

Description of Courses

PSYC 100. Introduction to Psychology (1).

This course introduces students to psychological issues and phenomena. A wide range of representative topics acquaints students with the methods and content of the field. (3B) *Offered each semester.*

PSYC 161. Research Methods and Statistics I (1).

This is the first course in a two-course sequence designed to examine the statistical concepts and research strategies used by psychologists. Students learn how to (a) analyze and interpret psychological data, (b) design and conduct psychological studies, (c) evaluate the validity of claims made by researchers, and (d) communicate research procedures and findings. This course emphasizes topics including ways of knowing, research ethics, observational and survey methods, descriptive statistics, graphing, and the concepts of reliability and validity. Students are introduced to the data analysis software SPSS and to writing with APA style. *Offered each semester. Prerequisite: Psychology 100 or permission of instructor.*

PSYC 162. Research Methods and Statistics II (1).

This is the second course in a two-course sequence designed to examine the statistical concepts and research strategies used by psychologists. Students learn how to (a) analyze and interpret psychological data, (b) design and conduct psychological studies, (c) evaluate the validity of claims made by researchers, and (d) communicate research procedures and findings. In this course, students review key concepts from Psychology 161 and examine new topics such as experimental and quasi-experimental designs, and inferential statistics. They also continue to develop their skills in using SPSS and writing in APA style. *Offered each semester. Prerequisite: Psychology 100, and Psychology 161 or Biology 247; or permission of the instructor*

PSYC 210. Life-Span Developmental Psychology (1).

This course examines the physical, social, and cognitive changes that occur between conception and older adulthood. A wide range of issues will be addressed, such as the contributions of genetics and the environment, gender differences, family and interpersonal relations, career development, retirement, and death. May include at least 15 hours of field

experience. (3B) *Offered each year. Prerequisite: Psychology 100.*

PSYC 215. Child Growth and Development (1).

This course examines growth and development from conception through adolescence. Differing theoretical perspectives in developmental psychology (e.g., cognitive, psychodynamic, social contexts, etc.) are addressed. May include at least 15 hours field experience. (3B) *Offered each year. Prerequisite: Psychology 100 and sophomore standing.*

PSYC 225. Psychology of Women (1).

This course examines theoretical viewpoints on the development of gender identification and gender-typed behavior; research evidence for the existence/non-existence of gender differences; female social development across the life span; psychological aspects of women's roles in the family and in the workplace; clinical issues relevant to women, such as depression and eating disorders; and additional topics selected by class members. May include at least 15 hours of field experience. (Also listed as Women's and Gender Studies 220.) *Offered once every three semesters. Prerequisite: Psychology 100 and any Women's and Gender Studies course, or consent of instructor.*

PSYC 230. Physiological Psychology (1).

This course is an introduction to the biological bases of behavior. Students develop a basic knowledge of brain anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology. This knowledge is then integrated and applied to many topics, such as sleep and arousal, food and water intake, learning and memory, aggression, sexual behavior, and psychological disorders. *Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Psychology 100.*

PSYC 235. Sensation and Perception (1).

This course examines the anatomy and function of human sense organs. Different theories of perception are presented, and the interrelationships between physical stimuli, physiological events, and psychological perceptions are addressed. (3B) *Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Psychology 100.*

PSYC 240. Memory and Cognition (1).

This course examines some of the mental processes involved in human behavior. General issues to be covered include the accuracy of memory, problem solving, decision making, and the rationality of

thought processes. Specific topics such as selective attention, subliminal perception, neurological bases of memory, and effects of aging will be discussed. (3B) *Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Psychology 100.*

PSYC 250. Personality Psychology (1). This course investigates different empirical approaches to the study and understanding of human personality, including historically important and current conceptualizations of personality. Topics include the definition and measurement of personality; biological and cultural aspects of personality; psychoanalytic, cognitive, and behavioral perspectives; gender differences; and personality disorders. (3B) *Offered each year. Prerequisite: Psychology 100.*

PSYC 252. Psychological Disorders (1). This course examines psychological disorders from the four major theoretical perspectives: biological, psychodynamic, cognitive, and behavioral. It also explores the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of mental illness and the role of the mental health professional. Other topics include the definition of mental illness, cross-cultural issues in diagnosis, and ethical issues. (3B) *Offered each year. Prerequisite: Psychology 100.*

PSYC 260. Principles of Social Psychology (1). This course examines the ways in which an individual's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by the real or implied presence of others. Topics include social perception and attribution processes, attitude formation and change, majority and minority influence, helping behavior, interpersonal attraction, small group dynamics, and intergroup relations. (3B) *Offered each year. Prerequisite: Psychology 100 or Sociology 100.*

PSYC 265. Cross-Cultural Psychology (1). This course examines individual psychological functioning across and within various cultures. Topics include social perception and cross-cultural research strategies, universal components of psychological functioning, and cultural variations in mental processes, psychosocial development, social behavior, communication, emotional experiences, and psychopathology. (3B) *Offered each year. Prerequisite: sophomore standing and either Psychology 100 or Anthropology 100.*

PSYC 285. Selected Topics in Psychology (1/2, 1). This course examines selected topics in psychology that reflect particular interests and experience of the instructor. May be repeated for credit if topic is different. *Prerequisite: Psychology 100. Other courses may be required, depending on the topic.*

PSYC 300. History and Systems of Psychology (1). This course investigates the origins of contemporary thought in psychology, examining psychological ideas and methods as the products of both early psychologists and sociocultural forces. *Prerequisite: Psychology 200, two other 200-level courses, and senior standing.*

PSYC 310. Developmental Psychopathology (1). This course focuses on the etiology, future course, and treatment of many childhood psychological disorders (e.g., attachment disorders, autism, conduct disorder, depression). Participants apply a developmental perspective to the processes of adaptive and maladaptive behavior. Both research-theoretical and clinical-practical approaches to understanding psychopathology are emphasized. May include at least 15 hours of field experience. *Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Psychology 100, 200, and 210 or 215; Psychology 250 or 252 strongly recommended.*

PSYC 315. Pediatric Psychology (1). This course focuses on the application of developmental and clinical psychology in applied interdisciplinary settings such as children's hospitals, developmental clinics, pediatric/medical and psychiatric group practices, and schools. Participants apply a developmental perspective to processes of adaptive and maladaptive behaviors within the health care system. Both research-theoretical and clinical-practical approaches to pediatric psychology are emphasized. May include at least 15 hours of field experience. *Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Psychology 100, 200, and 210 or 215; Psychology 252 or a health and society course strongly recommended.*

PSYC 320. Senior Seminar (1/2). An examination of current topics and issues in psychology. Students share their own specialized expertise, acquired throughout the course of their major program, with others in the class. The significant problems, investigative strategies, and findings in

their fields are presented and discussed. *Offered each spring. Prerequisite: Psychology 300.*

PSYC 330. Advanced Research Seminar (½, 1). This course provides students with advanced experience in designing, conducting, and reporting a psychological study. *Prerequisite: Psychology 200 with a grade of "B" or better or consent of instructor.*

PSYC 360. Applied Social Psychology (1). This course focuses on the application of social psychological methods, theories, and research findings to the understanding and solution of social problems. Areas of application include mental and physical health, business, education, sports, the legal system, and the environment. *Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Psychology 100, 200 (or a course in research methods), and 260.*

PSYC 375. Psychotherapy and Psychological Testing (1). In this advanced seminar, students and the instructor investigate the major types of psychological tests (personality, intelligence, and neuropsychological), with particular attention to test construction (including statistical concerns) and the use of tests in school, clinical, and personnel settings. Following this, students and the instructor examine the practice of psychotherapy, especially cognitive and behavioral therapies, including those specifically designed for criminal offenders and college populations. In this section of the seminar, students will read, analyze, and critique scientific studies of therapeutic efficacy. *Offered approximately once every three semesters. Prerequisite: Psychology 200 and either Psychology 250 or Psychology 252 or permission of instructor.*

PSYC 380. Senior Thesis (½). Independent research by a superior student under faculty supervision. *Prerequisite: by invitation.*

PSYC 385. Advanced Topics in Psychology (½, 1). This course examines advanced topics in psychology that reflect the particular interests and expertise of the instructor. May be repeated for credit if topic is different. *Prerequisite: Psychology 100 and 200 (or a course in research methods). Other courses may be required, depending on the topic.*

PSYC 390. Special Project (¼ - 1). Individual study under faculty supervision and/or research on a psychological topic selected by the student. *Prerequisite: sophomore standing.*

PSYC 395. Teaching Assistant (½). Work with faculty in classroom instruction. *Graded credit/no credit.*