

Descriptions of all Psychology Undergraduate Courses

Please note that not all courses are offered every semester

Psych 101. Introduction to Psychology. Cr. 3. Fundamental psychological concepts derived from the application of the scientific method to the study of behavior and mental processes. Applications of psychology.

Psych 102. Laboratory in Introductory Psychology. Cr. 1. *Prereq: Credit or enrollment in 101.* Laboratory to accompany 101.

Psych 111. Orientation to Psychology. Cr. 0.5. Program requirements and degree/career options. Required of psychology majors. Satisfactory-fail only.

Psych 112. Learning Community Seminar. Cr 1. Repeatable, maximum of 2 credits. F.S. *Prereq: Participation in Freshman Learning Community.* Topics include orientation to academic program requirements, career awareness, strategies for successful transition to college, connections with other disciplines, and applying psychology via service learning opportunities. Satisfactory-fail only.

Psych 131. Academic Learning Skills. Cr. 1. Efficient methods of study and reading. Satisfactory-fail only.

Psych 230. Developmental Psychology. Cr. 3. Life-span development of physical traits, cognition, intelligence, language, social and emotional behavior, personality, and adjustment.

Psych 250. Psychology of the Workplace. Cr. 3. Survey of theories and research methods of psychology applied to the workplace. Consideration of employee selection, training, performance evaluation, leadership, work groups, employee motivation, job attitudes and behaviors, organizational culture, organizational development, human factors, and job design from the science-practitioner approach. *Offered fall only.*

Psych 280. Social Psychology. Cr. 3. Individual human behavior in social contexts. Emphasis on social judgments and decisions, attitudes, perceptions of others, social influence, aggression, stereotypes, and helping.

Psych 291 - Introductory Research Experience. Cr. Arr. Repeatable. Prereq: 101, sophomore classification, and permission of instructor. Beginning level supervised research experience in a faculty laboratory. Repeatable up to 4 credits maximum. Satisfactory-fail only.

Psych 301. Research Design and Methodology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Stat 101; 1 course in psychology.* Overview of the principal research techniques used in psychology with an emphasis on the statistical analysis of psychological data.

Psych 302. Research Methods in Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 301.* Discussion of and experience in designing research studies, collecting and analyzing data, and preparing research reports in psychology.

Psych 310. Brain and Behavior. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101; Recommended Biol 155 or 101/211.* Survey of basic concepts in the neurosciences with emphasis on brain mechanisms mediating sensory processes, arousal, motivation, learning, and abnormal behavior. *May not be used as a Natural Science for Psych majors.*

Psych 312. Sensation and Perception. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101.* Survey of the physiology and psychology of human sensory systems including vision, audition, smell, taste, the skin senses, and the vestibular senses.

Psych 313. Learning and Memory. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101.* Fundamental concepts and theories of learning and memory derived from human and animal research.

Psych 314. Motivation. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101.* Theory and research on motivation at biological, environmental, and psychological levels. Topics include emotion, eating, sex, music, addictions, incentives, goal performance, personality, coping, self-determination and purpose.

Psych 315. Drugs and Behavior. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101; Recommended: Biol 155 or 101/211.* Effects of drug use, including biological effects of psychoactive substances; impact of drug use on society; and legal responses to drug use, including legal cases and policy initiatives.

Psych 316. Cognitive Processes. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101.* Overview of human cognition, including sensation and perception, attention, memory, education, language, and judgment and decision making.

Psych 318. Thinking and Decision Making. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101; Stat 101 or Math 104 or equivalent.* Understanding human reasoning and decision making, including evaluating evidence, judging probabilities, emotional influences, and social dilemmas, with emphasis on the mechanisms that underline decision making.

Psych 333. . Educational Psychology. (Cross-listed with C I 333). Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 230 or HD FS 102, application to the teacher education program or major in psychology.* Classroom learning with emphasis on theories of learning and cognition, and instructional techniques. Major emphasis on measurement theory and the classroom assessment of learning outcomes. [Administered through C&I.]

Psych 335. Abnormal Psychology of Children and Adolescents. Cr.3. *Prereqs: Psych 101, Psych 230, or HD FS 102.* Psychopathology of children and adolescents, including childhood depression and anxiety disorders. Consideration of multiple probable causes and corresponding therapies.

Psych 346. Psychology of Women. (Cross-listed with W S 346). Cr. 3. *Prereq: 2 courses in psychology including 101.* Survey of theory and research related to major biological, interpersonal, and cultural issues affecting girls' and women's psychological development and behavior.

Psych 347. U.S. Latino/a Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Two courses in psychology including 101.* Historical, political, and social contexts of psychological and mental health constructs in terms of their validity and utility for use in Latino/a people in the U.S. Unique aspects of psychological functioning particular to Latino/a peoples in the U.S.

Psych 348. Psychology of Religion. (Cross-listed with Relig 348). Cr. 3. *Prereq: Nine credits in psychology.* Survey of psychological theory and research investigating religious and spiritual attitudes, beliefs and practices. *May not be used as an Arts & Humanities for Psych majors.*

Psych 350. Human Factors in Technology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 101, junior classification.* Understanding human behavior and cognition in the context of modern technologies. Focus on emergent interactive technologies, human computer interaction, user centered design, usability analysis, and usability testing.

Psych 360. Personality Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101.* Historical and contemporary theory and research on development and expression of personality with a focus on normal functioning.

Psych 380. Social Cognition. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 101 or 280.* How people understand themselves and others, including attribution, social categories and schemas, the self, social inference, stereotypes, and prejudice.

Psych 381. Social Psychology of Small Group Behavior. (Cross-listed with Soc 381). Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 280 or Soc 305.* A survey of small group theory and research from an interdisciplinary, social psychological perspective. Offered spring only. *May not be used as a Social Science for Psych majors. [Administered through the Sociology Department.]*

Psych 383. Psychology and Law. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 101 or 280.* Survey of topics in the interface between psychology and the legal system including but not limited to theories of crime, policing, eyewitness reliability, jury behavior, competence and insanity, and trial processes.

Psych 386. Media Psychology. Cr.3.. Theories and research on the psychological mechanisms (e.g., attitudes, perceptions, emotions, arousal) by which media influence children and adults. Topics include media violence, educational media, advertising, music, video games, media literacy, and ratings. *Online only.*

Psych 401. History of Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 4 courses in psychology.* Philosophy and science backgrounds of psychology. Development of theories and causes of events in academic and applied psychology.

Psych 410. Behavioral Neurology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 101; Psych 310 or equivalent.* Examination of the neuroanatomical foundation of cognition, affect, and action from a neurological perspective. Focus on basic and applied research with neurological patients.

Psych 411. Evolutionary Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Junior classification, three courses in psychology; one course in biology.* Examination of the application of the principles of evolutionary biology to the understanding of human behavior. Evolutionary perspectives on brain development, cognition, language, mating behavior, sex differences, altruism, artistic behavior, and criminal behavior are explored. Arguments by those critical of the evolutionary approach to psychology are examined as well.

Psych 413. Psychology of Language. (Cross-listed with Ling 413). Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 101.* Introduction to psycholinguistics. Topics may include origin of language, speech perception, language comprehension, reading, bilingualism, brain bases of language, and computational modeling of language processes. *Offered spring only.*

Psych 422. Counseling Theories and Techniques. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 3 courses in psychology.* Overview of the major counseling theories and techniques, with emphasis on the key concepts of each theory, the role of the counselor, therapeutic goals, and the main techniques derived from each theory.

Psych 422L. Laboratory in Counseling Theory and Techniques. Cr. 1. *Prereq: Three classes in psychology and credit or enrollment in Psych 422..* Learn basic counseling skills such as active listening, reflecting feelings, empathy, confrontation, immediacy and self-disclosure. Supervised practice using basic counseling skills.

Psych 440. Psychological Measurement I. Cr. 3 *Prereq: 301 and 9 credits in psychology, Stat 101.* Principles of psychological measurement, including concepts of reliability and validity; interpretation of scores; factors influencing performance; construction and use of measures of ability, achievement, and personality.

Psych 450. Industrial Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 2 courses in psychology including 101, Stat 101.* Theory, content and methods of industrial psychology related to the effective operation of organizations. Application of psychology principles to topics including different approaches used to select employees, how to conduct performance appraisals, and how to train and keep employees safe. Work attitudes and behaviors of employees as well as relevant legal issues. Statistics including regression and correlation are used. *Offered spring only.*

Psych 460. Abnormal Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 3 courses in psychology including 101.* Description of major forms of psychopathology including anxiety, mood disorders, personality disorders, substance abuse, and schizophrenia. Causes and maintenance of abnormal behavior.

Psych 470. Seminar in Psychology. Cr. variable. Repeatable. *Prereq: 12 credits in psychology.* Current topics in psychological research and practice. *Note – not offered on a regular basis.*

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| A. Counseling | C. Individual Differences |
| B. Experimental | D. Social |

Psych 484. Psychology of Close Relationships. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 9 credits in psychology including 280.* Theories and research concerning the functions, development, and deterioration of close relationships. Influence of psychological processes on friendship, romantic, marital, and family relationships. Topics include mate selection, interdependence, trust and commitment, power and dominance in relationships, sexuality, divorce, gender roles, and family interaction.

Psych 485. Health Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Junior classification, 6 credits in psychology.* Application of psychological theory and research methods to issues in physical health. Psychological factors in illness prevention, health maintenance, treatment of illness, recovery from injury and illness, and adjustment to chronic illness.

Psych 487. Human Aggression. Cr. 3. *Prereq: Psych 280, 301, and either 313 or 316 or 380.* Theory and research on development and occurrence of human aggression; implications for prevention and treatment.

Psych 488. Cultural Psychology. Cr. 3. *Prereq: 280 and 301; junior classification.* Examination of the ways that cultural beliefs, values, and ideologies shape cognitive, developmental, social and other psychological phenomena.

Psych 490. Independent Study. Cr. 1-3. Repeatable. *Prereq: Junior classification, 6 credits in psychology, and permission of instructor.* Supervised reading in an area of psychology. Writing requirement. No more than 9 credits of Psych 490 may be counted toward a degree in psychology.

Psych 491. Research Practicum. Cr. variable. Repeatable. *Prereq: Junior classification, permission of instructor, and credit or enrollment in 301.* Supervised research in an area of psychology. Primarily for students intending to pursue graduate education. No more than 9 credits of Psych 491 may be counted toward a degree in psychology.

Psych 492. Fieldwork Practicum. Cr. variable. Repeatable. *Prereq: Junior classification, 12 credits in psychology, and permission of instructor.* Supervised fieldwork in one of the following applied psychology settings. No more than 9 credits of Psych 492 may be counted toward a degree in psychology. Satisfactory-fail only.\

- A. Human Services – Dr. Carolyn Cutrona, ccutrona@iastate.edu
- B. Industrial/Organizational Psychology – Dr. Kathy Hanisch, kathann@iastate.edu
(*Prereq includes credit or enrollment in Psych 450*)

All Psychology course syllabi can be found on the Department of Psych web page
(<http://www.psychology.iastate.edu/>) and
in the Course Information section at <http://www.psychology.iastate.edu/index.php?id=5> .

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