The Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences offers PhD programs in behavioral and cellular neuroscience, clinical psychology, cognition and cognitive neuroscience, industrial/organizational psychology, and social and personality psychology. We have also developed several cross-area interdisciplinary initiatives in diversity science, affective science, and personality processes. The doctoral program in psychology is strongly research oriented; all students are expected to become involved with research beginning in their first year. We also offer a Master of Science program in industrial/organizational psychology, which is intended for students who are interested in employment using psychological principles in the workplace and in organizations.

Doctoral Programs

As a department, we seek to be a leader in psychological research and education. Our faculty members are engaged in innovative research programs focused on studying and intervening in behavior through diverse methods and approaches, from micro to macro, with an aim of improving human health and well-being.

The objectives of the PhD program are:

- To prepare students to conduct high quality research, to direct research by others, and to communicate research findings through teaching and writing.
- To prepare students for careers in academic settings or organizations that involve practical solutions to personal, social, or organizational problems.

We enroll approximately 100 graduate students and offer numerous opportunities for student collaboration with faculty. The student-faculty ratio is roughly 2:1, which allows individualized attention to develop research and professional skills.

All graduate students admitted to the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences are provided a fellowship or assistantship that pays a competitive monthly salary. Typically this support is available for the entire period of graduate study, four or five years. Office space, computers, funds to travel to professional conventions, and funds to pursue professional development, are also provided.

All of the programs within the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences support an active speaker series that brings to campus many faculty members from other universities each year. This series provides exposure to different perspectives on the field and the opportunity to network with professors at other institutions.

Master’s Program

The Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences offers a terminal master’s degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. This is the scientific study of human behavior at work and the application of that science to workplace issues facing individuals, teams, and organizations. Individuals with master’s degrees in I/O psychology are employed in consulting, private practice, government, and corporations. The master’s program at TAMU emphasizes the application of psychological principles to human resource decisions and organizational behavior challenges. Students benefit from training by faculty who also teach courses in a nationally ranked I/O Psychology Ph.D. program.

Faculty

Alexander-Packard, Gerianne, Professor
Psychology
PHD, McGill University, 1991

Anderson, Brian A, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, John Hopkins University, 2014

Arthur Jr, Winfred E, Professor
Psychology
PHD, The University of Akron, 1988

Balsis, Stephen M, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, Washington University in St. Louis, 2008

Bergman, Mindy E, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2001

Bernard, Jessica A, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Michigan, 2012

Bodden, Jack L, Lecturer
Psychology
PHD, Ohio State University, 1969

Bolanos, Carlos A, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, Northeastern University, 2000

Bolger Jr, Patrick A, Instructional Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Arizona, 2005

Brooker, Rebecca J, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, Pennsylvania State University, 2011

Carter Sowell, Adrienne R, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, Purdue University, 2010

Dawson Mathur, Vani A, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, Northwestern University, 2012

Edens, John F, Professor
Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 1996
Edens, Pamela S, Lecturer
Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 1997

Eitan, Shoshana, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, Weizmann Institute of Science, 1997

Fields, Shereece A, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of South Florida, 2008

Geraci, Lisa D, Professor
Psychology
PHD, State University of New York at Stony Brook, 2001

Grau, James W, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Pennsylvania, 1985

Heffer Jr, Robert W, Clinical Professor
Psychology
PHD, Louisiana State University and A&M College, 1988

Hicks, Joshua A, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Missouri - Columbia, 2009

Hull, Rachel G, Instructional Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2003

Lench, Heather C, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of California Irvine, 2007

Leunes, Arnold D, Senior Professor
Psychology
PHD, North Texas State College, 1969

MacNamara, Annmarie E, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, Stony Brook University, 2013
MFA, Glasgow School of Art, 2006

Madkins, Jeanette P, Lecturer
Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2007

Maren, Stephen A, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Southern California, 1993

Meagher, Mary W, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1989

Miner, Kathi N, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Michigan, 2004

Morey, Leslie C, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Florida, 1981

Moscarello, Justin M, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2010

Nagaya, Naomi, Research Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Southern California, 1993

Orr, Joseph M, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Michigan, 2011

Packard, Mark G, Professor
Psychology
PHD, McGill University, 1991

Payne, Stephanie C, Professor
Psychology
PHD, George Mason University, 2000

Rholes, William S, Professor
Psychology
PHD, Princeton University, 1978

Sabat, Isaac E, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, George Mason University, 2016

Schlegel, Rebecca J, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of California Santa Barbara, 1986

Schmeichel, Brandon J, Professor
Psychology
PHD, Florida State University, 2005

Schumacher, Jay S, Lecturer
Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 1999

Smallman, Rachel E, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, 2010

Smith, Rachel J, Assistant Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Pennsylvania, 2008

Smith, Steven M, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Wisconsin - Madison, 1979

Snyder, Douglas K, Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1978
Stagner, Brian H, Clinical Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 1982

Vaid, Jyotsna, Professor
Psychology
PHD, McGill University, 1982

Vess, Matthew K, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Missouri, 2010

Wellman, Paul J, Professor
Psychology
PHD, Iowa State University, 1980

Worthy, Darrell A, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Texas, 2010

Yamauchi, Takashi, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, Columbia University, 1997

Masters

• Master of Science in Psychology (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/liberal-arts/psychology/ms)

Doctoral

• Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/liberal-arts/psychology/clinical-psychology-phd)

• Doctor of Philosophy in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/liberal-arts/psychology/industrial-organizational-psychology-phd)

• Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/liberal-arts/psychology/phd)

Courses

PSYC 603 Motivation and Cognitive Processes
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Selected topics in areas of motivation and higher mental processes; symbolic processes in perceptual organization; learning and remembering, reasoning and creativity.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 605 Memory and Consciousness
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Research on consciousness and memory; all levels of conscious awareness associated with memory retrieval from detailed personal experiences of remembering to unaware uses of memory; implicit and explicit memory; automatic and controlled processes; metacognitive explorations of consciousness.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 606/NRSC 606 Learning
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Procedural and theoretical issues in study of basic learning mechanisms in animals and humans, including Pavlovian and instrumental conditioning. Application of this work to other domains and relevant biological mechanisms also discussed.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.
Cross Listing: NRSC 606/PSYC 606.

PSYC 607 Experimental Psychology
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.
Experimental methods; developing a general frame of reference for approaching experimental research problems.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 608 Introduction to Clinical Ethics and Techniques
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Ethical and legal issues in clinical practice; development of listening and interpretation skills; supervised practicum in interviewing non-clinical subjects; structured role-play of clinical situations.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 609/NRSC 609 Physiological Psychology
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.
Current research and methodological procedures on physiological bases of sensation-perception, memory and learning, arousal-sleep-attention, emotions and motivation.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.
Cross Listing: NRSC 609/PSYC 609.

PSYC 610 Organizational Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Current literature and research in employee motivation, satisfaction, leadership, communication, group conflict and other group processes.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 611 Personnel Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Application of psychological principles and research methods to the areas of selection, placement, job analysis, performance appraisal and training.
Prerequisites: PSYC 251 or PSYC 353 or graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 613 Practicum in Psychological Assessment
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Other Hours.
Application of psychological assessment across the life-span; assessment of cognitive, intellectual, academic, and memory abilities and adaptive behavior; assessment of personality, behavioral style, and systems/environment; integration of assessment measures in comprehensive psychological evaluations; attendance required at Practicum Seminar designed to integrate research, coursework, and applied training and supervisory instruction from a faculty supervisor; at least 3 credits and no more than 18 credits applied to degree plan.
Prerequisites: PSYC 623 and PSYC 624, or approval of instructor.

PSYC 614 Practicum in Psychology
Credits 1 to 6. 1 to 6 Other Hours.
Practical on-the-job experience for graduate students. Activities will be guided by psychologists in the following areas: behavior modification, social, clinical, experimental and industrial. Supervision will be provided by members of University staff. May be taken more than once but not to exceed 18 hours of credit toward a graduate degree.
Prerequisite: PSYC 608 or approval of instructor.
PSYC 615/NRSC 615 Perceptual Processes  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Complex sensory and perceptual phenomena with emphasis on the relationship between perception and motivation, cognition, creativity and instinctive/ethological; learning/experiential factors in higher level perceptual processes.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.  
Cross Listing: NRSC 615/PSYC 615.

PSYC 616 Treatment of Problem Behavior in Children and Families  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Current methods of treating families with children displaying aggressive, hyperactive, underachieving and other problem behaviors in natural settings; behavior of children and adolescents at home, school and at play.  
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 617 Analytical Psychology  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Survey emphasizing Jungian psychology but including coverage of Freudian psychology; application of analytical principles and concepts to a variety of clinical issues and situations.  
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 618 Psychology of Persuasion  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Theory and scientific evidence regarding strategies and tactics of persuasion; explores theoretical controversies and presents potential integrations.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 619 History and Systems of Psychology  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Historical examination of scientific psychology's antecedents in philosophy and physiology; early systems of psychology including structuralism, functionalism, behaviorism, Gestalt psychology and psychoanalysis.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 620 Theories of Social Psychology  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Current theories of social psychology and a review of related studies to these theories; theories of attitude change, prosocial behavior, aggression, equity, coalition formation, social learning and S-R theory applied to social behavior.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 621 Seminar in Social Psychology  
Credits 3.3 Other Hours.  
Attitudes and persuasion; small group interaction and performance; prosocial behavior; aggression; self concept; applied social problems; gender differences in social interaction; and social cognition. May be repeated up to three times for credit.  
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 622 Affective Science  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Overview of theories and approaches in the interdisciplinary field of affective science; historical and contemporary approaches focused on emotional and affective processes.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 623 Psychological Assessment I  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Principles of psychological testing; uses and critical evaluation of tests of achievement, intelligence, aptitude and personality.  
Prerequisite: Enrollment in Clinical Psychology Program or approval of instructor.

PSYC 624 Psychological Assessment II  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Theory and application of psychological assessment of children, adolescents, and adults; assessment of cognitive, intellectual, academic, and memory abilities and adaptive behavior; integration of assessment measures in comprehensive psychological evaluations.  
Prerequisite: Enrollment in Clinical Psychology Program or approval of instructor.

PSYC 625 Psychopathology  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Various symptom categories in psychopathology including differing theoretical conceptualizations of these symptom categories, and theories and research concerning etiology and treatment.  
Prerequisite: Enrollment in Clinical Psychology Program or approval of instructor.

PSYC 626 Behavior Disorders in Children  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Theory and application of psychological assessment of toddlers, children, and adolescents; assessment of cognitive, intellectual, academic, and memory abilities and adaptive behavior; assessment of personality, behavioral style, family functioning, and child-focused systems; integration of assessment measures in comprehensive psychological evaluations.  
Prerequisite: PSYC 624 or approval of instructor.

PSYC 627 Psychological Assessment of Children and Adolescents  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Theory and application of psychological assessment of children, adolescents, and adults; assessment of cognitive, intellectual, academic, and memory abilities and adaptive behavior; assessment of personality, behavioral style, family functioning, and child-focused systems; integration of assessment measures in comprehensive psychological evaluations.  
Prerequisite: PSYC 624 or approval of instructor.

PSYC 628 Behavior Disorders in Children  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Different systems of classification including research and theory about the origins and anticipated outcomes of various emotional disorders; families of disturbed children; major treatment approaches and community resources for intervention.  
Prerequisites: PSYC 407 or equivalent and graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 629 Seminar in Clinical/Community Psychology  
Credits 3.3 Other Hours.  
Assessment and treatment of specific clinical disorders such as depression, sexual dysfunctions and deviations, anxiety-based disorders, autism, marital distress and psychophysiological disorders. May be repeated up to three times for credit.  
Prerequisites: PSYC 608 and PSYC 626; PSYC 623 or equivalent.

PSYC 630 Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine  
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.  
Theory, research and practice of health psychology emphasizing the prevention and modification of health compromising behaviors; psychological management of stress, pain and chronic/terminal illness; effective interventions for specific health behaviors/disorders.  
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.
PSYC 633 Gender and Minority Issues in Clinical Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Human behavior and mental health as a function of culture, gender and sexual orientation; discussion of absolutist, relativist and universalist perspectives in cross-cultural psychology; psychology of stereotype and prejudice; adjustment through acculturation and biculturalism; learning about our own and other cultures.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 634 Principles of Human Development
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Biological, psychological and cultural interrelationships in human development; principles and methods as illustrated in research and theoretical contributions; experiences in procedures of child study.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 635 Behavioral and Cellular Research Seminar
Credits 2. 2 Other Hours.
Expose graduate students to neuroscience research, theory, and proposal development; research presentations by guest speakers, faculty, and graduate students; Discussions, readings and presentations on issues related to research design, statistics, methodology, ethics, IACUC, grant writing, presentation skills, job talks, and other relevant topics. May be taken four times for credit.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 636 Seminar in Developmental Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Other Hours.
Cognitive development; social and emotional development; developmental abnormalities in connection with social/emotional and cognitive development; language acquisition; family processes; and development during infancy; recent developments in these fields. Topics will vary from semester to semester; may be repeated for credit up to three times as topics change.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 637 Clinical Interventions I
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Theory, research and techniques related to evidence-based behavioral and cognitive-behavioral approaches to clinical interventions; ethical, professional, multicultural and history/systems issues in therapeutic psychological interventions.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in Clinical Psychology Graduate Program or approval of instructor.

PSYC 638 Clinical Interventions II
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Theory, research, and techniques related to evidence-based interpersonal, psychodynamic, group therapy, and family therapy approaches to clinical interventions; ethical, professional, multicultural, and history/systems issues in therapeutic psychological interventions.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in Clinical Psychology Graduate Program or approval of instructor.

PSYC 639 Pediatric Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Application of clinical/counseling/school psychology to children and adolescents with chronic illnesses or disabilities and their families; theoretical foundations and models for consultation, assessment and intervention strategies; unique ethical and professional issues associated with research and service delivery in child health psychology/pediatric behavioral medicine.
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 640 Personality Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Research on personality structure, process and development covering all levels of individuality from traits to goals/motives to narrative identities; research methods including factor analysis; connections between personality research and other major areas of psychology including developmental, clinical, organizational and social.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 649/NRSC 649 Seminar in Behavioral Neuroscience
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Behavioral neuroscience; including behavioral pharmacology, neuropharmacology, methods and techniques, drug reinforcement, behavioral toxicology, pain perception and ingestive behavior. May be repeated up to three times for credit.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 650/NRSC 650 Clinical Psychopharmacology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Survey of topics in clinical psychopharmacology, including pharmacodynamics, major neurotransmitter systems, and therapeutic applications and limitations.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 651/AFST 651 Cultural Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Surveys key readings in the field of cultural psychology; discussion and examination of relationship between psychological processes (e.g., motivation, memory, self perception, prejudice) and sociocultural contexts.
Prerequisites: Enrollment in a graduate program or approval of instructor.

PSYC 655/AFST 655 Professional Seminar in Social Psychology
Credits 2. 1 Lecture Hour. 2 Lab Hours.
Survey of recent theoretical, methodological and empirical developments in social psychology; different topics each semester will include theory and research on attitudes and persuasion, social cognition, interpersonal relationships, group processes, social development, and personality and social behavior. May be taken for credit up to eight times.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 661/AFST 661 Experimental Design for Behavioral Scientists
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.
Intensive practical study of designs of special interest to behavioral scientists; repeated measures designs.
Prerequisite: STAT 652 or equivalent.
Cross Listing: NRSC 671/PSYC 649.

PSYC 670 Clinical Psychology and the Legal System
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Survey of theoretical and applied topics relevant to clinical psychology in the legal system; includes assessment of adjudicative competence, criminal responsibility and risk assessment; correctional psychology and offender rehabilitation.
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 675/NRSC 675 Couples Therapy
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Theory and practice of marital therapy emphasizing systems and communication approaches; effective strategies and techniques; therapy with specific marital problems and obstacles to effective therapy.
Prerequisites: CPSY 631; CPSY 639 or equivalent.
Cross Listing: CPSY 678/PSYC 678.
PSYC 680 Seminar in Organizational Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Other Hours.
Areas of organizational psychology: job stress, socialization processes, motivation, leadership, person perception in organizations, conflict management. May be repeated up to five times for credit; content will vary by semester.
Prerequisite: PSYC 610 or approval of instructor.

PSYC 681 Industrial/Organizational Psychology
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Lecture Hours.
Both research and applied colloquia provided by I/O psychologists and individuals in related disciplines.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 682 Seminar in Personnel Selection and Placement
Credits 3. 3 Other Hours.
Personnel selection and placement including job analysis and evaluation, psychological testing, test development, psychometric theory, theories of test fairness, validity generalization, utility theory, performance appraisal and selection/placement decision models. May be repeated up to five times for credit; content will vary by semester.
Prerequisite: PSYC 611 or approval of instructor.

PSYC 684 Professional Internship
Credits 0 to 12. 0 to 12 Other Hours.
Full-time clinical experience in a departmentally-approved internship training facility. Limited to advanced doctoral students specializing in clinical psychology. May be taken up to 12 hours total.
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 685 Directed Studies
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Other Hours.
Directed individual study of selected problem in psychology or special topics to fit small group requirements.
Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

PSYC 689 Special Topics in...
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Other Hours.
Selected topics in an identified area of psychology. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 690 Cognoscenti: Professional Issues in Cognitive Psychology
Credits 2. 2 Lecture Hours.
Introduce students to current themes in research, theory and practice in cognitive psychology; presentations by guest speakers from within and outside the University.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 691 Research
Credits 1 to 23. 1 to 23 Other Hours.
Research for thesis.

PSYC 696 Principles and Methods for Teaching in Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Practical issues related to college teaching; reflection on and improvement of teaching skills; developing course objectives and teaching philosophies; improving teaching tools; understanding teaching-learning situations; advising students; ethics in teaching.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 697 Seminar in the Teaching of Introductory Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Introductory methods relevant to teaching psychology; for graduate students assisting in the teaching of PSYC 107.
Prerequisite: Graduate classification or approval of instructor.