

PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC)

PROFESSORS LORIG, MARGAND
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS R. STEWART,
MURDOCK, WHITING, WOODZICKA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR FULCHER

MAJORS

The department offers a psychology major leading to either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree. The choice of degree program should be determined after consultation with a member of the department. Both degree programs emphasize research methodology and would be appropriate for students interested in pursuing graduate study in psychology or allied fields. The B.S. program places greater emphasis on experimentation and research than does the B.A. program.

A **major in psychology** leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree requires completion of 42 credits in psychology and cognate fields distributed as follows:

1. Three courses selected from PSYC 111, 112, 113, and 114
2. PSYC 120, 250, 304, 403, and either PSYC 202 or 210
3. At least one additional course selected from PSYC 150, 202, 210, 215, 230, 235, and 240
4. Two courses selected from PSYC 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 257, 258, 261, 262, 265, and 269
5. Eight or nine additional credits in psychology or cognate courses approved by the department.

A **major in psychology** leading to a Bachelor of Science degree requires completion of 49 or 50 credits in psychology and cognate fields distributed as follows:

1. Three courses selected from PSYC 111, 112, 113, and 114
2. PSYC 120, 250, 304, 403, and 473
3. Two courses selected from PSYC 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 257, 258, 261, 262, 265, and 269
4. Six credits selected from PSYC 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 357, 361, 362, 365, and 369
5. 12 credits in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, and physics, exclusive of CHEM 100 and PHYS 150 and 151.

HONORS: An Honors Program in psychology is offered for qualified students; see department head for details no later than the winter term of the sophomore year.

PSYC 111: Brain and Behavior (3)

An introduction to behavioral neuroscience, including the physiological bases of sensation, learning and memory, motivation, cognition, and abnormal behavior. (SC, GE6c) *Lorig, R. Stewart.*

Fall, Winter

PSYC 112: Cognition (3)

An introduction to human information processing, including an examination of perception, attention, memory, problem solving, and language. (SC, GE6c) *Whiting.*

Fall, Winter

PSYC 113: Principles of Development (3)

An introduction to the development of individual capacities from conception through the life span. Analysis of thought and behavior at different stages of growth with special emphasis on the period from infancy through adolescence. (SS3, GE6c) *Fulcher.*

Winter

PSYC 114 (SOC 114): Introduction to Social Psychology (3)

The scientific study of how individuals' feelings, thoughts, and behavior are affected by others. Topics include prejudice, the self, interpersonal attraction, helping, aggression, attitudes, and persuasion. (SS3 as psychology only; GE6c as psychology only)

Woodzicka.

Fall, Winter

PSYC 120: Quantitative Literacy in the Behavioral Sciences (3)

Students learn the basics of collecting, interpreting, and presenting data in the behavioral sciences. Data from a variety of sources, such as questionnaires, psychological tests, and behavioral observations, are considered. Students learn to use and to evaluate critically statistical and graphical summaries of data. They also study techniques of searching the literature and of producing written reports in technical format. Individual projects include oral presentations, creating technical graphics, and publishing on the World Wide Web. (SS3, GE6c) *Staff.*

Winter

PSYC 150: Psychoactive Drugs and Behavior (3)

An introduction to broad psychological perspectives of drug use, misuse, and abuse. The pharmacological and physiological actions of psychoactive drugs, as well as personality and social variables that influence their use, are considered. Emphasis is given to historically significant and currently popular drugs of abuse. (SC, GE6c) *R. Stewart.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 202: Theories of Personality (3)

Prerequisites: Three credits in psychology and junior standing. This course addresses the theoretical foundations of the study of personality development and organization. Psychoanalytic, trait, learning, cognitive, humanistic, and positive psychology schools of thought are discussed. *Murdock.*

Winter

PSYC 210: Principles of Abnormal Behavior (3)

Prerequisite: PSYC 111. This course is an empirically-informed exploration of the characteristics, course, and treatment of psychological disorders as they are currently defined. A biopsychosocial framework is utilized to examine the continuum of psychological functioning, from psychopathology to flourishing. *Murdock.*

Fall

PSYC 215: Evolutionary Psychology (3)

Prerequisite: PSYC 111, 112, 113, or 114, or permission of the instructor. A seminar exploring evolutionary theory and mechanisms as they relate to current human behavior. This course takes a scientific approach to explain the evolutionary advantages of both culturally appropriate and inappropriate behaviors. Topics may include, but are not limited to, aggression and sexual competition; mate selection; altruism and cooperation between individuals; cognitive abilities; and morality and deception. (SS3) *Whiting.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 230: Contemporary Issues in Child Development (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 113 and permission of the instructor. The specific topic in this course will vary from year to year. However, each involves seminars on current problems or issues related to the development of children. Examples include issues in child and family policy; effect of media on children; and effects of poverty on families. Some topics require students to participate in observation and/or testing of children in addition to classroom work. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Margand.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 235: Effects of Poverty on Families and Children (3)

Prerequisite: PSYC 113 or POV 101. This course explores the problem of child and family poverty, the issues it raises for psychologists and social policy makers, and the implications that poverty and social policy have for children's development. Major areas addressed in this class include prenatal/infant health issues; cognitive, emotional, and educational development in early childhood; rural vs. urban poverty; the effects on parental behavior and neighborhoods; and the outcome of these on adolescent identity and adult achievement. The course focuses on the U.S. but draws on comparative research about the experiences of many subgroups within the U.S. and in other countries. *Margand.*

Winter

PSYC 240: Adult Development and Aging (3)

Prerequisite: One course in psychology or sociology or permission of the instructor. Examination of current topics in aging research. Material includes literature from biology, as well as psychology. Topics include neurophysiological changes accompanying maturation; mental health issues; age-related changes in cognitive function; alterations in intra- and intergenerational relationships during adulthood; and cross-cultural perspectives on aging. (SS3, GE6c) *Whiting.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 250: Research Design and Analysis (4)

Prerequisite: PSYC 120. Students learn about the design and analysis of psychological research, with particular emphasis on experimentation. Students learn statistical inference appropriate for hypothesis testing, and they use standard statistical packages to analyze data. Laboratory course. *Fulcher, Murdock, Whiting, Woodzicka.*

Fall

PSYC 251: Learning and Retention (3)

Prerequisite or corequisite: PSYC 250. The experimental examination of a broad range of learning and memory phenomena. Discussion, reading, exercises, and writing focus on three areas: basic, automatic, animal, and human conditioning; thoughtful and deliberate human learning; and how we define ourselves by what we learn and remember. Students also consider the applications of the phenomena of learning and memory in areas of their own interest. *Staff.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 252: Sensation Measurement and Perception (3)

Prerequisites: NEUR 120, or PSYC 111 and 250 (pre- or corequisite). Problems associated with sensory encoding, scaling, contextual and social determinants of perception are considered. Special emphasis is placed on the role of the senses in daily life. *Lorig.*

Fall

PSYC 253: Neural Mechanisms of Motivated Behaviors (3)

Prerequisites: NEUR 120, or PSYC 111 and 250 (pre- or corequisite). The anatomical, physiological, and neurochemical bases for behaviors are considered. Some examples of behaviors to be discussed include thirst and drinking, ingestion, reproduction, and learning. *R. Stewart.*

Fall 2011 and alternate years

PSYC 254: Attention and Memory (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 112; prerequisite or corequisite: PSYC 250. An examination of the theories and mechanisms associated with attention and memory processes. Topics may include: selective attention, inhibition, working memory, and higher-level memory processes. The functioning of the above processes in abnormal patient populations is also examined.

Whiting.

Fall

PSYC 255: Cognitive Neuroscience (4)

Prerequisites: NEUR 120, or PSYC 111 and 250 (pre- or corequisite). An examination of the role of the central nervous system in the production of human behavior. Special emphasis is placed on the contribution of the cerebral cortex to cognitive activity and to the effects of brain injury on psychological processes. Laboratories focus on neuropsychological testing and basic concepts in the brain's distribution of complex function. Laboratory course. *Lorig.*

Winter

PSYC 257: Psychobiology of Development (3)

Prerequisites: NEUR 120, or PSYC 111 and 250 (pre- or corequisite). Examination of the development of biological systems involved in various behaviors with special emphasis on the neural mechanisms of behavior. Both human and animal studies are considered. Some topics include evolution and behavior; developmental neurobiology; biological bases of sexual and gender identity; and development of play behaviors and temperament. *Staff.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 258: Neural Mechanisms of Sensory and Motor Function (3)

Prerequisites: NEUR 120, or PSYC 111 and 250 (pre-or corequisite). An examination of the neural mechanisms of sensory and motor function. Topics include polymodal sensory integration and sensorimotor integration in the spinal regulation of movement. Plasticity of sensory and motor processes is also discussed. Both human and animal data are considered. *R. Stewart.*

Fall 2010 and alternate years

PSYC 261: Socioemotional Development (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 113; pre-or corequisite: PSYC 250. Exploration of children's understanding of emotions and how socialization and cognitive development contribute to the creation of different emotional styles and experiences. Examination of the theoretical and developmental aspects of emotions. Topics include understanding emotional states and the role of socialization practices on emotional expression. *Margand.*

Winter

PSYC 262: Gender Role Development (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 113; pre-or corequisite: PSYC 250. This course provides the student with an overview of gender-role development: How do children learn to be boys and girls? What role do biological factors play in different behaviors of boys and girls? Does society push boys and girls in different directions? We discuss children's evolving ideas about gender, and what can be done to change these ideas (or whether they need to be changed at all). Through the examination of these questions and issues, the course introduces students to the major theories of gender-role development, the research methods used to measure children's gender-role behaviors and attitudes, and the current research in the field. *Fulcher.*

Winter

PSYC 265: Developmental Psychopathology (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 113 and 210; pre-or corequisite: PSYC 250. This course utilizes a biopsychosocial perspective to explore atypical developmental processes. The course examines risk and protective factors that contribute to the development of social, emotional, behavioral difficulties, and competencies in childhood and adolescence. How children's psychological disorders are currently conceptualized, assessed and treated in clinical settings is also considered. *Murdock.*

Winter

PSYC 269: Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 114; pre-or corequisite: PSYC 250. This course examines cognitive and affective processes involved in stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. Causes and social implications of prejudice involving various stigmatized groups (e.g., African-Americans, women, homosexuals, people of low socioeconomic status, overweight individuals) are examined. Participants focus on attitudes and behaviors of both perpetrators and targets of prejudice that likely contribute to and result from social inequality. *Woodzicka.*

Fall

PSYC 295: Current Advances in Psychological Science (1, 2, or 3)

Prerequisites vary; determined at time of offering. Seminar topics and specific prerequisites vary with instructor and term. These seminars are designed to introduce students to an area of current interest in the field of psychology. Students receive an overview of the experimental research and/or applied practices that have advanced an area of psychological science. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

Offered when student interest is expressed and departmental resources permit.

PSYC 304: History and Systems of Psychology (3)

Prerequisites: Six credits in psychology and junior standing. A seminar examining the evolution of modern psychology from its origins in philosophy and natural science to contemporary systems and theory, with special emphasis on fundamental psychological issues. *Staff.*

Winter

PSYC 351: Directed Research in Cognition (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in cognition. May not be repeated. *Whiting.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 352: Directed Research in Sensation Measurement and Perception (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in sensation measurement and perception. May not be repeated. *Lorig.*

Winter

PSYC 353: Directed Research in Systems Neuroscience (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in systems neuroscience. May not be repeated. *R. Stewart.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 354: Directed Research in Attention and Memory (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in attention and memory. May not be repeated. *Whiting.*

Winter

PSYC 355: Directed Research in Cognitive Neuroscience (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in human neuropsychology. May not be repeated. *Lorig.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 357: Directed Research in Psychobiology (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in psychobiology, emphasizing neural development, regeneration, and sensory systems. May not be repeated. *Staff.*

Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 361: Directed Research in Socioemotional Development (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics associated with emotional development. May *not* be repeated. *Margand.*
Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 362: Directed Research in Developmental Psychology (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in developmental psychology. May *not* be repeated. *Fulcher.*
Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 365: Directed Research in Developmental Psychopathology (3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in developmental psychopathology. May *not* be repeated. *Murdock.*
Not offered in 2009-2010

PSYC 369: Directed Research in Social Psychology (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 269 and permission of the instructor. Directed research on a variety of topics in social psychology. May *not* be repeated. *Woodzicka.*
Winter

PSYC 395: Special Topics in Psychology (1, 2, or 3)

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. These seminars are designed to help the advanced student integrate his or her knowledge of specific fields into a comprehensive view of psychology, both as a science and as a profession. Specific topics vary and are determined, in part, by student demand. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

Offered when interest is expressed and departmental resources permit.

PSYC 403: Directed Individual Study (3)

Prerequisites: Six credits in psychology, junior standing, and permission of the head of the department. This seminar involves independent reading and/or research and is taken by all majors during their senior year. Students are expected to prepare a detailed research proposal based on their independent work. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

Fall, Winter

PSYC 431, 432, 433: Tutorials in Psychology (1, 2, or 3)

Prerequisites: Six credits in psychology and permission of the head of the department. Advanced reading, study, or internships directed by a member of the staff to meet the needs of the individual student. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

Offered when interest is expressed and departmental resources permit.

PSYC 443: Honors Thesis Proposal (3)

Prerequisite: Honors candidacy. Conferences, directed reading, and exploratory research culminating in the preparation of a proposal for honors thesis research, which will minimally include a clear statement of the problem being studied, a comprehensive literature review, and a feasible, detailed plan for the research. Must be taken no later than spring term of the junior year. *Staff.*

Fall, Winter, Spring

PSYC 453, 456: Internship (3,6)

Prerequisite: permission of the department. Supervised off-campus experience in a local agency, research organization, or other venues approved by the department. Requires a research paper in addition to off-campus activities. *Murdock.*

PSYC 473: Senior Thesis (3)

Prerequisites: PSYC 403 and permission of the department head. Taken in the winter term of the senior year by all psychology majors seeking a Bachelor of Science degree. Students conduct a research project and prepare a thesis based on that research. *Staff.*

Winter

PSYC 493: Honors Thesis (3-3)

Prerequisites: Senior standing and PSYC 443. Laboratory research culminating in an honors thesis. Honors candidates also present a public summary of their work. *Staff.*

Fall-Winter