Psychology (PSYC)

Courses

PSYC 001 Introduction to Psychology 4 Credits
Psychology as a science of behavior. Natural science aspects such as learning, sensation-perception, and physiological bases; and social science aspects such as human development, intelligence, and personality. Methodologies appropriate to these areas, and related societal problems.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 012 Introduction to Human Neuroscience 4 Credits
In this introductory course, we will uncover how our brains are able to give rise to the complexities of human thought and behavior. We will examine the neural bases of seeing, hearing, sleep, dreaming, sexual behavior, emotion, aggression, behavioral disorders, learning, and memory.
Attribute/Distribution: NS

PSYC 107 Child Development 4 Credits
Survey of theories and research concerning physical, perceptual, cognitive, social, and emotional development from conception through adolescence, and the various factors and contexts (e.g., genes, parenting, peers, school, culture) that influence developmental processes. May not be taken pass/fail. Open to Freshmen with departmental permission.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or SOC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 109 Adulthood and Aging 4 Credits
Social science approaches to the latter two-thirds of life. Cognitive and personality development; attitudes toward aging; social behavior of older adults; widowhood; retirement. May not be taken pass/fail. Open to Freshmen with departmental permission.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or SOC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 110 Statistical Analysis of Behavioral Data 4 Credits
Principles of experimental design and statistical analysis: characteristics of data and data collection; descriptive statistics; hypothesis testing theory and practice; correlation, chi-square, t-test, analysis of variance. Three hours lecture and one hour computer lab. Department permission required. Open to Freshmen with departmental permission.
Attribute/Distribution: ND

PSYC 115 (REL 115) Religion And Psychology 4 Credits
A study of the origins, development and consequences of religion from a psychological perspective. Attention will be given to classic and contemporary sources, with a focus on major psychoanalytic theorists of religion (Freud, Jung, Erikson); psychological analyses of religious experience (e.g., Wm. James, Victor Frankl); and the diverse cultural and religious forms that structure the connection between religion and psychology (e.g., Buddhist psychology, Japanese Morita therapy).
Attribute/Distribution: HU

PSYC 117 (COGS 117) Cognitive Psychology 4 Credits
The architecture and dynamics of the human mind: How we acquire knowledge through perception, represent and activate it in memory, and use it to communicate, make decisions, solve problems, and reason creatively. May not be taken pass/fail.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or COGS 007
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 121 Social Psychology 4 Credits
Theories, methods of investigation, and results of research on the way social and psychological processes interact in human behavioral settings. Topics include analysis of self and relationships, dynamics of small groups, attitudes and persuasion, prejudice, prosocial and antisocial behavior. May not be taken pass/fail. Open to Freshmen with departmental permission.
Prerequisites: SOC 001 or PSYC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 130 (HMS 130) Introduction to Health Psychology 4 Credits
This course explores the psychological processes that influence how people stay healthy, why people get sick, and how people respond to illness. The course also examines what the study of health psychology has to teach us about illness prevention and the provision of health care services. May not be taken pass/fail.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 138 (HMS 138) Abnormal Psychology 4 Credits
Examines research and theory on the patterns, causes, and treatment of various forms of abnormal behavior. May not be taken pass/fail.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 153 Personality 4 Credits
Examination of the major theoretical frameworks psychologists use to understand human thought, feeling, and behavior. Whereas these frameworks each emphasize very different concepts (e.g., the unconscious mind vs. culture vs. neurotransmitters), they are united in their effort to answer the question: Why does a given individual think, feel, or behave as she does? May not be taken pass/fail. Open to Freshmen with departmental permission.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or SOC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 160 Independent Study 1-3 Credits
Readings on topics selected in consultation with a staff member. Consent of faculty sponsor required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 161 Supervised Research 1-3 Credits
Apprenticeship in ongoing faculty research program. Literature review, experimental design, data collection and analysis, and professional writing under faculty supervision. Consent of faculty sponsor required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or COGS 007
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 162 Psychological Field Work 1-3 Credits
Work-study practice including supervised experience in one of several local agencies. Development of familiarity with the operations of the agency and working with individual patients or students. Must have completed two additional psychology courses. Consent of instructor required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 176 (COGS 176) Cognitive Neuroscience 4 Credits
Perception and cognitive neuroscience as the link between mental processes and their biological bases. Visual and auditory perception; the control of action; neuropsychological syndromes of perception, language, memory and thought; neural network (connectionist) models of mental processes. May not be taken pass/fail.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001 or COGS 007
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 182 Child Development Recitation 1 Credit
Research, discussion, and analysis of topics in child development.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Can be taken Concurrently: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: ND

PSYC 183 (COGS 183) Cognitive Psychology Recitation 1 Credit
Research, discussion, and analysis of topics in cognitive psychology.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 117
Can be taken Concurrently: PSYC 117, COGS 117
PSYC 310 Advanced Research Methods in Psychology 4 Credits
Experimental and nonexperimental research design; Sampling and selection from populations; Data exploration; Quantitative and qualitative measurement and analysis; Computer-based data collection; and other specialized topics.
Prerequisites: PSYC 203

PSYC 311 The Psychology of Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination 4 Credits
We first examine the basic cognitive processes that make stereotyping a functional aspect of everyday cognition, and then turn toward examining emotional, motivational, and personality differences that affect one's level of prejudice. Finally, we will study the role of social forces in transmitting prejudice (parents, schools, religion, media) and the impact of societal prejudice (discrimination) on those who are the targets of prejudice. How stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination are understood, measured, expressed, and altered is the focus of the course.
Prerequisites: PSYC 153 or PSYC 121

PSYC 312 Person Perception 4 Credits
Psychological processes involved in forming impressions of others. Survey of the factors that influence the way in which we think about the people who make up our social environment and of the laboratory methods with which experimental social psychology investigates person perception. The emphasis is on demonstrating the joint impact of the behaviors performed by others and the biases/expectancies that we bring into the social setting.
Prerequisites: PSYC 153 or PSYC 121

PSYC 313 Social Cognition 4 Credits
Examines the cognitive processes through which people make sense of social groups, individual others, themselves, and the world. Topics include judgment and decision making, attitudes and persuasion, methods with which experimental social psychology investigates person perception. The emphasis is on demonstrating the joint impact of the behaviors performed by others and the biases/expectancies that we bring into the social setting.
Prerequisites: PSYC 153 or PSYC 121

PSYC 314 The Talking World: Psychology and Neuroscience of Speaking 4 Credits
Intricate processes underlie the everyday activity of speaking. We will examine the components of speaking, from thinking to articulation, within and across individual speakers and languages, using behavioral and neuroscientific evidence.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 117 or PSYC 176 or COGS 176

PSYC 315 Psychology of Emotion 4 Credits
A selective overview of the scientific study of emotion. Topics will include: historical and modern theories of emotion, physiological and neuropsychological aspects of emotions, evidence that facial expressions of emotion may be universal among humans, and the role of emotion in cognition.
Prerequisites: PSYC 202

PSYC 318 (WGSS 318) Seminar in Gender and Psychology 4 Credits
Gender as shaped by psychological and social psychological processes. Socialization, communication and power, gender stereotypes, methodological issues in sex differences research. Consent of department required.
Prerequisites: PSYC 203
Can be taken Concurrently: PSYC 203
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 320 HMST 320 Stress and Coping 4 Credits
How does stress affect the psychological system, and what psychological mechanisms are in place to help people overcome environmental stressors? This seminar examines classic and contemporary theories and research on stress, coping, and social support.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121 or PSYC 153 or HMS 160 or HMS 180
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 324 Memory Development from Infancy to Old Age 4 Credits
Memory development throughout the lifespan. We will discuss methods invented to study memory in preverbal infants, and the amazing memory capacities they have revealed. We will explore memory components that develop during early and middle childhood, look at memory in adults, and consider the normal and pathological decline of memory in older age, and possible ways of slowing aging processes down.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 117 or PSYC 176 or COGS 176 or COGS 007
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 325 Higher Order Cognition 4 Credits
In depth exploration of selected areas of higher level cognition such as thinking and reasoning, metacognition, expertise, executive processes, language and thought.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 117
Attribute/Distribution: SS
PSYC 319 (HMS 319) The Psychology of Trauma 4 Credits
This course explores the nature of psychological trauma, including the physiological, emotional, cognitive, behavioral, interpersonal, and developmental impact of exposure to extreme stress and traumatic events. Historical and current perspectives on the individual and cultural effects of trauma will be examined, including consequences of relational trauma, traumatic loss, injury/illness, crime, combat exposure, terrorism, natural disasters, and vicarious traumatization. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and related conditions will be explored, as will the nature of effective intervention techniques, recovery, adaptive coping, and resilience.
Prerequisites: PSYC 138 or HMS 138
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 320 Psychology of Language 4 Credits
Psychological processes involved in language comprehension, production, and use. Topics include the relation of language to thought; word meaning; speech perception; language acquisition; sign language; language in society.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or PSYC 176 or COGS 007 or COGS 117 or COGS 176
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 321 Language Development 4 Credits
Descriptive and theoretical accounts of the development of language. Primary focus is on the development of spoken language in infancy and early childhood. Involves observation of children at various stages of language development.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 or PSYC 117 or COGS 117
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 326 (AAS 326) The Doing and Undoing of Racism 4 Credits
This course will provide students with a critical understanding of historical, legal, and social psychological factors that lead to prejudice, discrimination, and racism within our society. It will survey the US constitution, policy, and social psychological theories that explain the causes and maintenance of prejudice, discrimination, and racism in their many forms. Students will learn how laws and various theoretical perspectives apply to people's psychological functioning and group behavior, and examine theoretically derived interventions to reduce prejudice, discrimination, and racism.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121 or AAS 003
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 327 (HMS 327) Advanced Topics in Health Psychology 4 Credits
This course provides an overview of the psychological study of health. The course explores psychological theories that aim to explain health behavior (e.g., why do people smoke?) and the role of psychology in understanding the experience of illness. This course also examines how psychological research and theory can be applied to promote health behavior (e.g., how can we design interventions to promote physical activity).
Prerequisites: PSYC 130
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 328 Educational Psychology 4 Credits
Overview of historical, contemporary, and emerging issues in the field of educational psychology. Implications of various social, cognitive and behavioral educational-psychological theories for teaching and learning in the classroom.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 330 Contemporary Topics in Industrial/Organizational Psychology 4 Credits
Industrial / Organizational Psychology is the application of psychological principles, tools, and theories to the workplace. This subdiscipline employs a scientist-practitioner model in the quest to optimize fit between persons, jobs, and the organizational environment. Optimization criteria include finding a balance between productivity and quality of work life for workers. Motivation, leadership, personality, stress, feedback, technology, diversity, and human potential are some of the themes explored amidst a changing landscape of challenges to the world of work.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121 or PSYC 153

PSYC 332 The Psychology of Morality 4 Credits
We begin with the Big Questions: Are human beings intrinsically good? How potent is our intrinsic capacity for goodness? What does it mean to be "good" or "moral"? How can we answer these questions? Next, we examine a variety of motives, capacities, and emotions that can promote our ‘good’ behavior. Some examples include empathy, compassion (and other moral emotions), the justice motive, the norm enforcement motive, moral intuitions, social bonds, and perhaps even our general capacity for reason.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 334 (HMS 334, WGSS 334) The Psychology of Body Image and Eating Disorders 4 Credits
The course addresses the psychosocial aspects of the development of healthy and unhealthy body image and eating disorders. The roles of personality traits/individual factors, family and interpersonal functioning, and cultural factors will be examined, as will the impact of representations of body image in mass media. Public health and psychological interventions for prevention and treatment will be explored. Personal accounts/memoirs, clinical case presentations, and documentary and dramatic films will be incorporated in the presentation of topics.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 335 (BIOS 335) Animal Behavior 3 Credits
Discussion of the behavior of invertebrates and vertebrates and analysis of the physiological mechanisms responsible for behavioral actions, and adaptive value of specific behavior patterns.
Prerequisites: BIOS 121 and BIOS 122
Attribute/Distribution: NS

PSYC 388 Phenomenology and Theory of Childhood Disorders 4 Credits
The nature, classification, and treatment of childhood disorders.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 391 Social Psychology and Social Issues 4 Credits
This course examines the methods, concepts, and research findings associated with the effort to apply social psychology to the understanding and amelioration of social problems. Special attention will be paid to the topic of human conflict.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 344 (HMS 344) Health Care Reasoning and Decision Making 4 Credits
Health care professionals diagnose physical and mental illnesses and create treatment plans to improve their patients' health. How do these professionals make decisions related to these important issues? We will explore the literature on how medical and mental health professionals reason and make decisions about health care issues. Topics to be covered include diagnosis, treatment decisions, access to care, and how these reasoning processes are swayed. Consideration will be given to patient decision-making as well.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 117 or PSYC 130 or HMS 130 or COGS 007 or HMS 160 or HMS 180
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 346 Child Development and Social Policy 4 Credits
This course explores the intersection of child development research and social policy. We will examine what we know about healthy child development from current research and how it can help inform and improve existing programs, policies, and recommendations for children and families. Topics include critical social policy issues such as child care, early childhood education, child abuse, divorce and child custody, adolescent pregnancy, poverty, bullying, and technology and media.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS
PSYC 347 Cognitive Neuroscience of Memory 4 Credits
This seminar explores the brain systems and neural mechanisms involved in the formation and retrieval of memories. Topics include mechanisms of storage, retrieval and forgetting in normal and clinical populations, emotional memory systems, superior autobiographical memory, role of sleep, and effects of stress on memory.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 117 or PSYC 176 or COGS 176
Attribute/Distribution: NS

PSYC 348 (HMS 348) Drugs and Behavior 4 Credits
Why are some people more vulnerable to substance use problems than others? How can we effectively address substance abuse in our society? This course explores theories and research on the complex psychological, social, and biological factors that contribute to substance use and disorders. Topics include theories of addiction, characteristics of illegal and legal drugs, risk and protective factors, and research on substance abuse prevention.
Prerequisites: PSYC 130 or HMS 130 or HMS 160 or HMS 180
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 349 (HMS 349) Participatory and Action Research in Psychology 4 Credits
Action research is used to understand important real-world social problems and promote social action. Participatory research engages community members as equals to help identify areas of focus and to design studies and interventions. This course provides an overview of the rich history of these approaches in psychology, an in-depth look at how they can be used effectively, and an opportunity to gain hands-on experience.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121 or PSYC 153 or PSYC 130 or HMS 130 or HMS 160 or HMS 180
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 350 The Psychology of Evil 4 Credits
It has been said that no animal could ever be as cruel as a human being. Indeed, human beings have a notable propensity for inflicting harm on other human beings: Physical assault, homicide, torture, and even genocide. What is the psychology behind such actions? What are the root causes? In exploring these questions, we will consider the issue of what, if anything, can be done to reduce evil in the world.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121 or PSYC 153
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 351 Children's Thinking 4 Credits
This course examines the development of children’s thinking from infancy through adolescence. We will discuss current research and theories on the content of children’s knowledge and how mental abilities develop. We will also consider the implications of research on children’s thinking for real-world questions about parenting, education, and policy-making. Topics include memory, concepts, social cognition, language, reading, mathematics, and individual and cultural differences.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 or PSYC 117 or COGS 007 or COGS 117
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 352 Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood 4 Credits
Adolescence is a dynamic development period encompassing multiple interrelated changes in the biological, cognitive, psychological, and social domains. This course will cover theories and research in adolescence and explore connections between research and policy. We will also consider whether emerging adulthood is a separate stage of development.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 353 Social Justice and Social Change 4 Credits
How do people decide to engage in collective action to challenge social injustice? We will examine motivators and tactics of resistance, as well as barriers to change, against the historical backdrop of the civil rights movement and in the context of current societal and global disparities.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 354 Psychological Assessment 4 Credits
Basic concepts in the construction, selection, administration, scoring, and interpretation of assessment procedures commonly used in psychology. Selection and evaluation of assessment procedures. Supervised experience administering, scoring, and interpreting assessment procedures.
Prerequisites: PSYC 202
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 355 Seminar in Cognitive Neuroscience 4 Credits
How have measures of brain activity contributed to our understanding of human information processing? Discoveries from ‘peering into the brain’ have led to conclusions that would have been impossible using behavioral measures alone. In this course we will examine topics that highlight the unique benefit of cognitive neuroscience techniques to the understanding of human cognition.
Prerequisites: PSYC 176 or COGS 176
Attribute/Distribution: NS

PSYC 357 (ES 357) Psychology of Environmental Issues 4 Credits
Environmental problems and solutions begin with the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of individual people. We will examine Western ways of relating to nature and the beliefs people hold about it, how they reason about environmental issues, and how they perceive environmental risk and make decisions. We will also consider environmental communication and attitude and behavior change, exploring arenas ranging from patterns of consumption and recycling to climate change. Research methods for investigating these issues will be introduced.
Prerequisites: PSYC 001
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 358 Inside the Infant Mind 4 Credits
How do babies understand and learn about the world? This course explores the origin and development of human knowledge by venturing inside the infant mind. Topics include current research and theory on infants’ understanding of objects, number, language, and people. Research examining thinking in non-human primates is also considered to shed light on what aspects of knowledge are and are not uniquely human.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 or PSYC 117 or COGS 007 or COGS 117
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 362 Cognition in Practice & Policy 4 Credits
Taking the study of cognition from principle to practice, this course examines how basic research and theory informs understanding of human performance in real-world settings. Topics will be chosen from domains such as automobile safety, environmental and medical decision-making, human-technology interaction, spatial navigation, and breakdown of cognition under fatigue and alcohol. Public policy implications will be considered.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or COGS 007 or COGS 117
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 363 Personality and Social Development in Childhood 4 Credits
Issues related to social development (e.g., attachment, social competence), social contexts (e.g., family, day care), and personality development (e.g., sex roles, aggression, temperament) from infancy through adolescence.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 364 The Meaning and Power of Narratives through the Lifespan 4 Credits
Examines the complex role of narratives-told to and by children, and enacted by children in play-in children’s experience and development. Compares and seeks to integrate different approaches in psychology and other disciplines. In the process, we will also be addressing three basic questions: what is narrative, how is it significant, and how should we study it?
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS
PSYC 365 (GS 365) Human Development in Cross-Cultural Perspective 4 Credits
The formation of mind and personality is shaped in profound ways by the sociocultural contexts within which individuals develop. This course introduces students to basic theoretical and methodological issues and explores important examples of cross-cultural variation and diversity, using comparisons between different societies and between different subcultures within American society. Topics include cognition, language, personality, moral development, socio-emotional development, identity, attachment, and socialization. Materials drawn from anthropology, sociology and education in addition to psychology.
Prerequisites: PSYC 109 or PSYC 107 or PSYC 121
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 366 Seminar In Cognitive Aging 4 Credits
Information processing by older adults: perception, attention, memory, speech and text processing and comprehension. The course will also examine the effects on cognitive processing of such diseases as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.
Prerequisites: PSYC 109
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 367 Clinical Psychology 4 Credits
The science and profession of helping people overcome psychological problems. Theories of human personality and abnormality in relation to techniques for assessing and treating psychosocial problems and in the light of evidence for validity and effectiveness. Professional issues are also covered.
Prerequisites: PSYC 138 or HMS 138
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 368 Children, Psychology, and the Law 4 Credits
Covers psychological research on child witnesses, child victims, juvenile crime, children’s rights and decision-making capabilities, divorce and custody. Implications of psychological research for social policy and legal reform will be discussed.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 369 Memory Under Construction 4 Credits
Investigation of the constructive nature of human memory through hands-on exercises, reading and discussion. Includes exploration of personal memories, a memory expanding project, and a final project. Coverage includes autobiographical memory, expert memory, and memory disorders.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or PSYC 176 or COGS 007 or COGS 117 or COGS 176
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 371 Special Topics in Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience 4 Credits
Topics within cognition and cognitive neuroscience vary from semester to semester. Topics are presented at an advanced level. Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 372 Special Topics in Developmental Psychology 4 Credits
Topics within developmental psychology vary from semester to semester. Topics are presented at an advanced level. Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 373 Special Topics in Social & Personality Psychology 4 Credits
Topics within social and personality psychology vary from semester to semester. Topics are presented at an advanced level. Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 374 Special Topics in Clinical & Behavioral Health 4 Credits
Topics within clinical and behavioral health vary from semester to semester. Topics are presented at an advanced level. Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 375 Development of Good and Evil 4 Credits
The goal of the course is to trace the origins of children’s good (i.e., prosocial and moral) and evil (i.e., aggressive and bullying) behavior. We will examine the biological (e.g., genetic), cognitive (e.g., social information processing), and contextual factors (e.g., media, parenting, neighborhoods, and peers) that contribute to the development of children’s good and evil behavior.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 376 Child Language and Social Inequality 4 Credits
What factors influence language development, both positively and negatively, for children growing up in socially and economically disadvantaged situations? Differences in children’s mastery of language can have a major impact on their acquisition of literacy, long-term school success, and ability to achieve their full potential. Topics include parent-child interactions in different socio-economic and cultural contexts; effects of maternal education and SES; the significance of differences between the languages of home and school; and interventions to address language and knowledge gaps.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 or PSYC 109 or PSYC 117 or COGS 117
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 377 Attention and Attentional Failures 4 Credits
Attention allows us to function in complex environments where there is more information than we could possibly process at once and failures of attention can have drastic consequences. Experimental and neuropsychological evidence will be surveyed for topics including basic attentional phenomena, the role of attention in everyday tasks, and the impact of attentional failures from mind wandering to neuropsychological deficits like ADHD.
Prerequisites: PSYC 117 or PSYC 176 or COGS 007 or COGS 117 or COGS 176
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 378 Emotional Development 4 Credits
The course will cover selected topics in emotional development from infancy through adulthood. Topics will include: infant attachment (learning to love), romantic attachment (being in love), emotion regulation, sympathy/empathy, anger/aggression, temperament, etc. We will also discuss the ways in which significant relationships with peers and parents shape children’s emotional development.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 380 Sports Psychology 4 Credits
Theory, research and application comprise this focal area of psychology. The course will allow students to explore the theory and research giving rise to individual, team, and peak performance assessment and interventions. Topics will include assessment, affect modulation, imagery, cognitive formulation, and psychodynamic development.
Prerequisites: PSYC 153 or PSYC 202

PSYC 381 Special Topics In Psychology 4 Credits
Topics vary from semester to semester. Topics are presented at an advanced level. Previous course work in psychology and consent of faculty sponsor is required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 382 (BIOS 382) Endocrinology of Behavior 3 Credits
Hormonal effects upon animal and human behavior. Emphasis on neuroendocrinology of steroid hormone involvement in reproductive behaviors.
Prerequisites: BIOS 121
Attribute/Distribution: NS

PSYC 383 Attachment Theory & Research: The Study of Close Relationships Across the Lifespan 4 Credits
This course will examine the influence of close relationships across the lifespan on personality development. We will examine the influence of parents, peers, siblings, and romantic relationships using traditional attachment theory. In addition, we will also explore how attachment quality is measured and the clinical applications of attachment theory.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107
Attribute/Distribution: SS
PSYC 384 Self and Identity 4 Credits
We will examine different types of identity (e.g., personal, relational, collective) and the cognitive processes that allow for a multifaceted yet unified sense of self. We will study how self-related motives (e.g., enhancement, consistency, distinctiveness) influence self-knowledge, self-regulation, and mental health. Finally, we will explore the origins of self from evolutionary, neuroscientific, and cultural perspectives.
Prerequisites: PSYC 121 or PSYC 155
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 386 (HMS 386) Pediatric Psychology 4 Credits
Focuses on developmental research and theory related to health and wellness issues in children and adolescents. Topics include children's understanding of biology and disease, disease management, medical consent, education and policy efforts to promote children's health.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 or PSYC 130 or HMS 130
Attribute/Distribution: SS

PSYC 389 Honors Project 1-8 Credits
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 391 Thesis 4 Credits
Written report: Literature review and design of project in selected area of psychology. Only open to students in the honors program. Consent of Honors Program Coordinator required.
Prerequisites: PSYC 203
Attribute/Distribution: ND

PSYC 392 Honors Thesis 3 Credits
Execution of project designed in PSYC 391. Final report and oral presentation. Only open to students in the honors program. Consent of Honors Program Coordinator required.
Prerequisites: PSYC 391

PSYC 393 Independent Research 1-3 Credits
Individual research projects designed and executed in collaboration with faculty sponsor. Regular meetings with sponsor to give progress reports and receive feedback. Student reads relevant literature and writes report in APA format. Consent of faculty sponsor required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Prerequisites: PSYC 161 or PSYC 203

PSYC 394 Senior Research Project 3 Credits
Literature review, design and execution of project in selected area of psychology. Intended for senior majors in psychology. Consent of faculty sponsor required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 402 Developmental Psychology 3 Credits
Survey of theories and research concerning perceptual, cognitive, social, and personality development through infancy and childhood. Must have graduate standing or consent of instructor.

PSYC 403 Cognitive Psychology 3 Credits
Survey of theories and research in cognitive psychology. Must have graduate standing or consent of instructor.

PSYC 404 (BIOS 404) Behavioral Neuroscience 3 Credits
Theoretical and empirical issues in biopsychology. Must have graduate standing or consent of instructor.

PSYC 406 Social Cognition 3 Credits
Theory and research on cognitive processes in personality and social functioning. The self, personality consistency and change, causal attributions, social judgment, goals and self-regulation, and mood and emotion. Topics may vary. Must have graduate standing or consent of instructor.

PSYC 409 Professional Seminar I 1 Credit
For students entering the Ph.D. program: Acculturation to graduate school and the Psychology Ph.D. program in particular; professional issues of relevance to individuals at the outset of a research career in psychology. Department permission required.

PSYC 410 Professional Seminar II 1 Credit
For students nearing graduation: Professional issues of special relevance to Psychology Ph.D. students preparing for academic or nonacademic postdoctoral employment. Department permission required.

PSYC 412 First Year Research Project 1-3 Credits
Research project or paper to be completed by June of the first year of the Ph.D. program under the direction of a faculty advisor. May be repeated in second semester of program.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 421 Statistical Analysis of Psychological Data I 3 Credits
First of a two-semester sequence covering essential issues in statistical analysis as practiced by psychologists. Topics include data description, probability, z and t-tests, general linear model, simple correlation/regression, univariate analysis of variance, chi-square. Emphasis on connecting research designs to appropriate statistical tests, data interpretation, and implementation in statistical packages. Department permission required.

PSYC 422 Statistical Analysis of Psychological Data II 3 Credits
Second course of the two-semester statistics sequence. Topics include advanced analysis of variance designs, analysis of covariance, multivariate analysis, multiple regression, and analysis of categorical data. Emphasis on connecting research designs to appropriate statistical tests, data interpretation, and implementation in statistical packages. Consent of department required.
Prerequisites: PSYC 421

PSYC 423 (COGS 423) Foundations of Cognitive Science 3 Credits
Survey of fundamental theory and methodologies from artificial intelligence, linguistics, cognitive psychology, philosophy, and neuroscience, as well as salient research problems such as knowledge acquisition and representation, natural language processing, skill acquisition, perception and action, and the philosophical question of intentionality.

PSYC 433 Cognitive Neuroscience Techniques 3 Credits
This glimpse into the toolkit of modern cognitive neuroscience provides an overview of a range of techniques from psychopharmacology and single cell recording, to human neuroimaging and neuropsychology. The course introduces different techniques with a focus on issues of temporal and spatial resolution, costs and benefits, and appropriateness for different research questions. Students will develop the skills to be knowledgeable consumers of the modern literatures in psychology and related fields that are increasingly incorporating a range of neuroscience methods.
Prerequisites: PSYC 403

PSYC 443 Seminar In Language Acquisition 3 Credits
Special topics in language acquisition. Content will vary each time the seminar is offered.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402 or PSYC 403

PSYC 445 Prosocial and Moral Development 3 Credits
This course will explore children's prosocial and moral development (including the development of moral emotions, cognition, behavior, and values) in infancy through adolescence. In addition to exploring normative prosocial and moral development, we will also focus on the biological, social, and cultural factors that predict individual differences in prosocial and moral development.

PSYC 446 Developmental Theories and Special Populations 3 Credits
Traditional developmental theories focus on normative development. Children with disabilities have a unique set of experiences that pose special challenges for these theories. In the developmental literature, children with disabilities have sometimes been the focus of studies because they provide a "test case" for specific theoretical predictions. In this course, we will consider some of these theoretical issues and the insights that have been gained by focusing on special populations.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402

PSYC 447 Understanding Evil, Understanding Morality 3 Credits
Cruelty, aggression, and mass killing are encountered all-too-frequently in human affairs. At the same time, most people feel allegiance to a "moral code," a code which invariably emphasizes kindness, compassion, non-violence, and even loving one's enemies. In this course, we will examine the psychological literature to see what insights it offers regarding these two perennial forces--Evil and Morality--that underlie human action.
PSYC 448 Seminar in Psychology of Language 3 Credits
Topics in language comprehension and production. Content will vary from year to year.
Prerequisites: PSYC 403

PSYC 450 Special Topics in Mathematical Models and Statistics 3 Credits
Selected topics in the application of mathematics to psychological research.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 457 (ES 457) Psychology of Environmental Issues 3 Credits
Environmental problems and solutions begin with the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of individual people. We will examine Western ways of relating to nature and the beliefs people hold about it, how they reason about environmental issues, and how they perceive environmental risk and make decisions. We will also consider environmental communication and attitude and behavior change, exploring arenas ranging from patterns of consumption and recycling to climate change. Research methods for investigating these issues will be introduced.

PSYC 460 Special Study 1-9 Credits
Study of some special topic not covered in the regular course offerings.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 461 Research Seminar 1-9 Credits
Original research designed and executed in collaboration with the faculty.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

PSYC 462 Stereotypes, Prejudice, Discrimination 3 Credits
An in-depth survey of the social psychological literature on stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination. Topics will include: Origin of stereotypes, mental representation of stereotypes, cognitive and behavioral consequences of stereotypes, inevitability of stereotyping, nature of prejudice in contemporary American society, context-specificity of discriminatory behavior, and theories of intergroup conflict reduction.
Prerequisites: PSYC 406

PSYC 464 Naive Realism in Social Judgement 3 Credits
This seminar examines the variety of unconscious influences that impact on social judgment, with a focus on the cognitive processing mechanisms through which influence is exerted. These influences include contributions to judgment from attitudes, goals, accessible constructs, mindsets, stereotypes, expectancies, heuristics, and theories about social objects.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402

PSYC 466 Prosocial Cognition, Emotion, and Behavior 3 Credits
In this course we will examine such phenomena as compassion, caregiving, sympathy, justice motivation, and helping. We will begin with an examination of human nature: Is prosociality fundamental to human nature? Subsequently, we will examine how prosociality can be nurtured by particular developmental experiences. Finally, we will examine the literature on the nature of prosociality in adulthood: What cognitive capacities support prosociality? What situational factors promote prosociality? What emotional qualities promote prosociality? What belief systems are linked to prosociality?
Prerequisites: PSYC 406

PSYC 476 Seminar In Cognition 3 Credits
Selected topics in human information processing, including such areas as attention, memory, language and comprehension, and decision-making. Area of emphasis will vary from year to year.
Prerequisites: PSYC 403

PSYC 478 (COGS 478) Ontological Psychology 3 Credits
Principles and constraints for the modeling of psychological phenomena: Representation, perception, memory, knowing, emotions, consciousness, language, and rationality.

PSYC 480 Seminar in Cognitive Development 3 Credits
Selected topics in cognitive development in infancy and childhood, including such areas as conceptual development, memory development, the development of reasoning abilities, and language acquisition. Emphasis will vary from year to year.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402

PSYC 481 Selected Topics in Social and Personality Development 3 Credits
Topics include emotional and sex-role development, peer relations, and social competence. Emphasis will vary from year to year.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402

PSYC 482 Seminar In Adult Development 3 Credits
Application of lifespan developmental theory and methodology to personality, social, and cognitive development in adulthood.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402

PSYC 483 Seminar In Cultural Psychology 3 Credits
Major theoretical approaches and empirical debates in cultural psychology, with a focus on the interplay of individual and sociocultural elements in the formation of mind, the emergence of the self, and the definition and reproduction of culture.
Prerequisites: PSYC 402

PSYC 484 (WGSS 484) Psychology of Gender 3 Credits
Major theoretical approaches and empirical debates in the psychology of gender, with a focus on the interplay of nature and nurture in producing gender similarities, gender differences and gender variation in personality, social behaviors, cognitive abilities, achievement, sexuality, and mental health. Methodological issues in gender research. Consent of instructor required.

PSYC 490 Thesis Research 1-6 Credits
Master's Thesis or Pre-dissertation Project research directed by committee.

PSYC 495 Narrative & Psychology 3 Credits
This course explores the increasing significance of narrative analysis in psychology by delineating the conceptual foundations of a narrative perspective and considering arguments for narrative as an integrative paradigm in psychological research. Particular emphasis will be on the constitutive role of narrative in cognitive and socio-emotional development, the formation of identity, moral understanding, and other domains. Some specific topics will be narrative development, autobiographical memory, self-narrative, identity development, narratives of conflict, and the role of narrative in socialization and education.

PSYC 499 Dissertation Research 1-15 Credits
Ph.D. dissertation research directed by dissertation committee.