DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES

Psychology majors receive a rigorous program of undergraduate education and training that encourages critical thinking, lifelong learning, and the analysis and integration of information about individuals and groups of people. The curriculum leading to a degree in psychology provides students with an understanding of human behavior and the ability to use scientific methods to answer questions about human behavior. Students are prepared to enter a variety of graduate and professional programs in psychology and related fields (such as law, medical school), as well as to enter entry-level employment in a number of fields (such as business, human resources).

BA/BS Degrees: Students majoring in psychology may earn either the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. The psychology course requirements for the two degrees are identical; they differ with respect to the requirements in other disciplines. For example, the BA degree requires courses in a foreign language and extra humanities hours, whereas the BS degree requires additional hours in the physical and biological sciences. The two degrees are offered to allow students to complete their non-psychology course of study in fields of greatest interest to them. Thus, students who have stronger interests in the natural and life sciences should pursue the BS degree, whereas those with stronger interests in foreign language and the humanities should pursue the BA degree.

Both degrees provide students with the necessary curriculum requirements to pursue graduate study in psychology in most institutions, as well as other professional fields such as law. Students planning to apply to medical school or other physical health professional programs are advised to select the BS degree program.

Honors: Students who qualify for the University Honors Program should contact the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences about the department’s own honors program which places an emphasis on small classes and independent research experience.

Minors: A non-psychology minor is optional for psychology majors. If chosen, a minor must consist of 15–18 credit hours, no more than 9 of which may be lower division and must be declared before the student completes 90 credit hours. No more than 6 hours from the minor may be used to fulfill other Core requirements. A grade of C or higher is required if a course is to be counted in the major or minor field. A psychology minor is available for non-psychology majors (see below). For more information about Psychology undergraduate programs, please visit the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences website.

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

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

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

Salter, Phia S, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Kansas, 2010

Samuelson, Charles D, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of California Santa Barbara, 1986

Schlegel, Rebecca J, Associate Professor
Psychology
PHD, University of Missouri - Columbia, 2009

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

Majors

• Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/ba)
• Bachelor of Science in Psychology (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/bs)

Minors

• Psychology Minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/minor)

Certificates

• Applied Behavioral Health Certificate (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/applied-behavioral-health-certificate)
• Healthy Development Certificate (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/healthy-development-certificate)
• Psychology of Diversity Certificate (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/psychology-diversity-certificate)
• Work and Organizations Certificate (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/work-organizations-certificate)

Courses

PSYC 107 Introduction to Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
(PSYC 2301) Introduction to Psychology. Introductory course dealing with elementary principles of human behavior.

PSYC 206/AFST 206 Black Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Critical examination of psychological experience, theories, and methods from perspectives grounded in the "Black experience."
Cross Listing: AFST 206/PSYC 206.

PSYC 208/AFST 208 Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Minority Experience
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of theory and research relating to stereotyping, prejudice, discrimination, and minority experiences from a social psychological perspective.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.
Cross Listing: AFST 208/PSYC 208.

PSYC 209/AFST 209 Psychology of Culture and Diversity
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Introduction to various issues surrounding an increasingly interconnected and globalized world by critically examining the dynamic relationship between psychological processes and diverse (e.g., motivation, memory, self, prejudice) socio-cultural contexts.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.
Cross Listing: AFST 209/PSYC 209.

PSYC 210/WGST 210 Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Interface between human sexuality, reproductive development, and gender roles across the lifespan; theoretical and research literature promotes understanding of hormonal influences, learning processes, cultural differences, sexual response, and love and attraction.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.

PSYC 251 Survey of Industrial/Organizational Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Literature and research in the basic theories and practices of I/O psychology including selection, testing, job analysis, performance appraisal, training, employee motivation, job satisfaction, leadership, and group processes within organizations. Students may not receive credit for both PSYC 251 and PSYC 352 or PSYC 251 and PSYC 353.

PSYC 285 Directed Studies
Credits 0 to 3. 0 to 3 Other Hours.
Directed readings or research problems in selected areas designed to supplement existing course offerings; individual report required.
Prerequisites: Approval of instructor; major in psychology.

PSYC 289 Special Topics in...
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours. 0 to 4 Lab Hours.
Selected topics in an identified area of psychology. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.

PSYC 291 Research
Credits 0 to 3. 0 to 3 Other Hours.
Research conducted under the supervision of a chosen faculty member in the department of psychology; involves discussion and weekly presentation of student research projects. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: PSYC 285; freshman or sophomore classification.

PSYC 300/WGST 300 Psychology of Women
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Theoretical and research literature relevant to psychological assumptions about the female personality. How these assumptions are being questioned or verified by recent experimental studies.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.
Cross Listing: WGST 300/PSYC 300.

PSYC 301 Elementary Statistics for Psychology
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Practical knowledge of statistics up through analysis of variance. Practice sessions devoted to numerical problems. Will not satisfy mathematics requirement in College of Liberal Arts curricula.
Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in PSYC 107; MATH 140 or MATH 150 with a grade of C or better, MATH 141, MATH 142, MATH 166, MATH 151, MATH 171, MATH 131, or MATH 147; major in psychology.

PSYC 302 Research Methods and Design in Psychology
Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Research techniques in psychology with emphasis on the experimental method; laboratory exercises applied to specific problems in psychology.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 and PSYC 301; major in psychology.
PSYC 303 Psychology of Women of Color
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Interdisciplinary theories to study the unique yet intersectional experiences of women from different racial groups, ethnicities, nationalities and cultural backgrounds; scholarly research from the diversity science field; contemporary topics that have developed in a global context; examination of complex issues, which affect women of color across the lifespan.
Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in AFST 201 or PSYC 107 or WGST 200, or approval of instructor.
Cross Listing: AFST 303 and WGST 303.
PSYC 304 Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
The relationship of psychology to sport; topics include history, application of learning principles, social psychology, personality variables, psychological assessment, youth sport, women in sport, the psychology of coaching, sports law and ethics.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.
PSYC 305 Psychology of Adjustment
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Adjustment problems of normal people; application of psychological principles to family, school and community life.
PSYC 306 Abnormal Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Survey of behavior pathology; functional and organic psychoses, psychoneurosis, character disorders, psychophysiological disorders, alcohol and drug addiction and mental retardation; therapeutic and diagnostic methods.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302 recommended.
PSYC 307 Developmental Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Growth and development of normal child from infancy to adolescence with emphasis on elementary school years.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302 recommended.
PSYC 311/NRSC 311 Psychology of Animal Behavior
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Problems, principles, and methods of animal psychology; animal learning, motivation, discriminative processes and abnormal, social and instinctual behaviors.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107, BIOL 111, or BIOL 113.
Cross Listing: NRSC 311/PSYC 311.
PSYC 315 Social Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Social psychological variables operating on the individual; results of experimental laboratory findings; interaction of personality and social behavior.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.
PSYC 319 History and Systems of Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Historical analysis of pre-scientific psychology in philosophy and physiology through the period of the psychological "schools."
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.
PSYC 320/NRSC 320 Sensation-Perception
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Review of sensory physiology, sensory and perceptual phenomena and the major perceptual theories; current research in the field.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302 recommended.
Cross Listing: NRSC 320/PSYC 320.
PSYC 323 Psychology of Adolescence
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Psychological problems of normal teenage individual; ways and means of aiding youth to meet these problems constructively.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302 recommended.
PSYC 330 Personality
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Review of personality theories, techniques of assessment and research relevant to understanding individual differences.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302 recommended.
PSYC 331/NRSC 331 Social Neuroscience
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Integration of biological and psychological explanations of social behavior; recent research and theories in social neuroscience; emotion, motivation, aggression, face processing, empathy, social cognition, and social relationships.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107 or approval of instructor; junior or senior classification.
Cross Listing: NRSC 331/PSYC 331.
PSYC 332/NRSC 332 Neuroscience of Learning and Memory
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Brain mechanisms of learning and memory from molecular to behavioral levels; synaptic plasticity, model systems, multiple memory systems, diseases of learning and memory.
Prerequisites: PSYC 335/NRSC 335, NRSC 335/PSYC 335, PSYC 340/NRSC 340, NRSC 340/PSYC 340, VIBS 277/NRSC 277, or NRSC 277/VIBS 277.
Cross Listing: NRSC 332/PSYC 332.
PSYC 333/NRSC 333 Biology of Psychological Disorders
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Neurobiology and clinical explanation of molecular mechanisms underlying psychiatric disorders and their drug treatments; depression and bipolar, anxiety disorders, mood disorders, psychosis and schizophrenia.
Prerequisites: PSYC 335/NRSC 335, NRSC 335/PSYC 335, PSYC 340/NRSC 340, NRSC 340/PSYC 340, VIBS 277/NRSC 277, or NRSC 277/VIBS 277.
Cross Listing: NRSC 333/PSYC 333.
PSYC 335/NRSC 335 Physiological Psychology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Physiological bases of sensation, motor functions, emotion, motivation and complex psychological processes.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107, BIOL 111, or BIOL 113.
Cross Listing: NRSC 335/PSYC 335.
PSYC 336/NRSC 336 Drugs and Behavior
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Physiological, pharmacological and behavioral effects of psychoactive
Drugs, including short-term and long-term effects of psychoactive drugs,
properties of addictive drugs, etiology of addiction, and treatments of
drug addiction and withdrawal.
Prerequisites: PSYC 335/NRSC 335, NRSC 335/PSYC 335, PSYC 340/
NRSC 340, NRSC 340/PSYC 340, VIBS 277/NRSC 277, or NRSC 277/
VIBS 277.
Cross Listing: NRSC 336/PSYC 336.

PSYC 340/NRSC 340 Psychology of Learning
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Survey of significant concepts, experimental methods and principles of
learning.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107, BIOL 111, or BIOL 113.

PSYC 345 Human Cognitive Processes
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Human cognition and information processing: perception, attention,
memory, reasoning and problem solving; experimental methods and data,
and contemporary theories of human cognition.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302; or junior or senior
classification.

PSYC 346 Psychology of Language
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Examines theories of how language is acquired, comprehended,
produced, stored and used in normal and brain-impaired individuals.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; or junior or senior classification.

PSYC 350/NRSC 350 Cognitive Neuroscience
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Research in cognitive neuroscience; methodological advances that
enable the study of the human brain safely in the laboratory; complex
aspects of the mind like emotion, social behavior and consciousness.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107; PSYC 301, PSYC 302, and NRCS 277
recommended.
Cross Listing: NRSC 350/PSYC 350.

PSYC 352 Organizational Psychology
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Literature and research in basic theories and practices of organizational
psychology including employee motivation, leadership, job satisfaction,
counterproductive work behaviors, organizational commitment, culture,
climate, communication, and group processes within organizations.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and
PSYC 302 recommended.

PSYC 353 Personnel Psychology
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Literature and research in basic theories and practices of personnel
psychology including job analysis, testing and validation, selection,
performance appraisal, training, and legal issues in employment decision
making.
Prerequisites: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and
PSYC 302 recommended.

PSYC 354 Conflict and Negotiation
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of the field of conflict and negotiation, including the
structure and causes of common interpersonal, intragroup, and
intergroup conflicts, effective negotiation strategies, ethics, mediation,
and the development of negotiating skills.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.

PSYC 360/NRSC 360 Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Health psychology emphasizing behavioral and lifestyle factors in
health and illness, prevention and modification of health-compromising
behaviors, health care utilization, and psychological management of
chronic disorders and psychological management of chronic disorders
and terminal illnesses.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.
Cross Listing: NRSC 360/PSYC 360.

PSYC 365 Psychology of Aging
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of the psychological aspects of the aging process including
physiology and health, memory and intellectual functioning, personality
and social relationships, emotional health and late life transition.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107.

PSYC 371 Forensic Psychology
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Interface between psychology and the legal system; role of psychological
theories and data, as well as mental health expertise, in the resolution of
criminal trials and civil disputes; legal system's impact on the practice of
psychology.
Prerequisite: PSYC 107; junior or senior classification; PSYC 301 and
PSYC 302 recommended.

PSYC 407 Behavioral Disorders of Children
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Behavior problems related to childhood; psychological aspects of
mental retardation, emotional disturbance, physical handicaps and other
disorders; causative factors, preventative and therapeutic methods
explored; where feasible, practical experience included as requirement.
Prerequisites: PSYC 306; PSYC 307 or equivalent.

PSYC 411 Psychology of Self
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of psychological theory and research on issues related to the
self, the self-concept and identity, and how these phenomena are integral
to the human experience and to mental health and well-being.
Prerequisite: PSYC 315 or approval of instructor.

PSYC 414 Behavior Principles
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Behavioral analysis of humans' complex interactions with their
environments: how behavioral repertoires are constructed during
maturation process; how present behaviors are strengthened, weakened
or eliminated; and how features of environment exercise control over
behavioral components within a repertory.
Prerequisites: 9 hours of psychology, PSYC 107; junior or senior
classification; PSYC 301 and PSYC 302 recommended.

PSYC 432 Diversity and Inclusion in Organizations
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Psychological and organizational theory and research on the experience
do diversity and inclusion in organizations.
Prerequisites: PSYC 315, PSYC 352, PSYC 353, or approval of instructor.

PSYC 440/NRSC 440 Hormones and Behavior
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Principles of hormones and the endocrine system; relationships among
hormones, the nervous system and a variety of behaviors in vertebrates
including humans.
Prerequisites: PSYC 335/NRSC 335, NRSC 335/PSYC 335, PSYC 340/
NRSC 340, NRSC 340/PSYC 340, VIBS 277/NRSC 277, or NRSC 277/
VIBS 277, or approval of instructor.
Cross Listing: NRSC 440/PSYC 440.
PSYC 450 Clinical Psychology  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Analysis of the field of clinical psychology with a particular focus on the theoretical and scientific bases for the practice of clinical psychology.  
**Prerequisites:** PSYC majors only; grade of C or better in PSYC 301, PSYC 302 and PSYC 306.

PSYC 470 Psychological Testing and Measurement  
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.  
Theories and techniques of measurement of psychological concepts; a range of measurement models and procedures; critical tasks of evaluating strategies for measuring psychological concepts and drawing inferences and interpretations from commonly used psychological assessments.  
**Prerequisites:** PSYC 301 recommended; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

PSYC 484 Field Experiences  
Credits 0 to 6. 0 to 6 Other Hours.  
Participation in an approved mental health, mental retardation, school, industrial or other approved setting; field experiences supervised by an appropriate professor within an area of student interest; course requirements vary with the setting, the supervising professor and the needs of the individual student. May be repeated for credit.  
**Prerequisites:** PSYC 301 and PSYC 302; 12 hours of psychology; GPR of 2.5 or better in all psychology courses; major in psychology; approval of instructor.

PSYC 485 Directed Studies  
Credits 0 to 6. 0 to 6 Other Hours.  
Directed readings or research problems in selected areas designed to supplement existing course offerings. May be repeated for credit.  
**Prerequisite:** Approval of instructor.

PSYC 489 Special Topics in...  
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.  
Selected topics in an identified area of psychology. May be repeated for credit.  
**Prerequisites:** PSYC 107 and approval of instructor.

PSYC 491 Research  
Credits 0 to 3. 0 to 3 Other Hours.  
Research conducted under the supervision of a chosen faculty member in the department of psychology; involves discussion and presentation of student research projects. May be repeated for credit.  
**Prerequisites:** PSYC 484 or PSYC 485; approval of instructor.