

Psychology

Department Faculty

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Department Goals

The discipline of psychology is concerned with the examination of human behavior.

For General Education

The goals of the Psychology Department for general education students are:

1. to instill in students an appreciation and respect for studying God's highest creation,
2. to expose students to the diversity of behavior, research, theories and applications in the field of psychology,
3. to promote in students a quality of discernment with respect to the claims about what is known in psychology today,
4. to develop a student's ability to understand the value and importance of utilizing biblical and empirical methods for understanding human behavior,
5. to provide participatory, hands-on, educational opportunities.

For the Major Field

For students majoring in psychology, the goals of the Psychology Department are:

1. to provide students with the state-of-the-art understanding of human behavior,
2. to help students develop the capabilities needed to conduct research that adds to our understanding of human behavior,
3. to prepare qualified students for advanced work in psychology,
4. to instill in students the value of competence and professionalism when making application of principles drawn from psychology,
5. to encourage the active involvement by students in departmental activities such as field trips, department colloquia, and ongoing research by faculty members.

These goals are accomplished, in part, through the following sequences of courses:

1. a survey of modern psychology,
2. the methods used by psychologists in the investigation and analysis of behavior,
3. the theories and data of the subfields within psychology,

4. opportunity for application of the information of psychology and the integration of psychology with one's personal Christian beliefs.

The classification of courses listed below is consistent with the above sequence, namely: 1) survey courses, 2) methods courses, 3) content courses and 4) application courses. The student should be aware that the application of psychological principles necessarily follows an understanding of the data and methods upon which these principles are based.

The student majoring in psychology may take advantage of experimental equipment for individual research projects, calculator and computer facilities for the analysis of research data, and internship opportunities at various mental health agencies in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Psychology Department is committed to an academically responsible concept of the integration process. It provides the opportunity for relating the discipline to a reformed Christian world and life view. Students majoring in psychology examine contemporary viewpoints on integration relative to psychology and work toward a personal statement reflecting their efforts.

For further information about the program in psychology, contact the Department of Psychology by emailing: psychdept@covenant.edu.

Requirements for Major in Psychology

The core and distribution requirements for a major in psychology are those listed for the baccalaureate degrees on page 24, with the exception that a course in economics, finance or sociology is required to fulfill the social science distribution requirement.

Core Requirements	58
Electives.....	22-25

Major and Supporting Course Requirements

PSY 100 or 101. General Psychology.....	4 or 2
PSY 200. History and Systems of Psychology	3
PSY 220. Christian Issues in Psychology	3
PSY 261. Introduction to Research Methods 'W'	4
PSY 306. Cognitive Psychology, or	
PSY 346. Behavior Therapy	3-4
PSY 331 Psychology of Personality	4
PSY 344. Abnormal Psychology	4
PSY 492. Senior Integration Paper in Psychology 'S'	2
Psychology electives (300 level or above)	14
STA 252. Elementary Statistics: Concepts and Methods	4
Total hours for the major	<u>43-46</u>
Total degree hours.....	126

Requirements for Major in Psychology, Concentration in Clinical Psychology

The core and distribution requirements for a major in psychology are those listed for the baccalaureate degrees on page 24, with the exception that a course in economics, finance or sociology is required to fulfill the social science distribution requirement.

Core Requirements.....	58
Electives.....	15-17

Major and Supporting Course Requirements

PSY 100 or 101. General Psychology.....	4 or 2
PSY 200. History and Systems of Psychology	3
PSY 220. Christian Issues in Psychology	3
PSY 261. Introduction to Research Methods ‘W’	4
PSY 306. Cognitive Psychology	3
PSY 331. Psychology of Personality	4
PSY 344. Abnormal Psychology	4
PSY 345. Counseling and Psychotherapy	4
PSY 346. Behavior Therapy.....	4
PSY 349. Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology.....	3
PSY 353. Psychological Assessment.....	4
PSY 441. Psychology Internship	4
PSY 492. Senior Integration Paper in Psychology ‘S’	2
Psychology electives (300 level or above)	3
STA 252. Elementary Statistics: Concepts and Methods	4
Total hours for the major	<u>51-53</u>
Degree total.....	126

Requirements for Major in Psychology, Concentration in Experimental Psychology

The core and distribution requirements for a major in psychology are those listed for the baccalaureate degrees on page 24, with the exception that a course in economics, finance or sociology is required to fulfill the social science distribution requirement.

Core Requirements.....	58
Electives.....	14-17

Major and Supporting Course Requirements

PSY 100 or 101. General Psychology	4 or 2
PSY 200. History and Systems of Psychology.....	3
PSY 220. Christian Issues in Psychology	3

PSY 261. Introduction to Research Methods ‘W’	4
PSY 306. Cognitive Psychology, or PSY 346. Behavior Therapy	3-4
PSY 331. Psychology of Personality	4
PSY 344. Abnormal Psychology	4
PSY 373. Physiological Psychology.....	4
PSY 440. Independent Research.....	6
PSY 492. Senior Integration Paper in Psychology ‘S’	2
Psychology electives (300 level or above)	12
STA 252. Elementary Statistics: Concepts and Methods	4
Total hours for the major	<u>51-54</u>
Degree total.....	126

Other courses fulfilling upper-division Psychology Electives

SOC 244. Social Psychology.....	3
SOC 342. Sociology of Religion	3
SOC 348. Marriage and Family Counseling	3

Requirements for Minor in Psychology

PSY 100 or 101. General Psychology.....	4 or 2
PSY 220. Christian Issues in Psychology	3
Psychology electives.....	<u>15</u>
Total hours for the minor.....	20-22

Psychology Courses

Survey Courses

100. General Psychology

A course with a general survey of the content areas of psychology. This course introduces the student to the critical examination of behavior in human and other life forms. The relationships among psychology, sociology, and anthropology will be examined, and issues arising from the course content will be examined with the purpose of formulating a Christian perspective. Topics considered include the nature of psychology, biological foundations of behavior, perception, learning and memory, language and thought, motivation and emotion, developmental psychology, altered states of consciousness, personality, social psychology, psychopathology and psychotherapy. Laboratory fee: \$40. Four hours. SS

101. Advanced General Psychology

This course is intended for and required of transfer students with a major, minor or concentration in psychology. It consists of attending the general psychology class and participating in all the laboratory exercises and class assignments. Prerequisite: introductory psychology course from another college. Laboratory fee: \$40. Two hours.

200. History and Systems of Psychology

This course surveys the historical roots of present psychology. It includes an examination of important and influential people, systems of thought, and classic experiments. It also considers the influence of various cultures, including the impact of Christian thought in psychology today. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101. Three hours.

201. Psychology Classics (Correspondence)

This course is intended to offer a psychology student the opportunity to read books in an area of psychology that should benefit any psychology major. Students select from a list of acceptable books, write individual book reports and then write a final report comparing and contrasting the books reviewed. One to four hours.

210. Psychology Field Trip (Convention)

The Psychology Department arranges and sponsors field trips to various professional psychology conventions. The conventions attended in the past have included the Southeastern Psychology Association (SEPA), the Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS) and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR). By this means, students are able to gain a wide sampling of the range of topics, issues, controversies and personalities in psychology today. A travel fee is individually set for each field trip (based on distance, housing, etc.). Trip fee: \$TBA. Two hours.

220. Christian Issues in Psychology

This course introduces the student to issues of importance in the integration of psychology and Christianity. Models of integration, critical issues in psychology and contemporary issues are examined in light of the scriptures and modern thinkers in Christian psychology. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101. Three hours.

233 / 333. Cross-Cultural Psychology

The field of psychology has come to recognize the importance of cultural mediators in the research and analysis of psychological phenomena. Cross-cultural psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and cultural transmission, exploring the ways in which human thought and behavior are shaped and influenced by social and cultural forces. This course provides students with an expanded psychological framework that explores variations in cultural syndromes, human development, sensation and perception, cognition, emotion, social behavior, personality, mental illness, and psychotherapy. Additional assignments for upper-division credit. Three hours. SS

Methods Course

261. Introduction to Research Methods

This course introduces the student to the process and methods of research in the social sciences. Required of all majors in psychology. Topics considered include science and the scientific approach, problems and hypotheses, variable definition, research designs, types of research and methods of observation and data collection. The student formulates a research proposal and carries out the research, reporting the results in a research manuscript prepared in a form acceptable for publication. Prerequisites: PSY 100 or 101; STA 252 at least concurrently. Four hours lecture. Laboratory fee: \$40. Four hours. 'W'

Content Courses

202 (302). Special Topics in Psychology

This course represents a loosely structured outlet for topics of interest in the discipline. A variety of subjects related to psychology are offered. Topics previously offered include Christian counseling, sleep and dreaming, death and dying, and religious behavior. The particular topic offered is based upon student interest and demand. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor. Repeatable. One to four hours.

303. Developmental Psychology

A comprehensive survey of the development of the human individual from conception through adolescence. Consideration is also given to the methods of investigation employed. Topics include theories of development, research methods, infancy, childhood, and physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and moral development. Additional material will be provided to cover adulthood and aging for pre-nursing students. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101; or

Education or Community Development majors and sophomore standing. Three hours lecture and field observations. Four hours. SS for Education majors only.

306. Cognitive Psychology

This course examines human cognition, including perception, pattern recognition, memory, decision making, language, problem solving, consciousness, and the relation between brain and mind. Prerequisites: PSY 261; STA 252. Three hours lecture plus laboratory. Laboratory fee: \$25. Three hours.

331. Psychology of Personality

A critical examination of historical and contemporary theorists in the study of human personality. Theorists considered include Freud, Jung, Adler, Allport, Cattell, Dollard and Miller, Rogers, Maslow, Frank and Ellis. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101. Four hours lecture. Four hours.

344. Abnormal Psychology

This course examines behavior classified as abnormal by the American Psychiatric Association and the World Health Organization. Class content focuses on the clinical description, causes, prognosis, and treatment of abnormal behavior. A practicum provides direct contact with the behavior being studied and involves weekly participation at a mental health agency. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101. Three hours lecture plus practicum. Four hours.

345. Counseling and Psychotherapy

This course provides a clinical, scientific-theoretical, and Christian analysis of several approaches to counseling and psychotherapy. Among other schools, psychoanalysis, rational-emotive therapy, Gestalt therapy, person-centered therapy, behavior modification, and logotherapy are examined. Biblical and pastoral counseling perspectives are also reviewed, as are their relationships with secular schools of thought. The possibilities for integration are discussed. Prerequisites: PSY 331. Four hours.

346. Behavior Therapy

This course examines the clinical therapeutic techniques of behavior change which have been developed from learning theories and associated psychological research. Operant, classical, social learning and cognitive theories of learning are examined and their related techniques of therapy analyzed. Process and outcome studies are reviewed. The course considers the religious, ethical and social issues involved in the application of the behavior therapies. A project of self-change, in which students apply techniques of change to their own behavior, is required. Prerequisite: PSY 344. Three hours lecture plus laboratory. Laboratory fee: \$25. Four hours.

349. Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology

This seminar considers the American Psychological Association's published Ethical Principles of Psychologists and the practical application of these standards in real-life situations, paying close attention to the conflicts which arise between the "Principles" and Christian ethics, and the complexities of practicing in a diverse social context. The seminar considers issues of importance to practitioners: e.g., contemporary treatment techniques in clinical psychology, practice in the managed care environment, pharmacotherapy in psychological practice, church-based Christian counseling, and others. Prerequisites: PSY 344, and 345 or 346. Three hours seminar. Three hours.

360. Psychology of Religion

A study of religion from a psychological perspective. Topics include historic development of the psychology of religion, religious development across the lifespan, aspects of religious conversion and experiences, varieties of religious orientation, attitudes, and behaviors, the relationship between religion and personality, and research and assessment methods in the study of the psychology of religion. Prerequisite: PSY100. Three hours.

373. Physiological Psychology

This course explores a range of topics in psychology from a neurophysiological perspective. Building on a foundation of basic neuroanatomy and neurochemistry, the course then reviews complex human behaviors, including the senses, movement, emotions and motivation, cognition and mental disorders. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101. Three hours lecture plus laboratory. Laboratory fee: \$40. Four hours.

380. Psychology of Adulthood and Aging

This course examines the physical, social and emotional development of adults. Special attention is given to the elderly. Both problems and opportunities for growth are considered. Alzheimer's disease, Social Security, living arrangements for the elderly and geriatric psychopathology are among the special topics considered. Prerequisite: PSY 100 or 101. Four hours.

399. Independent Study

This course is intended for the student who has demonstrated ability for independent study and wishes to examine an area not covered in available courses. It requires the agreement of a member of the Psychology Department to supervise the independent study. One to four hours.

Application Courses

353. Psychological Assessment

A comprehensive survey of the construction and use of psychological tests. Topics considered include functions and origins of psychological testing, the nature and use of psychological tests, the interpretation of test scores, reliability and validity, item analysis, the measurement of

intelligence, aptitude and achievement tests, vocational and personality tests, attitude and interest inventories, projective techniques and the social implications of test results. Periodic laboratory experiences will be offered. Prerequisites: PSY 100 or 101; STA 252 or permission of the instructor. Laboratory fee: \$25. Four hours.

440. Independent Research

Students enrolling in this course pursue an independent research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The student is encouraged to make use of available resources within the department. Each student develops a report of the research completed that is suitable for publication. Prerequisite: junior standing in the psychology major or permission of the instructor. One to six hours.

441. Psychology Internship

Students interested in the applied aspects of psychology are placed in internship positions with the Moccasin Bend Psychiatric Hospital, Orange Grove Retardation Center or other agencies. An effort is made to make the student aware of the discipline in its applied setting. Prerequisite: junior standing in the psychology major or permission of the instructor. Offered each semester. One to four hours.

492. Senior Integration Paper in Psychology

A required course of all graduating seniors majoring in psychology. Students develop an understanding of a current issue or topic in psychology, culminating in a written paper expressing Christian worldview thinking. Prerequisite: senior psychology major. One two-hour meeting per week. Two hours. 'S'