Psychology
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Department of Psychology
23 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-2724
Website: www.mnsu.edu/psych/
Chair: Andrea Lassiter

Dawn Albertson, Bradley Arsznow, Kathy Bertsch, Jeffrey Buchanan, Kristie Campana, Kevin Filter, Daniel Houlihan, Rosemary Krawczyk, Moses Langley, Karla Lasonde, Carlos Panahon, Lisa Perez, Shawna Petersen-Brown, Daniel Sachau, Sarah Sifers, Eric Sprankle, Emily Stark

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the scientific study of the effects of individual, social, physiological, developmental and environmental factors on thoughts, feelings and behavior. Psychology courses seek to teach students about the methods of psychological inquiry and the findings of psychological research.

Students study psychology because they wish to prepare for a professional career as a psychologist, because they are planning a career in which the understanding of human behavior is important, or simply because they wish to develop a greater understanding of themselves and others. The practice of psychology at the professional level requires a graduate degree beyond the bachelor’s degree.

Admission to Major is granted by the department. Department admissions requirements are:
- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 ("C").
- completion of PSYC 201 (Statistics) with a grade of “C” or better.

Contact the department for application procedures.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. Any Psychology course in which a grade of less than “C-” (or P) is earned will not be counted toward a major or a minor in psychology.

P/N Grading Policy. No more than 8 credits of the major or 4 credits of the minor may be taken for P/N credit. PSYC 291 is only available on a P/N basis. PSYC 497 and PSYC 499 are also normally taken for P/N credit.

Teaching Psychology. Students who intend to gain initial licensure to teach psychology in Minnesota schools need to meet the requirements of the social studies BS (teaching) program as described in the social studies section of this bulletin.

PSYCHOLOGY BA

Degree completion = 120 credits

Prerequisites to the Major
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

Major Common Core
PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)
PSYC 211 Research Methods and Design (4)
PSYC 409 History and Systems (4)

Major Restricted Electives
(choose one course from each of the four areas)
Biological (choose 4 Credits)
PSYC 413 Sensation & Perception (4)
PSYC 420 Drugs and Behavior (4)
PSYC 421 Biopsychology (4)
PSYC 425W Behavior Genetics (4)

Cognition (choose 4 credits)
PSYC 414 Learning (4)
PSYC 415 Human Memory (4)
PSYC 416 Cognitive Psychology (4)
PSYC 423 Cognitive Neuroscience (4)

Developmental (choose 4 credits)
PSYC 433 Child Psychology (4)
PSYC 436 Adolescent Psychology (4)
PSYC 466 Psychology of Aging (4)

Personality/Social (choose 3-4 credits)
PSYC 340 Social Psychology (4)
PSYC 455 Abnormal Psychology (4)
PSYC 456 Personality Theories (3)
PSYC 458 Cultural Psychology (4)

Major Unrestricted Electives
(choose 12-13 credits from the following psychology courses)
PSYC 103W Psychology Today (3)
PSYC 202 Careers in Psychology (1)
PSYC 206 The Human Mind (4)
PSYC 230 Child Care Psychology (3)
PSYC 240 Personal Adjustment (3)
PSYC 289 Psychology and the Law (3)
PSYC 291 Tutoring Psychology (1-4)
PSYC 303 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)
PSYC 304 Introduction to School Psychology (2)
PSYC 340 Social Psychology (4)
PSYC 398 CPT: CO-Operative Experience (0)
PSYC 405 Motivation (4)
PSYC 413 Sensation & Perception (4)
PSYC 414 Learning (4)
PSYC 415 Human Memory (4)
PSYC 416 Cognitive Psychology (4)
PSYC 419 Psychometric Theory (4)
PSYC 420 Drugs and Behavior (4)
PSYC 421 Biopsychology (4)
PSYC 423 Cognitive Neuroscience (4)
PSYC 425W Behavior Genetics (4)

PSYCHOLOGY BS

Degree completion = 120 credits

Prerequisites to the Major
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)

Major Common Core
PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)
PSYC 211 Research Methods and Design (4)
PSYC 409 History and Systems (4)

Required Minor: Any.

Other Graduation Requirements
Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY: Language (8 credits)
Choose 17 credits of electives, including at least 8 credits at the 400 level.

**PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)**
- Required for Minor (General Education)
- Required Minor: Yes. Any.

**PSYC 478 Health Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 476 Applied Behavior Analysis (4)**
**PSYC 466 Psychology of Aging (4)**
**PSYC 463 Survey of Industrial/Organizational Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 461 Marketing Psychology (3)**
**PSYC 460W Psychology of Women (3)**
**PSYC 458 Cultural Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 456 Personality Theories (3)**
**PSYC 455 Abnormal Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 443 Advanced Social Psychology (3)**
**PSYC 442 Group Psychology (3)**
**PSYC 436 Adolescent Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 433 Child Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 425W Behavior Genetics (4)**
**PSYC 421 Biopsychology (4)**
**PSYC 420 Drugs and Behavior (4)**
**PSYC 416 Cognitive Psychology (4)**
**PSYC 415 Human Memory (4)**
**PSYC 414 Learning (4)**
**PSYC 413 Sensation & Perception (4)**

**Major Electives**
*(choose one course from each of the four areas)*

**Biological** (choose 4 credits)
- PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychological Science (4)
- PSYC 201 Careers in Psychology (1)
- PSYC 206 The Human Mind (4)
- PSYC 230 Child Care Psychology (3)
- PSYC 289 Psychology and the Law (3)
- PSYC 291 Tutoring Psychology (1-4)

**Developmental** (choose 3-4 credits)
- PSYC 433 Child Psychology (4)
- PSYC 436 Adolescent Psychology (4)
- PSYC 466 Psychology of Aging (4)
- PSYC 425W Behavior Genetics (4)
- PSYC 421 Biopsychology (4)

**Personality/Social** (choose 3-4 credits)
- PSYC 340 Social Psychology (4)
- PSYC 455 Abnormal Psychology (4)
- PSYC 456 Personality Theories (3)
- PSYC 458 Cultural Psychology (4)

**Major Unrestricted Electives**
*(choose 12-13 credits from the following courses)*
- PSYC 103W Psychology Today (3)
- PSYC 202 Careers in Psychology (1)
- PSYC 206 The Human Mind (4)
- PSYC 230 Child Care Psychology (3)
- PSYC 240 Personal Adjustment (3)
- PSYC 340 Social Psychology (4)
- PSYC 458 Cultural Psychology (4)

**PSYC Elective**

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**PSYC 101 (4) Introduction to Psychological Science**
This course is designed to provide a thorough introduction to the broad spectrum of theories and applications that make up the field of psychology.
Fall, Spring

**GE-5**

**PSYC 103W (3) Psychology Today**
Introduces students to major issues in society that impact their lives, behaviors, and the way they think. Course requires student to critically address controversial and non-controversial issues through clear argumentations, intensive writings, research and presentations.
Spring

**WI, GE-2**

**PSYC 201 (4) Statistics for Psychology**
- 1.) Learn the importance of statistics for understanding human behavior.
- 2.) Apply basic statistical concepts to questions about human behavior.
- 3.) Conduct basic statistical tests and make inferences about human behavior.
- 4.) Prepare students in the psychology major to take 211-Research methods
Pre: MATH 112
Fall, Spring

**PSYC 202 (1) Careers in Psychology**
Exploration of various degrees and types of careers available in psychology, and what psychologists do.
Fall

**PSYC 206 (4) The Human Mind**
An overview of psychology from the cognitive perspective. What we know about the mental processes that underlie human activities and how we study them.
Spring

**GE-5**

**PSYC 211 (4) Research Methods and Design**
An introduction to the major components of research methodology in psychology. This is a writing intensive course and involves the processing, interpretation, and exposition of behavioral data.
Pre: PSYC 201
Fall, Spring

**PSYC 211W (4) Research Methods and Design**
An introduction to the major components of research methodology in psychology. This is a writing intensive course and involves the processing, interpretation, and exposition of behavioral data.
Pre: PSYC 201
Fall, Spring

**WI**

**PSYC 230 (3) Child Care Psychology**
This course is designed to develop an understanding of major variables that impact the psychological development of children. Emphasis will be placed on what parents and other care givers can do to maximize the healthy psychological development of their children.
Fall, Spring

**Diverse Culture - Gold**

**PSYC 240 (3) Personal Adjustment**
Understanding oneself and increasing one’s satisfaction in living.
Fall, Spring
PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 289 (3) Psychology and the Law
This course will introduce you to specific psychological theories and research that have been applied to the United States legal system. Course topics include eyewitness testimony and memory, false confessions, lie detection, gender and ethnicity, and jury processes, among others.
Variable

PSYC 291 (1-4) Tutoring Psychology
Application of the principles of learning to the instruction of students. Permission required. Pre: PSYC 101
Fall, Spring

PSYC 303 (3) Introduction to Clinical Psychology
This course is designed for psychology majors who plan careers in professional psychology (clinical, school, etc.). The purpose of the course is to assist students in developing the skills necessary to compete for graduate school placement. It is advised that students complete this course during their sophomore or junior year.
Pre: PSYC Major and 3.0 GPA
Fall

PSYC 304 (2) Introduction to School Psychology
This course is designed to introduce students to school psychology. The course will broadly address prominent topics in the field as well as assist students in deciding on graduate school and career objectives.
Spring

PSYC 333 (3) Psychology of Sexual Health
An overview of the psychological aspects of sexuality including the assessment and treatment of sexual disorders, gender development and identity, sexual orientation, behavioral effects on sexual health, and sexual offending and trauma.
Variable

PSYC 340 (4) Social Psychology
An exploration of theories and research related to the ways that the social environment affects people’s behavior.
Pre: PSYC 101
Fall, Spring

PSYC 398 (0) CPT: CO-Operative Experience
Curricular Practical Training. Co-Operative Experience is a zero-credit full-time practical training experience for one summer and on adjacent fall or spring term. Special rules apply to preserve full-time student status. Please contact an advisor in your program for complete information.
Pre: PSYC 101. At least 60 credits earned; in good standing; instructor permission; co-op contract; other prerequisites may also apply.
Fall, Spring, Summer

PSYC 405 (4) Motivation
Major concepts of human motivation and emotion, presentation of learned cognitive and biological influences on sustained behavior.
Pre: PSYC 201, PSYC 207 or PSYC 211, or consent
Fall

PSYC 409 (4) History and Systems
Examination of the historical origins of the principal contemporary psychological theories.
Pre: PSYC 211, Senior Status
Fall, Spring

PSYC 413 (4) Sensation & Perception
How the senses respond to environmental stimuli and how the information they provide is organized into meaningful patterns that make up our experience of the physical world. The effects of maturation and learning in altering those patterns as also considered.
Pre: PSYC 101, PSYC 201, PSYC 207 or PSYC 211
Fall, Spring

PSYC 414 (4) Learning
This course provides a broad overview and analysis of the major theories of human and animal learning.
Pre: PSYC 101
Fall

PSYC 415 (4) Human Memory
This course covers experimental and behavioral studies of human memory including long-and short-term memory, memory for text, pictures, spatial information, and autobiographical events. Emphasis on real-world situations, including education, in which memory and learning play a role.
Pre: PSYC 201 & PSYC 211
Fall

PSYC 416 (4) Cognitive Psychology
An examination and evaluation of selected topics dealing with human information processing such as attention, memory, pattern recognition, consciousness, language, dyslexia, decision making, and problem-solving.
Pre: PSYC 201 & PSYC 211
Fall, Spring

PSYC 419 (4) Psychometric Theory
An overview of development, use, and validation of psychological tests. Topics include reliability and validity, test construction, item analysis, ethics, test administration and scoring, and computerized testing.
Pre: PSYC 201
Fall

PSYC 420 (4) Drugs and Behavior
Biological foundations of the actions of psychoactive drugs. Neuroanatomy structure and function, neurophysiology, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics will be covered in detail. Relevant classes of drugs will be highlighted with an eye toward their history, mechanisms of action, effects, and treatments.
Pre: PSYC 211
Spring

PSYC 421 (4) Biopsychology
Biological basis of psychological processes and behavior. Basic topics such as neuroanatomy and neuron function are presented as well as more general ones such as sensation and movement, sleep, memory and learning, schizophrenia and depression.
Pre: PSYC 201, and either PSYC 207 or PSYC 211
Fall, Spring

PSYC 423 (4) Cognitive Neuroscience
The goal of neuroscience is to understand the human mind. This goal is approached by revealing the brain processes involved in how we perceive, think, remember, and move. Brain development, communication, and plasticity at the neural level are all described.
Pre: PSYC 421
Spring

PSYC 425 (4) Behavior Genetics
This writing intensive course provides an overview of the application of genetics methods to the study of behavior. We will examine the basic concepts in genetics with an emphasis on behavioral phenotypes, evolution and evolutionary psychology and the genetics of the individual differences.
Pre: PSYC 211
Variable

PSYC 425W (4) Behavior Genetics
This writing intensive course provides an overview of the application of genetics methods to the study of behavior. We will examine the basic concepts in genetics with an emphasis on behavioral phenotypes, evolution and evolutionary psychology and the genetics of the individual differences.
Pre: PSYC 211
Variable

PSYC 433 (4) Child Psychology
Physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and personality development from con-
Cultural psychology is an interdisciplinary field that unites psychologists, anthropologists, and philosophers to study how cultural meanings, practices and institutions influence and reflect individual human psychologies. Cultural influences on cognition, perception, emotion, motivation, moral reasoning, and well-being will be discussed with a view towards understanding divergent mentalities by drawing primarily from studies comparing Eastern and Western cultures, as well as some ethnic group companions within the United States. Students should come out of this course with an appreciation for the capacity for humans to create psychological diversity.

PSYC 443 (3) Advanced Social Psychology
An in-depth examination of social psychological research in laboratory and field settings.
Pre: PSYC 201, PSYC 211, and PSYC 340

PSYC 442 (3) Group Psychology
Exploring factors affecting leadership and effective group processes through lectures and discussion of theories and findings and through experiential activities.
Pre: PSYC 101

PSYC 441 (3) Personality Theories
Major theories of normal personality formation, organization, and structure.
Pre: 8 PSYC credits

PSYC 440 (3) Cultural Psychology
Cultural psychology is an interdisciplinary field that unites psychologists, anthropologists, linguists and philosophers to study how cultural meanings, practices and institutions influence and reflect individual human psychologies. Cultural influences on cognition, perception, emotion, motivation, moral reasoning, and well-being will be discussed with a view towards understanding divergent mentalities by drawing primarily from studies comparing Eastern and Western cultures, as well as some ethnic group companions within the United States. Students should come out of this course with an appreciation for the capacity for humans to create psychological diversity.

PSYC 460W (3) Psychology of Women
A critical examination of current psychological approaches to the study of women’s behavior and experience. The course will emphasize empirical ways of knowing and address psychological questions of central concern to women. Development of gender differences also will be explored.
Pre: PSYC 101
Spring
WI
Diverse Cultures - Purple

PSYC 461 (3) Marketing Psychology
Analysis of product marketing and consumer purchasing strategies and their determinants.
Pre: 8 PSYC credits
Fall

PSYC 463 (4) Survey of Industrial/Organizational Psychology
An examination of the psychological aspects of human behavior in the work place. Topics include history of Industrial/Organizational psychology, job analysis, performance measurement, predictors of performance, making personnel decisions, training, satisfaction, social perception, motivation, communication, group process, leadership, and organizational culture.
Pre: PSYC 201, PSYC 211

Variable

PSYC 466 (4) Psychology of Aging
Aging process and development during the adult years; psychology and psychological concerns of the aging individual; dealing with death.
Pre: PSYC 101
Spring

PSYC 476 (4) Applied Behavior Analysis
This course provides an overview of the procedures and processes of behavior change in applied contexts. Topics include functional assessment, behavioral intervention planning, and specific applied behavioral analytic interventions with an emphasis on non-aversive options.
Pre: PSYC 207 or PSYC 211
Spring

PSYC 478 (4) Health Psychology
The interface of behavioral and medical science is explored. Research on environmental and learning factors in the etiology and treatment of physical disease and rehabilitation is examined. Specific topics include pain management, medical compliance, behavior disorders in nursing homes and on chronic illnesses.
Pre: Three courses in PSYC
Spring

PSYC 489 (1-5) Advanced Topics
Application of psychology to topics of current interest. May be retaken for credit.
Variable

PSYC 490 (1-3) Workshop
Topics to be announced. May be retaken for credit.
Fall, Spring

PSYC 491 (1) In-Service: Issues in Behavior Therapy
Current issues in Behavior Therapy are addressed. Students participate in off-campus didactic activities such as attendance at grand rounds at local hospitals, attendance at national, regional or local professional conferences, and augment learning with library research. Topics vary and students may repeat for credit.
Pre: Consent. Academic and experience in human services strongly recommended.
Fall, Spring

PSYC 497 (1-8) Field Experience
A learning experience integrated with the student’s course of study, to be developed with an advisor and the field experience coordinator. May be retaken for credit up to an 8 credit total for all enrollments. Available for P/N grading only.
Pre: 9 credits of PSYC
Fall, Spring

PSYC 499 (1-4) Individual Study
Individualized learning under faculty supervision.
Fall, Spring