Psychology

Department Information

Department of Psychology web site
http://www.southalabama.edu/psychology

Undergraduate Studies

The objective of psychology, as a science, is to understand, explain, and predict the behavior of organisms. The Department of Psychology has developed and organized its course offerings to meet three major goals:

1. To provide a strong foundation for those students who plan to enter a graduate school of psychology after completing their undergraduate degree requirements.
2. To assist those students who are planning careers in psychology or in related fields by providing a flexible curriculum that can be designed to meet the career goals of individual students.
3. To meet the needs of those students who are taking psychology courses as part of their liberal arts education.

All first-time freshmen must successfully complete CAS 100: First Year Experience as a degree requirement. Students must enroll during their first term at USA, except for summer-entry students who must enroll in the fall semester following entry.

Graduate Study In Psychology

The Department of Psychology accepts applicants to the Master of Science program (non-Clinical/Counseling) and to the Doctor of Philosophy program in Clinical/Counseling Psychology (CCP). Students admitted to the CCP program with a Bachelor’s degree will complete the Master of Science program (Clinical and Counseling Psychology).

The Master of Science degree program in Psychology (non-Clinical/Counseling) is designed to provide individuals with knowledge of current theories, principles, and methods of psychology in preparation for future work toward a doctoral degree, employment in a research setting or employment in a college teaching position. The Department of Psychology currently accepts applicants to the Master of Science degree program, with an interest in one or more areas of concentration in the Behavioral and Brain Sciences Psychology Program. The available areas of concentration include: Behavioral Statistics/Computational Modeling, Personality and Measurement, Cognitive and Perceptual Processing, Psychophysiology, Social/Developmental Psychology, and College Teaching Preparation.

Students enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical and Counseling Psychology have the opportunity to earn a Master's of Science in Psychology as they progress towards completion of the doctoral degree. Students interested in a graduate degree in Clinical and Counseling Psychology are encouraged to see the full program description of the doctoral program in Clinical and Counseling Psychology under the heading "The Graduate School" for more information www.southalabama.edu/ccp/.

Requirements For Admission

Students are admitted Fall Semester only. Applications to the Doctoral CCP Graduate Program should be completed by December 15. Applications to the Masters program in Behavioral and Brain Sciences should be completed by February 15. Late applications will be considered only if there are still openings available. Please note that the Psychology Graduate Program is a competitive program with a limited capacity and admits students to begin in the Fall Semester only.

In addition to the Graduate School application form and required supporting documentation, the Department of Psychology requires submission of a Psychology Department application form, statement of purpose, and three letters of recommendation. The following criteria supplement the Graduate School criteria for admission (see Categories of Admission).

Regular Admission

In addition to meeting graduate school requirements for regular admission (see Categories of Admission), applicants to the Master of Science program must meet the following criteria:

1. Completion of at least 21 semester hours of psychology courses on the undergraduate level including at least one statistics course and one course in experimental methods/research design. In addition, the following courses are highly recommended: abnormal psychology, biological psychology, learning, personality, social psychology, developmental psychology, and history/systems of psychology.
2. Summed score of 300 or better (1000 or better based on previous scores) on the verbal and quantitative sub tests of the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination.
3. Three letters of recommendation and a statement of purpose.

Please note that these are the minimum requirements for admission. Admission is competitive and students who are admitted to the program may far surpass these minimums.

Provisional Standing
Applicants who do not meet all requirements for regular admission but who show evidence of promise as a graduate student may, in exceptional cases, be considered for provisional admission if space is available in the program. The graduate admissions committee will consider provisional admission on an individual basis. Students admitted provisionally may be required to make up deficiencies in their undergraduate course work without graduate credit in addition to completing the normal degree requirements listed below.

Provisional students may apply for regular standing after satisfactory completion of the first nine semester hours of recommended graduate course work in psychology. Students must also remove any undergraduate deficiencies before being approved for change of status. Students in provisional standing who receive a grade lower than "B" in any graduate or undergraduate psychology course will be recommended to the Dean of the Graduate School for academic dismissal.

Non-degree Students
Applicants for non-degree status in psychology are considered only in exceptional cases and will normally be admitted only if they meet regular admission standards. That is, they must have a 3.0 GPA overall and in psychology, a score of 300 or better on the verbal plus quantitative sub tests of the Graduate Record Examination, and must have completed the required undergraduate course work. Following admission, non-degree students must have permission of the department chair and director of graduate studies of the college for each course they wish to enroll in. Enrollment will be approved on a space-available basis with preference being given to degree students. Non-degree students must satisfy the same prerequisites and corequisites as degree students.

Progress Toward Degree
All graduate students will be evaluated each semester to determine if they are making satisfactory progress toward completion of degree requirements. Students will be given written reports, including specific deficits, if they are not making satisfactory progress. Such students will have one semester to remedy the specific deficits listed or will be subject to dismissal from the program.

Graduate Assistantships
Each year the Psychology Department recommends qualified applicants to the Dean of Graduate School for graduate assistantships. Applicants must be students in Regular Standing. Application forms for graduate assistantships may be obtained from the Graduate School. The deadline for receipt of completed doctoral assistantship applications is December 15, and for the masters assistantships is February 15.

Areas Of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minor in Psychology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychology (BA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology (MS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Courses

Clinical/Counseling Psychology (CCP)
CCP 742  Advanced Psych Assessment  3 cr
This course will offer an in-depth understanding of the assessment of complex cases, which includes both mental illness and physical disorders, as well as the impact of complex social issues, such as culture, ethnicity, and economic issues. The course covers topics pertaining to adults and children. The emphasis will be on the integration of nomothetic and empirical perspectives with idiographic approaches in an evidence-based assessment model. Topics covered will be assessing special populations (e.g., severely mentally ill, trauma, forensic, parents), therapeutic assessment, person-centered report writing, providing feedback, theoretical and scientific issues in assessment, and current controversies.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 745  Teaching of Psychology  3 cr
This course will offer an in-depth understanding of the teaching of psychology at the post secondary level.

CCP 750  Applied Psychophys Biofeedback  3 cr
This course will survey theory, research, and applications of psychophysiology and biofeedback in the prevention and treatment of illness and the enhancement and maintenance of health.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 752  Clinical Neuropsychology  3 cr
This course will offer an in-depth understanding of the different theories of brain function in humans. Assessment methods for detecting abnormal functioning and the localization of functioning by behavioral methods will also be examined. The possible etiologies of abnormal functioning as well as their treatment will be reviewed.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B and CCP 742 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 756  Practicum Therapy  1 TO 3 cr
Supervised experience with child and/or adult populations; includes case conference and seminars. This course may include supervised placement in an applied setting.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 506 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 758  Psychology Resilience & Trauma  3 cr
This course will offer an in-depth understanding of resilience, as it manifests across the lifespan in response to various types of traumas (natural vs. manmade; community-wide versus family- or individually-specific). Prevention and reduction of psychological impact related to trauma and the development, enhancement, and maintenance of resilience in the face of adversity will be emphasized.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 759  Group and Systems Theory  3 cr
This course will survey group and systems theories and the interventions that have been derived from this perspective. The dynamics of group processes will be delineated.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 763  Prevention Treat Public Health  3 cr
This course will survey the basic theory and techniques underlying the study of public health problems. Research related to the prevention and treatment of several specific public health problems (e.g. suicide, HIV/AIDS, youth violence) will be covered in depth.

CCP 764  Consult Psych Program Develop  3 cr
This course provides an overview of approaches to psychological consulting and program development in individual, small group and large organization contexts. Specific aspects of psychological consulting in mental health, business, and educational settings will be reviewed.

CCP 766  Clinical Supervision  3 cr
This course provides an overview of the various theoretical approaches to supervision of professional psychological services, particularly psychotherapy services. In addition, relevant research findings in the area of supervision are reviewed. Students also have the opportunity to receive feedback on audio/video tapes of their supervision sessions with a junior graduate student clinician.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B and CCP 756 Minimum Grade of S

CCP 772  Child Family Psychopath Interv  3 cr
This course provides an overview of current theory and research findings relevant to psychological disorders typically occurring in childhood and adolescence. In addition, evidence-based interventions for various childhood disorders are reviewed. A focus will be upon an ecological and developmental view of childhood psychopathology that integrates family, community, and societal forces in a comprehensive view of such disorders.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 780  Applied Health Psychology  3 cr
This course will survey theory, research, and applications of health psychology in the prevention and treatment of illness and the enhancement and maintenance of health.
Pre-requisite: CCP 706 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 782  Advanced Practicum  1 TO 3 cr
Supervised experience with child and/or adult populations in a variety of settings; includes case conferences and advanced psychological assessment and interventions and supervision of lower level graduate students.
Pre-requisite: CCP 756 Minimum Grade of B

CCP 790  Special Topics-  0 TO 3 cr
Selected topics in psychology and may be repeated or credit when course varies.

CCP 795  MCPP  3 cr
CCP 795 Multicultural Counseling in Professional Psychology. Provides a foundation in multicultural awareness, knowledge, and skills from a clinical and counseling psychology perspective.

CCP 796  Directed Studies  1 TO 3 cr
Directed study and research.
CCP 797  Psychology Internship  1 TO 3 cr
The predoctoral internship is a supervised learning experience in a work setting similar to that in which students will eventually be employed. The internship provides students with an opportunity to apply the theories and concepts learned during their graduate program. Not more that 18 hours may be taken.

CCP 799  Dissertation Research  1 TO 6 cr
Completion and oral defense of a dissertation based upon original research. May be repeated for up to 12 hours credit. A minimum of nine hours is required to meet degree requirements.

Psychology (PSY)

PSY 120  Introduction to Psychology  3 cr
A survey of the basic theories, concepts, principles, and research findings in the field of Psychology. Core course.

PSY 121  Honors Gen Psychology - H  3 cr
This course will provide a survey of the basic theories, concepts, principles, and research findings in the field of Psychology. Along with the broad overview provided by the course, students will participate in a more in-depth examination of selected special topics (e.g. those topics generating controversy in the research community and in our society) as selected by the instructor. By contrast with the PSY 120 Introduction to Psychology course already being taught, the Honors General Psychology course will provide a more thorough coverage of selected topics. Prerequisite: Special permission.

PSY 220  Res Design and Analysis I  3 cr
Research methods in psychology with an emphasis on the experimental method.
Co-requisite: PSY 221
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of D or EH 105 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 221  Research Desgn/Analysis I-Apps  1 cr
Laboratory in research methods in psychology with an emphasis on the experimental method. Fee.
Co-requisite: PSY 220
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of D or EH 105 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 250  Life Span Development  3 cr
An overview of human development from conception to death. Special emphasis will be placed on cognitive and social development. Core course.

PSY 270  Psy of Black Experience  3 cr
Theories and principles of psychology pertaining to the experience of black Americans. Includes the development of the black psychological perspective, African-American historical developments and philosophy, identity development and the determinants of the black personality, and contemporary issues in the black community.

PSY 290  Special Topics -  1 TO 3 cr
Selected topics in psychology. May be repeated for credit when course content varies for a total of 12 credit hours. Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 310  Biological Psychology I  3 cr
An introductory survey of research and theory in neuroscience as it applies to the understanding of behavior. Focus will be on understanding basic mechanisms of neuron function and general coverage of topics such as sensory and motor systems, motivation and emotion, learning and memory, language and thinking, and mental disorders. Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 317  Applied Behavior Analysis I  3 cr
An introduction to the principles of behavior intended as a prerequisite to the specific strategies and procedures practiced by behavior analysts. This course will present the historical and scientific foundations of behavior analysis as applied in educational and other human service settings. Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of C or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of C or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of C) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of C or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of C)

PSY 320  Res Design-Analysis II-W  3 cr
Experience in applying methodological and statistical concepts introduced in PSY 220 and ST 210, as well as instruction in additional topics such as research and analysis. The course will emphasize the use of computers in conducting behavioral research (e.g. literature searches, collecting data, analyzing data, writing reports).
Co-requisite: PSY 321
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D) and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of C or EH 105 Minimum Grade of C)

PSY 321  Research Desgn/Analysis II-App  1 cr
Laboratory in research methods in psychology with an emphasis on applying methodological and statistical concepts introduced in PSY 220 and PSY 320. Fee.
Co-requisite: PSY 320
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D and PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D) and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of D and EH 105 Minimum Grade of D)
PSY 340 Abnormal Psychology  3 cr  
Nature and development of deviant behavior.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 350 Child and Adolescent Dev  3 cr  
The development and psychosocial aspects of childhood and adolescence.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 394 Directed Study  1 TO 3 cr  
Specific topics and research findings introduced through the reading of appropriate professional and scientific literature. Requires special permission. May be repeated for a total of 8 credit hours.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 395 Psychology Practicum  1 TO 6 cr  
Supervised experience in an area of psychology. May include supervised placement in an applied setting. May be repeated for a total of 12 credit hours.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of C or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of C or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of C)

PSY 412 History-Systems Psy - W  3 cr  
The historical foundations of modern psychology and the development of major theories in psychology.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of C or EH 105 Minimum Grade of C)

PSY 416 Cognition  3 cr  
An overview of psychological research and theory in cognitive psychology. The course will emphasize how people gather, process, represent, and use information to guide thought and action. This course is an approved elective for students seeking gerontology certification.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 418 Applied Behav Analysis II-Meth  3 cr  
Behavioral assessment techniques and operant and respondent methods for deceleration of inappropriate behavior will be covered. Operant methods for accelerating appropriate behaviors, teaching new behaviors, and maintaining behaviors will be covered. Data-based decision making strategies will be used in developing and altering individual programs.  
Pre-requisite: PSY 417 Minimum Grade of C

PSY 419 App Behav Analysis Ill-Adv App  3 cr  
Behavioral assessment techniques and experimental designs for the evaluation of behavior change programs will be covered. Data-based decision making strategies for formative program evaluation and modification are also included.  
Pre-requisite: PSY 417 Minimum Grade of C

PSY 420 Psychology of Learning  3 cr  
Theories, experimental findings, and methods of investigation in learning.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 425 Mental Health and Law  3 cr  
Selected topics in psychology and criminal justice. An overview of the relevant federal and state laws, regulations and court rulings which address the issues of justice for preserving the rights of individuals with mental illness.  
Pre-requisite: PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D

PSY 428 Perception  3 cr  
A critical analysis of the main theories and research trends in sensation and perception. This course will include computer simulations and demonstrations, and will also emphasize computer applications for data collection, data analysis, and for reporting results. This course is an approved elective for students seeking gerontology certification. Fee.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 310 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 380 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 435 Social Psychology  3 cr  
A survey and analysis of major theoretical and experimental topics of interest in social psychology, such as how we perceive others, attitude, interpersonal attraction, aggression, prejudice and altruism.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 310 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 380 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 440 Psychology of Personality  3 cr  
A survey and critical analysis of major historical and current theories about personality. The course will also examine research relevant to the different approaches and consider various techniques of personality assessment.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)

PSY 456 Adult Development and Aging-  3 cr  
The development and psychosocial aspects of adulthood and late life. This course is an approved elective for gerontology certification.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of C or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)
PSY 460  Industrial Psychology  3 cr  
Application of psychological principles and techniques to business, industry, and government.  
Pre-requisite: PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D  

PSY 465  Intro to Measurements-Tests  3 cr  
Theories and principles of psychological testing.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (ST 175 Minimum Grade of D or ST 210 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 470  Intellectual Disabilities  3 cr  
The study of theories and research in intellectual disabilities and related areas.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 475  Comparative Evolutionary Psy  3 cr  
A critical analysis of the main theories and research trends in comparative and evolutionary psychology. This course is an approved elective for students seeking gerontology certification.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 480  Health Psychology - W  3 cr  
Current theories, research and applications in health psychology.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D) and (EH 102 Minimum Grade of C or EH 105 Minimum Grade of C)  

PSY 485  Psychology of Gender  3 cr  
The study of psychological research on gender differences and theories regarding the origins of these differences.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 490  Special Topics -  1 TO 3 cr  
Selected topics in psychology. May be repeated for a total of 12 credit hours when course content varies.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 492  Seminar -  1 TO 3 cr  
A survey of basic theories, concepts, principles, and research findings in a particular focal topic in psychology. Students will study topics in depth by reading and presenting research reports, review papers and book chapters, and through active in-class discussion of the reading materials. Requires permission of department chair. May be repeated up to 2 times when content varies for a total of 6 credit hours.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 494  Directed Studies -  1 TO 3 cr  
Directed study and research. Requires special permission. May be repeated for a total of 8 hours.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 499  Honors Senior Thesis-H  3 TO 6 cr  
Student conducts an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty sponsor. Recommended for psychology majors planning graduate school. Permission of department chair is required prior to registration. Requires GPA of 3.3 or higher. May be repeated for a total of 6 credit hours.  
Pre-requisite: (PSY 120 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 121 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 210 Minimum Grade of D) and (PSY 220 Minimum Grade of D or PSY 222 Minimum Grade of D)  

PSY 500  Proseminar in Psychology  1 cr  
Research presentations will be given by faculty and advanced graduate students. In addition, discussion of project and thesis requirements and procedures will take place. Required of all students registered for PSY 500, 502, and 503.  

PSY 501  Research Design and Stats I  3 cr  
Theories and principles of research design and elements of modern statistics. Introduction to computer programs for statistical analysis will be included. Fee.  
Co-requisite: PSY 500  

PSY 502  Research Design and Stats II  3 cr  
Theories and principles of advanced research design and elements of modern statistics. The use of computer applications such as SPSS to analyze empirical data sets will be covered. Fee.  
Co-requisite: PSY 500  
Pre-requisite: PSY 501 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 521 Minimum Grade of B
PSY 503  Quantitative Methods II  3 cr
Elements of modern statistics with emphasis on application to psychological research. Multivariate statistical techniques to include multiple regression, multivariate analysis of variance, discriminant, canonical, and factor analysis will be discussed. Fee.
Co-requisite: PSY 500
Pre-requisite: (PSY 502 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 522 Minimum Grade of B)

PSY 507  Professional Ethics Psychology  3 cr
This course provides instruction through readings, lecture, and case studies in the application of ethics in the professional practice of psychology. In addition, the course focuses on the philosophical foundations, professional identity, and standards of practice found in both clinical psychology and counseling psychology.

PSY 510  Physiological Psychology  3 cr
This course provides a foundation in the techniques of advanced psychophysiological methods. The course covers the history of psychophysiology, including the electrical properties of cells, and major organ systems, with particular emphasis on the electroencephalogram (EEG) and neuroimaging techniques. Students are introduced to the principles of psychophysiological recording, common applications of psychophysiology, safety and ethics in psychophysiological research, instrumentation, and research design issues in psychophysiology. Relevant statistical treatment of psychophysiological data will be discussed, including multiple regression, complex ANOVA, scaling of data, and non-parametric alternatives such as boot-strapping.

PSY 512  Adv History/Systems Psychology  3 cr
An advanced course in the historical foundations of modern psychology and the development of major theories in psychology.

PSY 514  Learning  3 cr
A survey of research and theory in learning.

PSY 516  Cognitive Psychology  3 cr
An advanced survey of research and theory in cognitive psychology. Topics include pattern recognition, attention, memory, language processing, decision making, and problem solving. This course is an approved elective for students seeking gerontology certification.

PSY 520  Personality Res and Theory  3 cr
A critical analysis and evaluation of major theories and current research trends in personality.

PSY 522  Soc & Personality Psychology  3 cr
This course provides a foundation for conducting quantitative research in personality and social psychology. Topics covered will include (a) measurement of personality and individual differences (e.g., narcissism, self-esteem), (b) measurement of cognitive and behavioral outcomes in laboratory and non-laboratory settings (e.g. decision-making, implicit cognitions), and (c) data analytic techniques (e.g. testing for mediation/moderation, structural equation modeling).

PSY 524  Lifespan Development  3 cr
Analysis of theories, research methods, and major findings of sensory, perceptual, social, and cognitive changes across the lifespan, from infancy to late life. Research in social and cognitive development, including cognitive disabilities, the underlying mechanisms involved in thinking and learning processes, and age-related cognitive models are central to this course. **This course is an approved elective for students seeking gerontology certification.

PSY 528  Sensation and Perception  3 cr
This course provides a multidisciplinary analysis of how the sensory systems analyze physical stimuli to support perception and successful actions. Consideration is given to how the anatomy and physiology of the major sensory systems extract information using low- and high-level mechanisms to create meaningful percepts. Other topics include psychophysics, comparative studies, communication, production and performance, face and object recognition, attention, and event perception.

PSY 530  Intro Appl Psychology & Ethics  3 cr
Theories, principles and techniques of interviewing, behavioral observation and classification of psychological disorders.

PSY 532  Psychopathology  3 cr
Current research and theoretical aspects of psychopathology in children and adults.

PSY 540  Psychometrics  3 cr
Theories and methods of test construction and principles of measurement and evaluation in the behavioral sciences.

PSY 542  Cognitive Assessment  3 cr
Principals and methods of individual intelligence testing, including the administration of the Wechsler and the Stanford-Binet tests. Practical experience in the administration, interpretation and report writing of a psychological evaluation using intelligence tests.
Pre-requisite: PSY 530 Minimum Grade of B and (PSY 540 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 571 Minimum Grade of B)
PSY 544  Practicum Assessment  3 cr
Theory, development and interpretation of selected personality assessment instruments. Methods and procedures in administering and interpreting personality, aptitude and career interest tests.
Pre-requisite: (PSY 540 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 571 Minimum Grade of B) and (PSY 542 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 575 Minimum Grade of B)

PSY 550  Evidenced Based Clin/Coun Prac  3 cr
Study of the theoretical and empirical foundations of the major systems of psychotherapeutic change.

PSY 552  Multicultural Issues in Psy  3 cr
This course will focus on theoretical models, research, techniques, and interventions for working with culturally diverse populations in various settings. Specific issues to be addressed include world views, acculturation and acculturative stress, prejudice and prejudice-reduction techniques, racial/ethnic identity, culture and assessment, and the nature of multicultural competence in Psychology. Issues related to ethnic and racial identity will form the primary focus; however, other types of diversity (e.g., religion, gender, sexual orientation, physically challenged) will also be considered.
Pre-requisite: (PSY 550 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 589 Minimum Grade of B) and PSY 506 Minimum Grade of B and PSY 530 Minimum Grade of B and (PSY 532 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 561 Minimum Grade of B)

PSY 554  Cognitive Behavior Therapy  3 cr
A follow up course to PSY 550, this course will survey theory, research and application of cognitive behavior therapy. Focus will be on treatment strategies and application to a variety of psychological disorders of adults and children.
Pre-requisite: PSY 530 Minimum Grade of B and (PSY 532 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 561 Minimum Grade of B) and (PSY 550 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 589 Minimum Grade of B)

PSY 556  Practicum  1 TO 3 cr
Supervised experience with adult and children clients. Includes case conference and seminars. May include supervised placement in an applied setting. May be repeated up to five times for a total of 18 credit hours. Pre-requisite: (PSY 532 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 561 Minimum Grade of B) and (PSY 550 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 589 Minimum Grade of B)

PSY 558  External Practicum  3 TO 5 cr
Supervised placement in an applied setting. May be repeated four times for a total of 15 credit hours. Pre-requisite: PSY 552 Minimum Grade of B and PSY 554 Minimum Grade of B

PSY 570  Intel Disable/Autism Spec Dis  3 cr
A study of theories and research related to Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders.

PSY 572  Child Psychopathology  3 cr
The description and etiology of deviant behavior patterns in children and adolescents. Pre-requisite: (PSY 532 Minimum Grade of B or PSY 561 Minimum Grade of B)

PSY 575  Comparative Psychology  3 cr
An in-depth analysis of the proximal and ultimate causes of animal and human behavior examined from the perspectives of comparative and evolutionary psychology, psychobiology and ethology. Relevant research in animal models of biological and cognitive systems, learning and motivation, lifespan development and related biopsychosocial factors will be included. ** This course is an approved elective for students seeking gerontology certification.

PSY 590  Sp Top in Psychology -  1 TO 3 cr
Selected topics in psychology. May be requested for credit when course content varies for a total of 12 credit hours.

PSY 594  Dir Individual Study  1 TO 3 cr
Individual study under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. May be repeated for up to 9 hours credit.

PSY 598  Project in Psychology  1 TO 6 cr
Completion of a research project, program proposal, program evaluation, major literature review or other comparable experience under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. IRB or Animal Use and Care Committee approval may be required for some projects. May be repeated for up to 6 hours credit. A minimum of 3 hours is required to meet degree requirements.

PSY 599  Thesis Research  1 TO 6 cr
Completion and oral defense of a master's thesis based upon original research. May be repeated for up to 9 hours credit. A minimum of 6 hours is required to meet degree requirements. Prerequisite: Approval of research prospectus including IRB or Animal Use and Care Committee approval if applicable.

Faculty

BROWN, CHARLES H.
Professor
BA, Western Michigan University
MA, Michigan State University
PHD, Michigan State University

CURRIER, JOSEPH M.
Assistant Professor
BA, University of St Thomas
MA, Wheaton College
PHD, University of Memphis
FOSTER, JOSHUA D.
Associate Professor
BS, Old Dominion University
MA, Towson University
PHD, University of Georgia

HILL, BENJAMIN D.
Associate Professor
BS, Coastal Carolina University
MA, Wake Forest University
PHD, Louisiana State University

ISEN, JOSHUA D.
Assistant Professor
BA, University of California-Berk
MA, University of Southern CA
PHD, University of Southern CA

JETT, STEPHANIE E.
Part-Time Instructor
BA, University of South Alabama
MS, University of South Alabama
PHD, University of Southern Miss

LABBE-COLDSMITH, ELISE E.
Professor
BA, Loyola University-New Orleans
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