

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY (PSY)

202 AYERS HALL

Department Head: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Professors: Palya

Assistant Professors: Dempsey, P. McKerchar, T. McKerchar, Stout

Instructors: Conroy, Cothran

The psychology curriculum includes a broad range of theoretical, methodological, and survey courses in the field. In addition, there are applied courses in professional areas. Students majoring or minoring in psychology have the option of selecting courses with a specific emphasis in accordance with personal and professional interests and goals. Psychology courses are also open for general elective credit to all students with appropriate prerequisites.

**Psychology Major (B.S.).** The requirements for a major are a minimum of thirty-three (33) hours of psychology. PSY 201 is to be taken as one of the two courses required in Area IV for the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirements; one of the following courses may be taken for the second course requirement: AN 224, EC 221, EC 222, GY 120, GY 220, PSC 100, or SY 221. PSY 205 should be taken as soon as the student declares the major or expresses an interest in the major, as part of the Area V, pre-professional major courses. Core classes include PSY 220, 221, 300, 310, and 450. Students must take a minimum of 6 credits from Group A: PSY 323, 327, 330, 335, and 350; a minimum of 6 credits from Group B: PSY 363, 400, 415, 423, 425, 436, and 444; and a minimum of 3 credits from Group C: PSY 305, 337, 352, 355, 380, 399, 412, 413, 430, 433, 460-499. Students must also take 3 credits of electives chosen from any of the courses listed above.

**Psychology Minor.** The requirements for the minor are nineteen (19) hours of psychology, including PSY 220 and PSY 221 (PSY 201 is a prerequisite for these courses). Students must take a minimum of 3 credits from Group A: PSY 323, 327, 330, 335, and 350; a minimum of 3 credits from Group B: PSY 363, 400, 415, 423, 425, 436, and 444; and a minimum of 3 credits from Group C: PSY 305, 337, 352, 355, 380, 399, 412, 413, 430, 433, 460-499. Students must also take 6 credits of electives chosen from any of the courses listed above.

In the general studies curriculum, Psychology majors must take the courses listed under the "Plan of Study" located after the "Description of Courses."

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DESCRIPTION OF COURSES

201. **Principles of Psychology (3).** An introduction to basic methodology, principles, and terms of contemporary psychology. Stresses a scientific analysis of behavior. Direct experience with research psychology or its equivalent may be required.
202. **Honors Principles of Psychology (3).** An introduction to the methodology, principles and terms of contemporary psychology, with emphasis on the scientific investigation of behavior. Direct experience with research psychology or its equivalent may be required.
205. **Orientation to Psychology (1).** An introduction to what psychologists do, what jobs are available in psychology, and how students should proceed through a major in psychology. For students considering a psychology major or who have declared a psychology major.
220. **Principles of Behavior Analysis (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201. Suggested corequisite: PSY 221.* An introduction to principles of behavior analysis stressing experimental design, observing and recording techniques, and the basic principles of operant conditioning, including schedules of reinforcement.
221. **Behavior Analysis Lab (1).** *Corequisite or prerequisite: PSY 220.* Stresses the skills involved in specifying, observing, and consequentiing behavior and teaches the standard techniques of behavioral laboratories.
222. **Human Development (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Study of mental, physical, social, and emotional life of the individual throughout the life span. Special attention given to the first two decades of life. Note: University general elective for Psychology major or minor.
300. **Statistics for Life Sciences (4).** *Prerequisites: PSY 220, 221, MS 108 or higher.* Basic statistical concepts and procedures as applied to the life sciences. Includes a laboratory component involving demonstration and application of statistical analysis to behavioral research.
305. **Professional Psychology (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 220, 221.* Issues pertaining to the choice of a career in psychology and being successful at one's chosen career. What courses to take, how to get a job, how to get promoted, or how to get into graduate school and successfully earn a Ph.D. degree.
310. **Research Methods (4).** *Prerequisites: PSY 220, 221, 300.* Introduction to scientific methodology as applied to behavior research. Includes a laboratory component in which students will gain hands-on experience with the most frequently used research methods.
323. **Adult Development and Aging (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Introduction to methodological, empirical, and theoretical perspectives of psychological development during adulthood. Topics include physical and cognitive development, personality, social development, and the role of work.

327. **Child and Adolescent Development (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* The study of human development from prenatal development to adolescence. Topics include psychological theories of physical and motor development, cognitive development, social development, and emotional development, as well as the application of these theories to everyday life.
330. **Abnormal Psychology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Examines the major forms of and theoretical explanations for behavior patterns which have been culturally defined as deviant or psychologically abnormal.
335. **Theories of Personality (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* A comprehensive study of the concepts of personality. Emphasis will be placed on major theories and theorists of personality, such as Freud, Bandura, Ellis, Rogers, and Maslow.
337. **Psychology of Gender (3).** Studies of the origin of sex differences within three theoretical models: biological, psychological, and sociological. Examination of the nature of these differences emphasizing current research in areas such as androgyny, sex typing, sexuality, employment, tokenism, and marriage.
350. **Social Psychology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* The study of how others influence an individual's behaviors, thoughts, and emotions. Topics include social influence, persuasion, attitude-behavior consistency, prosocial behavior, aggression, causal attribution, and affiliation.
352. **Human Sexuality (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Study of the psychological, physiological, social, and behavioral aspects of human sexuality. Topics include sexual orientation, sexual anatomy, contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy/birth, and sexuality through the life cycle.
355. **Positive Psychology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Overview of diverse topics such as happiness, relationships, spirituality, aesthetic appreciation, work satisfaction, self-control, integrity/ethics. Self-assessment and critical thinking are emphasized.
363. **Behavior Modification (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 220, 221.* An introduction to the application of behavioral principles and procedures to the improvement of socially important human behavior.
380. **Sleep and Dreaming (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the field of sleep as a science. Emphasis will be placed on experimental methodology, psychological and physiological aspects of sleep, dreams, and sleep disorders.
399. **Study Tour (3).** Topics, excursions, and requirements determined by department. May be duplicated for credit; however, only three (3) credits may be applied toward any major or minor. Infrequently scheduled and subject to minimum and maximum numbers. Advance deposit required.
400. **Physiological Psychology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Study of the physiological structures and mechanisms which mediate between environmental events and behavior.
412. **Child Psychopathology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 330.* Integration of theory and empirical research on a wide range of child and adolescent disorders. The course provides a comprehensive coverage of the biological, psychological, and social-contextual determinants of childhood problems. Specific disorders will be presented, describing their characteristics, developmental course, and epidemiology; outlining current diagnostic and classification schemes; identifying risk and protective factors; and discussing implications for prevention and treatment.
413. **Social Psychology II (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 310, 350.* Explores historical and current debates in social psychology, using each as an opportunity to read articles on a substantive issue in that area.
415. **Cognitive Processes (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* This course reviews processes such as memory, concept formation, reasoning, critical thinking, problem solving, and applications of cognitive science.
423. **Sensation and Perception (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* The course provides an up-to-date review of sensory and perceptual processes integrating basic physiology with psychology.
425. **Health Psychology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 363.* The use of psychological techniques within medical settings for problems such as hypertension, pain, asthma, eating disorders, and smoking.
430. **Seminar in Current Problems (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 310 and consent of the instructor.* Examines the relevant research and methodological problems related to topics of current emphasis in behavioral research. Examples are drug addiction, aggression, and contingency management.
433. **Cross-Cultural Psychology (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Beginning with an examination of theoretical definitions of culture, the course covers a broad range of theories and research findings regarding cultural influences on human behavior and cognitive processes.
436. **Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 201.* Provides an overview of current drug-related issues, including societal trends, basic pharmacology of drug action, legislation, treatment, and prevention.
444. **Conditioning & Learning (3).** *Prerequisite: PSY 310.* A review of research, investigating the basic parameters of conditioning and its theoretical implications. Topics covered will include operant and respondent conditioning.
450. **History and Systems of Psychology (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 310 and senior standing.* Examines the historical evolution of modern psychology and the conceptual systems which have been developed.
- 460, 461. **Instructional Practicum (3) (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 300 or 310, and consent of the instructor.* Practice of behavioral techniques in an instructional setting.

- 480, 481. Community Practicum (3) (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 220, 221, 330, and consent of the instructor.* Practice of psychological techniques in community organizations such as mental health clinics, juvenile detention centers, etc.
- 485, 486. Applied Behavior Analysis Practicum (3) (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 310 and consent of the instructor.* Practice of behavior analysis principles in applied settings such as developmental centers and organizations.
- 490, 491. Individual Research (3) (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 310 and consent of the instructor.* Students will conduct supervised research projects chosen in coordination with their supervisor.
- 498, 499. Honors Thesis (3) (3).** *Prerequisites: PSY 310 and consent of the thesis supervisor, and senior standing.* Completion of an original research project. (See Psychology Department Thesis Guidelines.)

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

The Bachelor of Science degree offered by the Psychology Department requires an overall minimum of 128 semester hours comprised of the following sub-requirements: 33 hour major including a minimum of 12 hours 300/400 level courses at JSU, a minor including a minimum of 6 hours 300/400 level courses at JSU, 41 hours of general studies courses, 23 hours of support courses and a minimum of 52 hours of 300/400 level courses which includes those required in the major and minor. Any hours remaining to meet the 128 minimum or the 52 hours minimum 300/400 will be classified as electives. A student must earn a minimum "C" or better in each of her/his major and minor courses with a minimum grade point average of 2.00 overall and on campus.

#### PLAN OF STUDY MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY

Note: This is only a suggested plan of study. Variations may occur due to individual circumstances. Please see advisor.

#### FRESHMAN YEAR

Fall		Spring	
EH 101 .....	3	EH 102 .....	3
Soc/Behavioral Science .....	3	EH 141 .....	3
MS 108 or higher.....	3	MS 112 or higher (MS 204 recom.).....	3
Electives .....	3	Fine Arts.....	3
PSY 201, Prin. of Psy. ....	3	PSY 220, Prin. Beh. Analy.....	3
PSY 205, Orientation to Psy .....	1	PSY 221, Beh. Analy. Lab .....	1
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	16		16

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR

Fall		Spring	
Literature .....	3	Literature .....	3
History sequence .....	3	History sequence .....	3
Natural Science sequence.....	4	Natural Science sequence.....	4
Electives .....	6	Electives .....	6
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	16		16

#### JUNIOR YEAR

Fall		Spring	
PSY 300, Stat for Life Sci.....	4	PSY 310, Research Methods .....	4
PSY Group A.....	3	PSY Group A .....	3
PSY Group B.....	3	PSY Group B.....	3
PSY Group C .....	3	Minor/electives 300+ .....	6
Minor/electives 300+ .....	3		
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	16		16

#### SENIOR YEAR

Fall		Spring	
PSY 450, History & Systems of Psy .....	3	PSY elective 300+ .....	3
Minor/electives 300+ .....	13	Minor/electives 300+ .....	13
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	16		16

TOTAL HOURS: 128