The mission of the Department of Psychology is to develop a thoroughgoing, science-based psychology curriculum for understanding behavior; to establish student learning outcomes related to basic psychological principles, research methods, critical thinking, and professional skills; and to support student participation in research programs and community service projects. These experiences are designed to allow students the opportunity to practice discussing major psychological principles and research findings; to apply psychological principles and procedures to real-life settings; and to eventually pursue careers in an array of human-service industries or admission to various graduate programs.

Psychology Major (BS). The course requirements for a major in Psychology total 120 semester hours, including general studies requirements (60 semester hours): Area I. Written Composition (6 hours) – EH 101/103 and EH 102/104; Area II. Humanities and Fine Arts (12 hours) – EH 141, two literature courses (EH 201, 202, 203, 204, 219, 220, 231, or 232), and one fine arts course (EH 101, 102, 201, 202; SH 101, 102, 201, 202; ART 202, DR 242, or MU 233); Area III. Natural Sciences and Mathematics (11 hours) – MS 110 or higher and one science sequence (BY 101/103 and BY 102/104; CY 105/107 and CY 106/108; GL 241/243 and GL 242/244; GY 250/252 and GY 251/253; or PHS 201/203 and PHS 202/204); Area IV. History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences (12 hours) – one history sequence (HY 101 and 102 or HY 201 and 202) and two social science courses (AN 224, EC 221, EC 222, GY 120, GY 220, PSC 100, or SY 221); and Area V. Pre-professional, Major, and Elective Courses (19 hours) – CS 201 or higher; MS 204 or MS 302; PSY 201 and PSY 205; nine elective hours (minor courses may be used to meet elective requirements); thirty-six (36) semester hours in psychology: Core courses (12 hours) – PSY 220, 221, 301, and 450; and elective courses (24 hours) – select from courses listed 300 or above (excluding required courses), but only six hours from courses numbered 460-499 can count toward this requirement; and a minor in another academic discipline. A suggested “Plan of Study” is located after the “Course Descriptions” below.

Psychology Minor. The requirements for a minor are twenty (20) semester hours, including PSY 220, 221, and 301 (PSY 201 is a prerequisite for these courses); and 12 hours of electives numbered 300 or higher (excluding PSY 301). Students may only count three hours of courses numbered 460-499 toward their psychology minor.

PLAN OF STUDY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY

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

In addition to courses noted below, candidates for graduation must successfully complete all JSU Academic Regulations.

FRESHMAN YEAR

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<th>Fall</th>
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<tr>
<td>EH 101</td>
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<td>EH 141</td>
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<td>HY 101 or 201</td>
<td>MS 110 or higher</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 201/202 Principles of Psychology</td>
<td>PSY 220 Principles of Behavior Analysis</td>
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<td>PSY 205 Orientation to Psychology</td>
<td>PSY 221 Behavior Analysis Lab</td>
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<td>STU 101</td>
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<td>(MS 100, if required)</td>
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SOPHOMORE YEAR

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<tr>
<td>EH Literature</td>
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<td>CS 201 or higher</td>
<td>Minor/Electives</td>
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PSYCHOLOGY (PSY)
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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. (Grade of Pass/Fail)

220. Principles of Behavior Analysis (3). Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. 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). Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. Corequisite or prerequisite: PSY 220. Stresses the skills involved in specifying, observing, and consequenting behavior, and teaches the standard techniques of behavioral laboratories.

222. Human Development (3). 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: PSY 222 counts as an Area V elective for PSY majors and minors.

301. Research Methods and Statistics (4). Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. Prerequisites or corequisites: MS 204 or MS 302, PSY 220, and PSY 221. Introduction to scientific research methodology and statistics as applied to psychological research.

323. Adult Development and Aging (3). Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. 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 221. 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: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. Examines the major forms of and theoretical explanations for behavior patterns which have been culturally defined as deviant or psychopathologically abnormal.

331. Abnormal Child Psychology (3). Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. 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. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 412.)

336. Personality and Individual Differences (3). Prerequisite: PSY 301. Overview of the major theories, approaches to measuring personality variables, research findings, and applications in the scientific study of personality. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 335.)
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 androgyne, sex typing, sexuality, employment, tokenism, and marriage.

350. **Social Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. 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).** 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.

354. **Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis (3).** Prerequisites: PSY 220 and 221. The application of behavioral principles and behavior assessment, including the measurement of human behavior, experimental design, and data analysis and interpretation. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 362.)

355. **Positive Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. Overview of diverse topics, such as happiness, relationships, spirituality, aesthetic appreciation, work satisfaction, self-control, integrity/ethics. Self-assessment and critical thinking are emphasized.

364. **Behavior-Change Procedures in Applied Behavior Analysis (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 354. Discussion of fundamental elements of behavior change and specific behavior change procedures, including those used to teach and maintain appropriate behaviors, eliminate inappropriate behaviors, and develop comprehensive behavioral intervention programs.

366. **Cognitive Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. This course reviews processes, such as memory, concept formation, reasoning, critical thinking, problem solving, and applications of cognitive science. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 415.)

383. **Biological Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. Study of the physiological structures and mechanisms that mediate between environmental events and behavior. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 400.)

384. **Introduction to Sensation and Perception (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. The course provides an up-to-date review of sensory and perceptual processes integrating basic physiology with psychology. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 423.)

399. **Study Tour (3).** Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. 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.

401. **Professional Development (3).** Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. How to choose a career or graduate program in psychology or related field, evaluate and improve your credentials, and prepare to apply. Recommended for junior-level students. (Not open to students with credit for PSY 305.)

403. **Psychological Testing (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. Introduction to the basic concepts, principles, and methods of psychological assessment centered on historical foundations, test construction, and evaluation (psychometrics), and ethical issues pertaining to the use of psychological tests. The application of commonly used types of intelligence, personality, scholastic, clinical, and vocational tests are also considered.

404. **Data-Based Decision Making in Applied Behavior Analysis (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 354. Examination of single-subject experimental design and professional skills pertinent to research and practice in applied behavior analysis.

411. **Topics in Social Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. Intensively explores one or two topics within social psychology. Sample topics include emotion, empathy and altruism, happiness, judgment and decision making, social psychology in film, social influence, and prejudice and stereotyping.

425. **Health Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. The use of psychological techniques within medical settings for problems such as hypertension, pain, asthma, eating disorders, and smoking.

433. **Cultural Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: PSY 301. 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: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. Provides an overview of current drug-related issues, including societal trends, basic pharmacology of drug action, legislation, treatment, and prevention.

444. **Conditioning and Learning (3).** Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 220 and 221. A review of research, investigating the basic parameters of conditioning and its theoretical implications. Topics covered will include operant and respondent conditioning.

446. **Introduction to Political Psychology (3).** Prerequisite: “C” or better in PSY 201 or 202. This course is an overview of the interdisciplinary connection between political and psychological processes. The incorporation of political science and psychology may help in the understanding of why leaders behave as they do and why citizens support or oppose political leaders. The course will include social cognition and decision making, personality and identity, and environmental factors that affect individual political ideologies. (PSY 446 is cross-listed with PSC 455, but only one course may be taken for credit.)
447, 448. Psychology Seminar (3) (3). Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Examines relevant research and conceptual issues related to varying topics in psychology, such as self-control, family violence, and evolutionary psychology. When offered, a more detailed description will be available on the department website.

450. History and Systems of Psychology (4). Prerequisites: “C” or better in PSY 301 and senior standing. Examines the historical evolution of modern psychology and the conceptual systems that have been developed. This course serves as the psychology capstone course, and the Major Field Test in Psychology is required.

460, 461. Instructional Practicum (3) (3). Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Practice of behavioral techniques in an instructional setting. Only students with exceptional performance in psychology classes will be considered for this practicum.

480, 481. Community Practicum (3) (3). Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Practice of psychological techniques in community organizations, such as mental health clinics, juvenile detention centers, etc. (Grade of Pass/Fail)

485, 486. Applied Behavior Analysis Practicum (3) (3). Prerequisites: PSY 220, PSY 221, and permission of instructor. Practice of behavior analysis principles in applied settings, such as developmental centers and organizations.

490, 491. Individual Research (3) (3). Prerequisites: PSY 301 and permission of instructor. Students will conduct supervised research projects chosen in coordination with their supervisor.

498, 499. Honors Thesis (3) (3). Prerequisites: PSY 301, permission of thesis supervisor, and senior standing. Completion of an original research project developed in conjunction with a psychology faculty member.