

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

MONICA L. McCOY, *chair*, WILLIAM M. BAKER, JANET R. LEFRANCOIS,
SPENCER R. MATHEWS

The mission of the Department of Psychology is threefold: (1) to teach students about the laws of behavior across the phylogenetic scale; (2) to teach students about the methods through which those laws were discovered; and (3) to teach students about the theories (both historical and contemporary) that psychologists have proposed.

Psychology majors will have a common core of study intended to teach the procedures of statistical methods and experimental design, the history and philosophy of the discipline, the laws of the major categories of behavior (respondent and operant), and the requirements of writing in manuscript style. Each major will be expected to demonstrate mastery in these areas through the preparation of a seminar paper during the spring of her senior year. Courses outside the common core are intended to permit specialized study of narrower fields of the discipline.

Students planning to major in Psychology should declare the major by late in the spring of the sophomore year. The major is a two-year program of study involving prerequisites among several of the core courses. Majors are expected to stand the *Area Concentration Achievement Tests in Psychology* in the spring of the senior year. This is done as part of the college assessment program. The fee for the test is paid by the college. **The General Psychology course (PSY 100) is a prerequisite for all other courses in the department.** The major must consist of at least 24 semester hours (eight regular courses) beyond the General Psychology course. The major requirements are as follows:

PSY 233: Psychology of Learning	3 hours
PSY 303: Social Science Statistics	3 hours
PSY 401: Experimental Psychology	3 hours
PSY 405: History and Philosophy of Psychology	3 hours
PSY 480: Psychology Seminar	3 hours
Additional Psychology Electives	9 hours
TOTAL HOURS	24 hours

The minor must consist of at least 18 semester hours (six regular courses) beyond the General Psychology course. The requirements are as follows:

PSY 233: Psychology of Learning	3 hours
PSY 303: Social Science Statistics	3 hours
PSY 405: History and Philosophy of Psychology	3 hours
Additional Psychology Electives	9 hours
TOTAL HOURS	18 hours

Students preparing for graduate study are advised to enroll in as many Psychology courses as college regulations will permit.

*100. GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

Prerequisite for all other courses in the department except PSY 199. A survey of the areas which define psychology. Special emphasis will be given to conditioning phenomena. *Offered fall and spring terms.*

*199H. FRESHMAN HONORS SEMINAR/THREE CREDITS

This does not substitute for PSY 100, the prerequisite for subsequent courses in the department. A study of a selected subject within the discipline which will vary from term to term. The course is intended to encourage student participation in the intellectual process through class discussion, structured experiences, and the writing of short papers. *Offered periodically in rotation with seminars in other disciplines.*

204. ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

A study of the changing meanings of the concept of abnormal behavior and the accompanying changes in methods of treatment. *Offered spring term.*

211. BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION/THREE CREDITS

A study of the effects of operant and respondent conditioning in changing and influencing human behavior. Students will do a project in which they apply the principles to some aspect of their own behavior. The population most emphasized by the text is children in an institutional setting. *Offered fall term.*

220. SENSATION AND PERCEPTION/THREE CREDITS

A course intended to "bring the student to her senses" by examining the experimental basis of our knowledge of sensory operation. Topics included are the operation of individual sensory systems, sensory disorders, the techniques for studying sensory function, and the historical significance of sensory psychology within the broader discipline. *Offered alternate years - spring term.*

231. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

A course designed to investigate the manner in which the behavior, feelings, and thoughts of one individual are influenced and determined by the behavior and/or characteristics of others. Selected topics include attraction, social influence, attitudes, aggression and violence, altruism, sexual behavior, group influences, and person perception. *Offered fall term.*

232. PSYCHOLOGY IN THE WORKPLACE/THREE CREDITS

This course is designed to introduce students to methods of managing behavior in the workplace. Specifically, students will learn to apply behavioral principles derived from the laboratory to all levels of performance in the organization. Topics to be covered include screening job applicants, on-the-job training, assessment of work performance, and methods of providing performance feedback to workers. *Offered in alternate years - winter term.*

Department of Psychology

233. PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING/THREE CREDITS

A study of the learning process, principally through the experimental literature. *Offered in fall term.*

236. THEORIES OF PERSONALITY AND EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES/THREE CREDITS

A study of theories of personality and the research that supports those theories. Some attention is given to personality disorders. Students will take some personality questionnaires and incorporate this material into a summary of some aspect of their personalities. Most frequently this will be a profile of how they handle stress. *Offered once a year in either winter or spring terms.*

250. COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

A study of the conceptual framework Psychology has developed to describe human remembering, forgetting, decision making, and problem solving. Special ancillary topics (attention, language, models of recognition) are considered as well. *Offered alternate years - spring term.*

280. HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

The aims of this course are to understand the psychological factors involved in health and in illness, to study interventions to help people get over illness and stay well, and to consider the health care system and its policies. Finally, a sample of the popular literature on the mind-body issue as it relates to health will be considered relative to the existing scientific literature. *Offered in fall or winter term.*

299H. INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS COURSE

This course is team taught by members in two departments and is open to Nisbet Honors Program members and to others who meet Honors Program guidelines. All students registering for these courses must register not only through the Honors Program but also with their adviser and the Registrar's Office.

302. PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN/THREE CREDITS

A study of gender comparisons in behavior. Selected topics include theories of female development, femininity, masculinity, and androgyny, gender comparisons in personality, adjustment, abilities, achievement, motivation, language, biological influences, sexuality, violence against women, and cross-cultural perspectives. *Offered spring term.*

303. SOCIAL SCIENCE STATISTICS/THREE CREDITS

A study of the statistical techniques commonly used in the analysis of data in economics, politics, psychology, and sociology. Students will become familiar with the use of computers in data analysis. *Same as ISC 303. Offered winter term.*

307. EARLY INTERVENTION IN AUTISM/THREE CREDITS

A lecture and fieldwork course presenting (1) an overview of the condition of autism from a behavioral point of view; (2) an introduction to the techniques of early intervention; and (3) supervised experience in direct, one-on-one work with such children in the local area. *Offered in spring term.*

332. PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS/THREE CREDITS

A study of the psychological evaluation, the tests used for such an evaluation, and the procedures required for such tests to be valid and reliable. There will be an emphasis on personality tests. Each student will do two evaluations, one on herself and one on another student. *Offered in alternate years - winter term.*

370. CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT/THREE CREDITS

A lecture and seminar course examining the phenomenon of child abuse and neglect. Included in this course will be an overview of attitudes toward and legal definitions of child maltreatment. In addition, legal issues, parental factors, contextual influences, and the developmental consequences of maltreatment will be explored. This course relies heavily on current research in child abuse and neglect. *Offered winter term.*

*380. HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT/THREE CREDITS

The study of development and behavior throughout the life-span. *Offered fall and spring terms.*

401. EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

Prerequisites: PSY 233 and 303. A course designed to teach research methodology and instrumentation by bringing the student into the laboratory and providing the opportunity to conduct behavioral research with small animals and human beings. *Offered spring term.*

405. HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

A study of the history of psychology with emphasis on the modern period and on the special contribution which philosophy makes to the viewpoint of a discipline which conducts an experimental analysis of behavior. *Offered fall term.*

410. COUNSELING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY/THREE CREDITS

A study of the different techniques of counseling and psychotherapy. Class sessions will frequently be used to discuss and experience these techniques. *Offered winter term.*

480. SENIOR SEMINAR/THREE CREDITS

Prerequisites: PSY 233, 303, and 401. Each student will write a library research paper which all students will read and discuss. *Offered spring term.*

490. DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY IN SPECIAL TOPICS/ONE TO THREE CREDITS

Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor. A course designed to allow the student to engage in concentrated experimental or library research in an area of personal interest. *May be repeated for credit.*

499. INTERNSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY/THREE CREDITS

Prerequisites: A 3.0 average in the major. PSY 204, 231, 303, and 332. In exceptional cases, consent of the department staff will permit enrolling in the course in the absence of some of the course prerequisites. It is intended for senior Psychology majors. The course will offer experience in an applied setting. Students will be placed with local social agencies or other dispensers of psychological services (out-of-town placement is also possible) which have agreed to accept and evaluate them on an internship basis. The course will also involve weekly seminars with the departmental staff and other interns for examination of problems which have arisen in the work situation. In the case of out-of-town placement, a paper will be required instead of the seminars. The course is intended for those Psychology majors who wish to seek employment at the B.A. level. It is not recommended for those who plan to pursue an advanced degree program. The course will be graded on a pass/fail basis.