

Psychology

PROFESSORS Pilkington (Chair and Associate Professor), Langholtz (on leave 2008-2009), Nezelek, Nichols (on leave 2008-2009), Shean, and Ventis. ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS Ball, Barnet, Burk (on leave 2008-2009), Galano, Hunt, Kirkpatrick, Vishton and Zeman. ASSISTANT PROFESSORS, Dallaire, Dickter, Forestell, Kieffaber, Stefanucci, Stevens, Thrash, PROFESSOR EMERITUS Watson, Derks. VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSORS Porter. ADJUNCT FACULTY Bierenbaum, Bisconer, Frieden, Gross, and Jensen.

Requirements for Major

Degree of Bachelor of Arts

Required Credit Hours: 25

Major Computing Requirement: Psychology 301.

Major Writing Requirement: To fulfill the Major Writing Requirement majors must earn a grade of "C-" or better in either Psychology 302 or any advanced research course in psychology.

Major requirements: The Psychology major is intended to provide the student with a breadth of knowledge from natural and social science perspectives. Course offerings are categorized accordingly: in general, odd numbered courses reflect a natural perspective while even numbered courses reflect the social perspective.

Core courses: 201, 202, 301, 302, and one advanced research course (410-422).

Electives: In addition to core requirements, majors must take an additional six elective courses. Two of the electives must be selected from even numbered courses (social science requirement) that range between 310-330. An additional two of the electives must be selected from odd numbered courses (natural science requirement) that range between 310-330 (e.g., 311 plus 317). The remaining two elective courses must be numbered 350 or above but can be from among either natural or social sciences courses offered (i.e., the remaining two electives can be odd numbered or even numbered).

Other: Statistics courses in other departments may not be substituted for PSYC 301. At least 29 credits must be other than practicum courses (402, 404, or 498). All students preparing for graduate study in psychology, whether or not they are majors, are advised to obtain practical experiences in areas appropriate to their interest.

Degree of Bachelor of Science

Candidates for the B.S. degree must complete three additional courses in computer science, mathematics, biology, chemistry, geology or physics. This is in addition to satisfying the GER 1 and 2. The preferred science is biology. A combined interdisciplinary degree in Neuroscience is also available, as described on page 181 of this catalog.

Normal Program Recommended for Major

Psychology 201 and 202, 301, 302, one advanced research course (410-422), and a selection of intermediate and advanced courses appropriate to the student's interests and career goals. Students planning to attend graduate school should speak to their advisor about the specific curriculum best suited to their plans.

Minor Requirements

Required Credit Hours: 21

Core Requirements: Psychology 201 and 202, and two courses numbered 370 to 390 or 450 to 470. After taking the necessary courses, students may declare a psychology minor in their senior year when they declare their intent to graduate.

Description of Curriculum

Courses numbered 310-330 are lecture courses, intended for both majors and non-majors. Courses numbered 370-395 are small lecture courses intended primarily for majors, although non-majors interested in the subject matter are encouraged to enroll. Courses numbered 401-409 are practica courses, in which students gain practical experience. They are intended primarily for majors, although non-majors with appropriate qualifications can enroll. Courses numbered 410-425 are seminar-sized laboratory courses intended primarily for majors. Each of these courses provides students with advanced training in the scientific methods of a particular subdiscipline within psychology. Courses numbered 440-469 are seminars, and audiences for these courses will vary from course to course. Contact individual instructors for details.

Description of Courses

150/150W. Freshman Seminar.

Fall or Spring (3,4) Staff.

This course is designed to introduce freshmen to selected topics in Psychology.

201. Introduction to Psychology as a Natural Science.

(GER 2B) Fall and Spring (3,3) Nezelek, Pilkington, Burk, Vishton.

A study of basic principles of behavior, in sensation and perception, conditioning and learning, drives and motivation, response mechanisms and cognitive processes.

202. Introduction to Psychology as a Social Science.

(GER 3) Fall and Spring (3,3) Nezelek, Pilkington, Ventis.

An examination of basic concepts in abnormal, developmental, personality and social psychology, normality and deviation, behavior modification, stages of development, personality traits, motives, attitudes and social perceptions.

275W. University Seminar.

Fall and Spring (4) Staff.

A reading-, writing-, and discussion-intensive seminar. Topics vary by semester and by instructor. Restricted to transfer students and co-enrolled students. Students receiving a grade of "C-" or better in the seminar will have satisfied the lower-division writing requirement. This course does not fulfill the Freshman Seminar requirement.

301. Elementary Statistics.

(GER 1) Fall and Spring (3,3) Barnet, Hunt, Staff. Prerequisite: PSYC 201 or PSYC 202. Corequisite: PSYC 301L.

An introduction to statistics, both descriptive and inferential, including analysis of variance and correlation. Hypothesis testing and the analysis of research data are strongly emphasized.

302. Experimental Methods.

Fall and Spring (4,4) Ball, Langholtz, Stevens, Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301. Corequisite: PSYC 302L.

An introduction to empirical research with emphasis upon the methods by which psychological data are obtained. The course will consider naturalistic and correlational methods as well as experimental techniques.

310. Developmental Psychology.

(GER 3) Fall and Spring (3,3) Bierenbaum, Dallaire, Vishton, Zeman. Prerequisite: PSYC 202.

A survey of human development from prenatal development through adolescence with emphasis on perceptual, cognitive, and socio-emotional processes.

311. Cognitive Psychology.

Fall and Spring (3) Ball, Stevens, Vishton. Prerequisite: PSYC 201.

The course examines human cognition. Topics include: perception, action, attention, memory, thinking, and language. Students will be introduced to the major theoretical perspectives and important empirical research findings from related fields of cognitive psychology, cognitive science and cognitive neuroscience.

312. Personality Theory.

Fall and Spring (3,3) Daly, Thrash, Staff. Prerequisite: PSYC 202.

A survey of contemporary theory in the field with emphasis upon its empirical foundations and future possibilities.

313. Physiological Psychology.

(GER 2B) Fall and Spring (3) Barnett, Hunt. Prerequisite: PSYC 201.

Physiological basis of behavior with emphasis on mechanisms in perception, learning, emotion and motivation.

314. Social Psychology.

Fall and Spring (3,3) Frieden, Pilkington, Porter, Staff. Prerequisite: PSYC 202.

This course examines the effects of social context on the behavior of the individual, with emphasis on prominent theories and research. Topics include social perception, attitude organization and change, the social consequences of individual motives, interpersonal influence, and the application of social psychology to contemporary social issues.

315. Foundations of Learning and Memory.

Fall or Spring (3) Barnett, Staff. Prerequisite: PSYC 201.

Explores the basis of complex human and animal behavior from a general-process approach seeking to understand evolved processes of learning that apply to many different situations. Topics: why behavior changes, classical and instrumental conditioning, punishment, biological basis of learning, and animal cognition.

316. Psychology of Organizational Behavior.

(GER 3) Fall or Spring (3) Staff. Prerequisite: PSYC 202.

The basic unit of analysis for this course will be the human organization: corporate, educational, civil and others. Individual behavior is considered as it reflects and impinges upon the behavior of the organization. Systems analysis provides the basic analytic framework.

317. Sensation & Perception.

Fall (3) Stefanucci, Stevens, Vishton. Prerequisite: PSYC 201.

Survey of topics with specific emphasis on the perceptual experiences in the mind and brain.

318. Abnormal Psychology.

(GER 3) Fall and Spring (3,3) Daly, Frieden, Gross, Nichols, Shean, Staff. Prerequisite: PSYC 202.

A survey of behavior pathology including the neuroses and psychoses and their relationship to current conceptions of normal personality.

319. Cognitive Science.

Spring (3) Staff. Prerequisite PSYC 201.

This course surveys a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches to the scientific study of intelligent thought and behavior in humans, other animals and machines. We will address questions like: how does the mind work? Can computers be conscious? Does language shape thought? Students will explore possible answers to these questions and others by approaching them from the fields of philosophy, computer science, neuroscience, linguistics and cognitive psychology.

320. Community Psychology and Prevention.

Fall (3) Galano. Prerequisite: PSYC 202.

This course explores community psychology and the role of illness prevention and health promotion in mental health. Contemporary prevention theory emphasizing an ecological and developmental approach to understanding risk and protective factors is presented. State-of-the-art model programs and community-based approaches are highlighted. Community-based preventionists make presentations.

371. History and Systems of Psychology.

Spring (3) Frieden. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

From Greek Philosophy to the present with special emphasis on the 19th and 20th centuries. The rise of the major systems: Existential and Humanistic Psychology, Structuralism, Functionalism, Gestalt Psychology, Psychoanalysis, Behaviorism. Some current issues such as the "cognitive revolution," dialectics, genetic epistemology and phenomenological research will be discussed.

372. Motivation and Emotion.

Spring (3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

Theories and facts of motivation and emotion and consideration of their differences. Emphasis on theory and research.

373. Sexuality.

(GER 3) Fall and Spring (3,3) Frieden. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202. Junior or senior standing.

The study of behaviors associated with courtship and reproduction with an emphasis on humans. Topics include biological and environmental determinants of sexual behavior, physiology and psychology of sexual response, and gender differences.

374. Close Relationships.

Spring or Fall (3) Pilkington. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 314.

Examines the scientific body of knowledge concerning the development, maintenance, and deterioration of friendships and romantic relationships. Specific topics include attraction, romantic love, models of relationship satisfaction and individual differences in approaches to close relationships.

375. Psychology of Decision Making.

(GER 3) Fall (3) Langholtz. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202. Business Statistics or Psychology Statistics or junior standing. Enrollment will be split 13 from Business and 13 from Psychology.

An examination and analysis of the cognitive factors that aid or hinder choosing alternative courses of action. The major emphasis will be on psychological processes underlying choice and judgment. Applications to business decisions and policy making will be considered. (Cross listed with BUAD 442)

376. Health Psychology.

(GER 3) Fall or Spring (3) Gross. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

An overview of psychological theory, research and practice concerning the prevention, treatment, and progression of illness and the promotion of health. Specific topics include changing health habits, stress, pain, chronic and terminal illness, and the health-care delivery system.

377. Evolutionary Psychology: The New Science of the Mind.

Spring (3) Kirkpatrick. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

An approach to psychological science based on the assumption that human brains/minds were designed by natural selection to solve adaptive problems faced recurrently by our distant ancestors, with important implications for understanding behavior in contemporary environments.

378. Psychology of Religion.

Spring (3) Ventis. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

Examines the works of William James, Freud, Jung and Gordon Allport in light of current psychological theory and research, emphasizing religious development and the nature, modes and consequences of individual religious experience.

***391. Advanced Statistics.**

Fall (3) Kirkpatrick. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301. This course is a graduate level course that is open to undergraduates. Corequisite: PSYC 391L.

An advanced course in statistics and experimental design. Three class hours, one laboratory hour.

***392. Multivariate Statistics.**

Spring (3) Kirkpatrick. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301. Corequisite: PSYC 392L.

An introduction to multivariate statistics including such topics as multiple regression, multivariate analysis of variance and factor analysis.

402. Exceptional Children.

Fall or Spring (3) Shean. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 310.

A consideration of the problems involved in providing psychological programs for the care of exceptional children. An overview of relevant research and treatment techniques will be combined with practical experience in field settings with exceptional children.

404. Practicum in Community Psychology and Prevention.

Spring (3) Galano. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 320.

Supervised learning experiences provide opportunities to relate theoretical knowledge with the delivery of psychological services in the community. Students combine practicum with readings tailored to their placement. A wide range of community based psychological training opportunities is available. One lecture hour, field trips, and four-eight hours/week in the community.

410. Research in Developmental Psychology.

Fall or Spring (4) Dallaire, Vishton. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 310. Corequisite: PSYC 410L.

An examination of contemporary issues in developmental research. Research methods are considered in conjunction with a review of current literature in areas such as early socialization, cognitive development and behavior problems. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

411. Cognition and Thinking.

Fall or Spring (4) Ball. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 311. Corequisite: PSYC 411L.

An examination of the research and theory that helps describe and explain the structure and function of the mind. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

412. Research in Personality.

Fall or Spring (4) Nezelek, Thrash. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 312. Corequisite: PSYC 412L.

An overview of research methods in the study of personality. Specific research topics such as achievement, motivation, aggression, anxiety, cognitive styles, intelligence and abilities, interpersonal attraction, locus of control, personology, self concept and gender differences will be reviewed in detail. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

413. Research in Physiological Psychology.

Fall. (4) Burk. Prerequisites: PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 313. Corequisite: PSYC 413L.

An advanced course in physiological psychology with emphasis on the anatomical and neurochemical basis of learning and memory. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

414. Research Methods in Social Psychology .

Fall and Spring (4,4) Nezelek. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 314. Corequisite: PSYC 414L.

This course concerns the methods used in contemporary social psychology. The primary emphasis is on laboratory experimentation, but other methods, including field research are considered. Students will be required to develop and complete an empirical research project on a course-related topic. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

415. Comparative Psychology.

Spring (4) Barnet. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 315. Corequisite: PSYC 415L.

An examination of psychological mechanisms in animals that subserve such cognitive processes as perception, attention, working and reference memory, associative learning, spatial navigation, time perception, counting, concept learning and primate cognition. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

417. Research in Sensation & Perception.

Fall or Spring (4) Ball, Stevens, Stefanucci, Vishton. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 317. Corequisite: PSYC 417L.

The course is concerned with the processes by which persons come to understand their environment. It considers what changes in the environment stimulate the senses and how the nervous system operates on this change to form projections about the real world. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

418. Research in Abnormal Psychology.

Fall or Spring (4) Shean. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 318. Corequisite: PSYC 418L.

This course will cover an in depth study of issues and approaches to classifying and understanding the origins of selected adult mental disorders. Students will also be required to develop and complete an empirical research project on a course-related topic.

422. Behavior Modification.

Fall or Spring (4) Porter, Tiller, Ventis, Zeman. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302, PSYC 318. Corequisite: PSYC 422L.

This course will acquaint students with both techniques and research issues in behavior modification. Laboratory sessions will be devoted to gaining experience with the processes described and to preparing and implementing individual research projects. Three lecture hours, two laboratory hours.

445. Psychopharmacology.

Fall (3) Burk. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 313.

The systematic study of the effects of drugs on behavior, cognitive functioning, and emotions. Students will gain an in-depth view of neuro-transmitter systems and the mechanisms by which drugs act on these systems to alter behavior.

447. Cognitive Neuroscience.

Spring (3). Stevens, Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 313, PSYC 310.

This course examines neuroanatomy from a behavioral point of view. Students will learn how different parts of the brain organize into functional circuits that control various aspects of behavior, cognitive function, and emotions.

453. Infancy.

Fall (3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 310.

This seminar explores human development during the first two years of life. Course will cover historical and contemporary perspectives of perceptual, cognitive, and social development.

***454. Shame & Self-Respect.**

Spring (3) Nichols. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

This seminar explores the psychology of shame in its constructive role of enforcing ideals and honor as well as its miscarriage in the form of deep self-loathing. Discussion will be informed by readings in psychological texts as well as classic novels.

470. Topics in Psychology.

Fall and Spring (3,3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, as determined by individual professor.

Courses concerning special topics not covered in detail in regular course offerings. Course may be repeated; contents will vary but the credit each time is the same; three hours.

***480. Seminar.**

Fall and Spring (3,3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

Special topics of interest to staff and students will be discussed in seminar fashion. Course may be repeated; contents will vary but the credit each time is the same; three hours.

***490. Directed Readings in Psychology.**

Fall and Spring (1-3,1-3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

Individual supervised readings on special topics. Usually for advanced students. A student must have permission of a faculty supervisor before registering. Course may be repeated, contents and credit each time may vary according to an agreement reached between supervisor and student at the time of registration.

***491. Independent Research.**

Fall and Spring (1-3,1-3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202.

Individually supervised empirical investigations in the various areas of psychology. A student must have permission of a faculty supervisor before registering. Course may be repeated, contents and credit each time may vary according to an agreement reached between supervisor and student at the time of registration. This course does not meet the advanced research course requirement for the psychology major.

†*495-496. Honors.

Fall, Spring (3,3) Staff. Prerequisites: PSYC 201, PSYC 202, PSYC 301, PSYC 302.

A student admitted to Honors study is eligible for an award of Honors in psychology on graduation. Requirements include: (a) supervised research in the student's special area of interest; (b) presentation by May 1 of an Honors thesis; and (c) satisfactory performance in a comprehensive oral examination in the field of the student's major interest. See the Department Honors section of the catalog or <http://fswb.wm.edu/charles>.

***498. Internship.**

Fall and Spring (1-3,1-3) Staff.

This course is designed to allow students to gain practical experience. The internship includes readings in relevant areas and a written report. The student must have a faculty member willing to supervise the internship, and a site willing to host it. A departmental handout describes the requirements in greater detail. Application required.