

PSY: Courses in Psychology

Department of Psychology

PSY 105 General Psychology 3 Cr

An introduction to the principles of behavior through an analysis of the explanatory concepts, research methodologies, and contemporary issues in psychology. This is a survey course and is team-taught, thus exposing students to all areas of expertise within the Department. Each semester.

PSY 203 Developmental Psychology 3 Cr

An examination of the human life cycle with a focus on the behavioral processes and major influences unique to each stage of development. Prerequisite: PSY 105. Each semester.

PSY/SO 216 Social Psychology 3 Cr

An introduction to and an analysis of social interaction, including the social aspects of personality, social attitudes, group behavior, and the influences of social institutions on individual behavior. Prerequisite: PSY 105 or SO 101. Fall semester. May fulfill national diversity requirement.

PSY 222 History and Systems in Psychology 3 Cr

A study of the major influences of philosophy and physiology on the development of modern psychology. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an education in the roots of psychology and an appreciation for the contributions of the great schools of thought. Prerequisite: PSY 105. Spring semester.

PSY 227 Child Psychology 3 Cr

A developmental approach to the cognitive, physical, and psychosocial aspects of school-aged children. Each semester.

PSY 228 Adolescent Psychology 3 Cr

A developmental approach to the cognitive, physical, and psychosocial aspects of adolescence. Each semester.

PSY/ED 229 Educational Psychology 3 Cr

A study of the psychological theories and principles that affect teaching and learning in educational environments. The focus of this course is on the theories and methods associated with the process of learning as well as the application of this knowledge in a variety of classroom environments. Twenty (20) hours of exploratory in a public school classroom will be required unless twenty (20) hours of school exploratory was accomplished in ED 102. Secondary students will observe at the fifth or sixth grade level. Prerequisite: PSY 105 or PSY 227 or PSY 228. Each semester.

PSY 304 Theories and Practice in Counseling Psychology 3 Cr

This course is designed to introduce students to the theoretical models, research findings, and practical techniques of counseling and psychotherapy. Intended for students who plan to become counselors. Prerequisite: PSY 105 and junior status. Spring semester.

PSY 305 Junior Seminar 1 Cr

This course meets once per week to discuss issues of importance to those pursuing a career in psychology or related discipline. Topics will include career exploration, preparations for the GRE, APA writing style, graduate studies and schools, thesis projects, internships, and more. Psychology students are required to attend and participate. Fall semester.

PSY 306 Abnormal Psychology 3 Cr

An empirically oriented analysis of contemporary as well as historical approaches to defining, explaining, and changing maladaptive human behavior. This course focuses on those behavior patterns that impede people from leading happy, meaningful, and productive lives. Prerequisite: PSY 105. Spring semester.

PSY 307 Learning and Cognition 3 Cr

The course thoroughly covers principles and theories involved in the complex learning process. Practical information for improving both teaching and learning also are covered. The course exposes students to both behaviorists and cognitive theorists. All students conduct learning experiments during class and provide interpretation of results. Fall semester.

PSY 308 Health Psychology 3 Cr

This course will provide an overview of the emerging field of health psychology and its contributions to our health care systems. Biopsychological approaches to health also will be examined. Course content will emphasize human behaviors that contribute to illness and those that facilitate health and well-being. Excellent elective course for those majoring in nursing or studies in pre-medicine. Spring semester.

PSY 309 Research Methods I 4 Cr

This course provides skill training in descriptive research methodology. Students apply descriptive statistical analyses to interesting problems in the domains of cognitive, behavioral, personality, and neuropsychology. Statistical analyses include measures of central tendency, variability, correlation, linear regression and prediction systems. Particular emphasis is placed on developing skills in the interpretation of diagnostic data. used in applied psychology. In addition to developing research skills students are required to write a research paper according to APA style. Prerequisites: MA 207; junior status; psychology major or consent of professor. Fall semester. May fulfill writing intensive requirement.

PSY 310 Research Methods II 4 Cr

This course provides skill training in experimental methodology focusing on hypothesis testing and the use of inferential statistics. Experimental designs include two-group designs for exploratory research and complex designs for analytical research using analysis of variance. Students conduct and present their own research project according to APA style. Prerequisites: PSY 309; MA 207; Junior status; Psychology major or consent of professor. Spring semester. May fulfill writing intensive requirement.

PSY 311 Theories of Personality 3 Cr

This course explores the major theories of personality in terms of philosophy, science, and application. Students will become acquainted with a wide variety of theoretical approaches from the well known to the less well known. Prerequisite: PSY 105. Fall semester.

PSY 320 Clinical Issues with Children and Adolescents 3 Cr

This course is designed to expose students to the fundamental issues encountered in the treatment of behavior problems and mental illness in children and adolescents. The course will emphasize methods for facilitating healthy change and will include relevant theory and research in the field. Lecture will cover topics ranging from child protective services interface to the use of psychotropic medications. Spring semester. Prerequisites: PSY 203, PSY 227, PSY 228.

PSY 414 Physiological Psychology 4 Cr

This course is the first half of a year-long course in biopsychology. The course is concerned with the history of the field; structure and function of neurons, neural communication, neuroanatomy; and research methods. A laboratory section includes films, computer simulations, and sheep brain dissection. Prerequisite: BI 102 and senior status; psychology major or consent of instructor. Fall semester.

PSY 416 Brain and Behavior 4 Cr

Building on information learned in PSY 414, students study the physiological basis of reproductive, emotional, stress, communicative, and ingestive behavior. Students also examine the biological aspects of mental disorders, such as anxiety, schizophrenia, autism, and addictism. This course is excellent preparation for graduate studies in psychology, medicine, or allied health fields. The laboratory section includes short projects in stress, films, field trips, and computer-guided learning tasks. Prerequisite: PSY 414. Spring semester.

PSY 417-418 Psychology Practicum 1-3 Cr

A program that provides upper-division psychology students with professionally supervised practical experience in the application of psychological principles and techniques in the areas of counseling, teaching, research, and community health. Prerequisites: Junior or senior status and consent of the Psychology Department. Both semesters.

PSY 486 Readings, Research or Teaching 1-3 Cr

This is an individualized instruction course through which the student engages in library and actual research on a topic designed in conjunction with a psychology faculty member. The student must engage in weekly conferences with the supervising faculty member and submit a written document describing readings and research conducted. It may also include working as a tutor for the general psychology course.