical difficulties in studying attention and memory? Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 310. Prerequisite: PSY 211.

PSY 324 Sensation and Perception 3 credits DIII

Sensation and perception are the processes through which humans and other animals extract information from the world. With an emphasis on vision and hearing, this course examines the physiology of sensation

and the transformation of sensory impulses into meaningful perceptions. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 311. Prerequisite: PSY 211.

PSY 325 Theories of Motivation 3 credits

An analysis of the nature, origins, and development of motives. Current research trends are examined for their theoretical implications and historical antecedents. Emphasis is on concepts such as drive, arousal, emotion, and esthetics. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 326 Industrial and Organizational Psychology 3 credits DIII

This course studies selection, training, motivation, morale, supervision, leadership and organizational development in business and industry. Emphasis is given to the psychological techniques used to measure and analyze behavior in industry. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 314. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 327 Cognitive Neuropsychology 3 credits DIII

This course explores how the brain carries out the functions of the mind. Through examinations of cognitive function following brain damage and patterns of brain activation during cognitive tasks, this course will explore the functional organization of our abilities to remember, use language, perceive the world, make plans, and experience emotion. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 315 or PSY 316. Prerequisite: PSY 211 or PSY 212 and one year of college biology.

PSY 328 Learning and Behavior Change 3 credits DIII

This course introduces students to the basic principles of behavior analysis derived from both classical and operant conditioning. Students will learn to use these principles to analyze and interpret examples of both overt and covert human behavior. In doing so, students will examine the relation between verbal and non-verbal behavior as it relates to the concepts of rule-governed behavior, self-control, and self-management. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 351. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 329 Psychology of Language 3 credits DIII

This course provides an overview of the major topics, methods, and perspectives within the psychology of language. Included will be linguistic analysis, speech recognition, animal communication and language, language and thought, language acquisition, and language disorders. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 211.

PSY 330 Psychology and the Law 3 credits DIII

This course explores the psychology of human behavior as applied to the law. It will compare psychological perspectives and emphasize the role of psychologists as expert witnesses in resolving legal conflicts. Topics include psychological research related to jury selection and deliberation, eyewitness testimony and identification; the recovered memory debate; assessment of competence, the insane, and involuntary commitment; and psychological aspects of criminal profiling. Prerequisite: PSY 101 and Junior/Senior class standing.

PSY 331 Clinical Psychology 3 credits

This course provides an overview of the scientific and professional issues in the field of clinical psychology. It will focus on the professional role of the clinical psychologist in mental health settings. Topics include psychological assessment, forms of clinical intervention, research on the psychotherapy process and outcome, and current professional issues. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 215.

PSY 332 Evolutionary Psychology 3 credits DIII

This course examines human and animal behavior and mental phenomena as the products of evolution by natural and sexual selection. Data on human and animal psychology, such as those found in studies of consciousness and cognition, will be interpreted in light of the principles of evolution, and current work designed to test evolutionary predictions will be considered. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 333 Psychology of Women 3 credits DIII

An empirically oriented course which examines the psychological literature on sex-roles and developmental differences between women and men, the psychological implications of events unique to women, and the

treatment of women in classic and current theories and research. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 335 Physiological Psychology 3 credits DIII
The interaction between neural events and the behavior of organisms is studied. Stress is on the relationship between structure and function. Three lecture hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 305. Prerequisites: PSY 212 and BIO 102.

PSY 336 Cognitive Development 3 credits DIII
This course examines how perception, thinking and reasoning, memory, and other mental processes change with development. Several theoretical perspectives will be explored, including Piagetian and Neo-Piagetian, information processing, psychometric, and multiple intelligences. In addition to learning the theoretical perspectives, students will learn how cognition is assessed, how social and cultural context affect that assessment, and some practical applications. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: A course in developmental psychology, (PSY 218, 251, 252, 322, 337, 432 or 544).

PSY 337 Social Development 3 credits DIII
This course examines how personality, self-concept, attitudes, and behavior of the individual develop in interaction with biological, social, and cultural forces. Topics include attachment theory, development of the self, aggression, gender and ethnic identity, and moral development. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: A course in developmental psychology, (PSY 218, 251, 252, 322, 336, 432, or 544).

PSY 340 Environmental Psychology 3 credits DIII
The relationship between human behavior and the physical environment, both natural and built. The behavioral effects of such things as spatial design, crowding, noise, privacy, personal space, and climate are examined. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 101.

PSY 430 Research in Social Psychology 4 credits
This course examines the experimental foundations of social psychology. Various experimental designs and methods used in this area are analyzed. Students are required to conduct their own empirical research in social psychology. Three lecture hours and two laboratory hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 312. Prerequisites: PSY 204R and PSY 216.

PSY 431 Research in Animal Learning 4 credits
This course is designed to give students a working knowledge of the basic principles of behavior discovered in the animal laboratory. To this end students will be responsible for shaping the behavior of a rat so as to illustrate these principles and concepts. Three lecture and three laboratory hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 313. Prerequisite: PSY 203R.

PSY 432 Research in Developmental Psychology 3 credits
This course presents the many methods used to study development across the lifespan, including observation, interview, questionnaire, and experiment. Through reading and discussing published research and working on individual research projects, students learn the principles of research design necessary for demonstrating developmental change. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 204R and a course in developmental psychology (PSY 218, 251, 252, 322, 336, 337, or 544).

PSY 444 History of Psychology 3 credits
This course explores the history of psychology in the context of the history of ideas. Particular attention is given to the basic questions behind psychology's continually changing theoretical orientations, and to appreciating important milestones in the history of psychology by placing them in their proper intellectual, scientific and cultural contexts. Three lecture/discussion hours per week. Not open to students who have received credits for PSY 404. Prerequisite: Senior standing or permission of the Department Chairperson.

PSY 520 Internship in Psychology 3 credits
The internship gives the student an opportunity to apply psychology in community, institutional, and business settings. Through this field experience the student explores career options, gains practical experience and skills, and makes contacts with potential employers. The specific type of internship setting will be determined by the student's interests and by the availability of placements. Open to Psychology majors with

at least a 3.0 GPA in Psychology who have completed 24 credits in Psychology. This course may be repeated for additional credits.

PSY 530 Directed Study in Psychology 3 credits

This course is an opportunity for the student to do scholarly research or theoretical work under the supervision of a faculty member. Requires a written proposal approved by a faculty member and the Department Chairperson. This course cannot serve as a substitute for any required course in the Psychology curriculum. Open only to Juniors and Seniors with at least a 3.0 GPA in PSY courses.

PSY 531 Independent Research in Psychology 1-4 credits

This course is an opportunity for the student to conduct a substantial empirical research project on a significant psychological question, under supervision of a faculty member. Requires a written proposal approved by a faculty member and the Department Chairperson. This course cannot serve as a substitute for any required course in the Psychology curriculum. Limited to Juniors and Seniors with at least a 3.0 GPA in PSY courses.

PSY 540 Seminar: Topics in Psychology 3 credits

This course is an opportunity for intensive study in a specific area of psychology in a small group setting. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Department Chair's permission required.

PSY 541 Seminar in Biological Psychology 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of biological psychology. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 327 or PSY 335.

PSY 542 Seminar in Clinical Psychology 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of clinical psychology. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 331.

PSY 543 Seminar in Cognitive Psychology 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of cognitive psychology. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: One 300-level course in cognitive psychology (PSY 323, 324, 327 or 329).

PSY 544 Seminar in Developmental Psychology 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of developmental psychology. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: Two courses in developmental psychology (PSY 218, 251, 252, 322, 336, 337 or 432).

PSY 545 Seminar in Learning Theory 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of learning theory. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 210 or PSY 328.

PSY 546 Seminar in Personality Psychology 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of personality psychology. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 217.

PSY 547 Seminar in Social Psychology 3 credits

This course provides the student with an opportunity for advanced study in a selected area of social psychology. The topic will be announced in advance. Three lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PSY 216.

PSY 600H Honors in Psychology 3-6 credits

This course is only for Psychology majors who have attained a 3.5 cumulative average in Psychology. It involves a directed study under the supervision of one or more members of the Psychology faculty. Prerequisite: Invitation and/or acceptance by the Department Chairperson.

PSY 601H Honors Independent Research in Psychology 3-6 credits

This course is an opportunity for the student to conduct a substantial empirical research project on a significant psychological question, under supervision of a faculty member. Requires a written proposal approved by a faculty member and the Department Chairperson. Limited to Psychology majors with at least a

3.5 GPA in PSY courses. Prerequisite: Invitation and/or acceptance by the Department Chairperson.