

Department of Psychology

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Degree Programs Offered

- BA, major in Psychology
- BS, major in Psychology

Minors Offered

- Psychology
- Forensic Psychology
- Sports Psychology

Psychology is the science that studies the behavior of individual people, animals, and organizations. To psychologists, behavior means not only actions, but also thoughts and feelings. Beyond its introductory course, the department offers courses in individual differences, biological, social, and learned bases of behavior, as well as statistics and methodology. Psychology majors take courses in these areas and in methodology. Later they may participate in advanced theory, individual research, and internship classes to prepare for graduate programs in psychology.

Employment as a psychologist in clinical or industrial psychology requires a graduate degree beyond the bachelor's level. Many psychology majors, however, plan to enter jobs in business, government, health, and education immediately, with a BA or BS in Psychology. For more information planning courses for a suitable program, the "Guide for Psychology Majors" is available in the department office or at <http://www.psych.txstate.edu>.

Admission Process and Continuation in the Psychology Major Coursework

Students who meet university admissions requirements (intended majors) enter Psychology as pre-majors. However, admission to the major itself and to the PSY 3301 and 3302 courses in Group 0 require:

Completion of PSY 1300 and MATH 1315 (or their equivalents) with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher in each course.

A grade of "C" in PSY 3301 is a prerequisite for PSY 3302; a grade of "C" in PSY 3302 is a prerequisite for PSY 3341 and PSY 4342. A grade of "C" in PSY 3302 and 24 psychology hours are prerequisites for PSY 4391. With this sequencing and set of prerequisites, a grade of "C" in PSY 1300, 3301, and 3302 is necessary for graduation.

Bachelor of Arts Major in Psychology

Minimum required: 120 semester hours

General Requirements:

1. PSY 1300, 3300, 3301, and 3302 are the foundation for all serious study of psychology; much material covered in later courses depends on a thorough knowledge of topics in these four. These courses are recommended before students take PSY 3341 and all 4000-level courses. PSY 1300 is a prerequisite for all other PSY courses.
2. All majors are required to take at least one course from each of Groups 1-4 and to take PSY 4391.
3. Majors are required to have a minor. See the Degrees and Programs section of this catalog for a list of approved Texas State minors.
4. Majors are required to complete their BA Science requirement by taking one additional science and/or mathematics course, to be selected from the following disciplines: ANTH 2414 or 2415, any advanced Physical Anthropology or Archaeology course, biology (above 1421), chemistry, physics (including astronomy), mathematics (1317 and above), computer science (1318 and above), geology, PHIL 2330 (only), or GEO 2410 (only).
5. At least 36 advanced hours (3000- and 4000-level) must be taken. Of these, at least 24 advanced hours must be in psychology. Sufficient courses from the minor and other electives must be selected to ensure a total of 36 hours of advanced course work.
6. Majors are required to complete their Social and Behavioral Science perspective requirement by taking one of the following courses: ANTH 1312, SOCI 1310, ECO 2301, ECO 2314, or GEO 1310.
7. Psychology Majors are required to complete their Natural Science perspective requirement by taking two courses in biology (BIO 1320 and 1421, or BIO 1430 and 1431 for biology minors).

Freshman Year	Hours	Sophomore Year	Hours
BIO 1320, 1421	7	COMM 1310.....	3
ENG 1310, 1320.....	6	ENG Literature (ENG 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340 2359, 2360, 3303)	6
US 1100.....	1	Modern Language 2310, 2320.....	6
HIST 1310, 1320	6	PHIL 1305 or 1320	3
MATH 1315 or higher (not 1316)	3	POSI 2310, 2320.....	6
PFW two courses	2	PSY 3300, 3301	6
PSY 1300	3	Social and Behavioral Science Requirement.....	3
Modern Language 1410, 1420	8		
Total	36	Total	33

Junior Year	Hours	Senior Year	Hours
ART, DAN, MU, or TH 2313.....	3	Minor or electives	9-12
BA Science Requirement.....	3	PSY, Group 4 (PSY 3341 or 4342)	3
Minor.....	9	PSY advanced electives	6
PSY 3302	3	PSY 4391 (Capstone).....	3
PSY, Group 1 (PSY 3315 or 3316).....	3		
PSY, Group 2 (PSY 3321 or 4322)	3		
PSY, Group 3 (PSY 3331 or 3333).....	3		
PSY elective	3		
Total	30	Total	21

Bachelor of Science Major in Psychology (with Science Minor)

Minimum required: 120 semester hours

General Requirements:

1. PSY 1300, 3300, 3301, and 3302 are the foundation for all serious study of psychology; material covered in later courses depends on a thorough knowledge of topics in these four. These courses are recommended before students take PSY 3341 and all 4000-level courses. PSY 1300 is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses.
2. All majors are required to take at least one course from each of Groups 1-4 and to take PSY 4391.
3. A science minor must be selected from the Departments of Anthropology (courses to be taken from Physical or Archaeology), Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Computer Science, Geography, Mathematics, or Physics.
4. At least 36 advanced hours (3000- and 4000-level) must be taken. Of these, at least 24 advanced hours must be in psychology; sufficient courses from the minor and other electives must be selected to ensure a total of 36 hours of advanced coursework.
5. Majors are required to complete their Social and Behavioral Science perspective requirement by taking one of the following courses: ANTH 1312, SOCI 1310, ECO 2301, ECO 2314, or GEO 1310.
6. Majors are required to complete their Natural Science perspective requirement by taking two courses in biology (BIO 1320 and 1421, or BIO 1430 and 1431 for biology minors).

Freshman Year	Hours	Sophomore Year	Hours
BIO 1320, 1421 or BIO 1430, 1431 (Biology minors).....	7-8	ENG Literature (ENG 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340 2359, 2360, 3303)	6
COMM 1310	3	Modern Language 1410, 1420.....	8
ENG 1310, 1320.....	6	PHIL 1305 or 1320	3
US 1100.....	1	POSI 2310, 2320.....	6
HIST 1310, 1320	6	PSY 3300, 3301	6
MATH 1315 or higher (not 1316)	3	Minor	6
PFW two courses	2		
PSY 1300	3		
Total	31-32	Total	35
Junior Year	Hours	Senior Year	Hours
ART, DAN, MU, or TH 2313.....	3	Minor or electives	9
Social and Behavioral Science Requirement	3	PSY, Group 4 (PSY 3341 or 4342).....	3
Minor.....	12	PSY advanced electives	6
PSY 3302	3	PSY 4391 (Capstone).....	3
PSY, Group 1 (PSY 3315 or 3316).....	3		
PSY, Group 2 (PSY 3321 or 4322).....	3		
PSY, Group 3 (PSY 3331 or 3333).....	3		
PSY elective	3		
Total	33	Total	21

Minor in Psychology

A minor in Psychology requires 18 hours, including PSY 1300, and 15 hours selected from any PSY courses, of which at least 12 hours must be advanced (3000- or 4000-level).

Minor in Forensic Psychology

Forensic is defined as "evidence" or "relating to, used in, or appropriate for courts of law." This minor looks at forensic issues from both psychological and criminal justice perspectives. The minor is suitable for criminal justice majors or any individual wishing to pursue a background in psychology and criminal justice. The minor also would be good preparation for those individuals wishing to pursue pre-law or social work and for individuals considering graduate coursework in forensic psychology.

A minor in Forensic Psychology requires 21 hours, including the following: CJ 1310, 2360, 3329; PSY 3315 or 3316; PSY 3331 and 3335; one course selected from ANTH 3381, CJ 4340, SOCI 3343, or an elective approved by the Department.

Psychology majors pursuing the forensic psychology minor cannot double count courses toward their major and the minor. Enrollment in the required PSY courses assumes that non-psychology majors will have completed PSY 1300 as part of their social science core curriculum component. If not, PSY 1300 is a prerequisite for PSY 3315, 3316, 3331, and 3335. The prerequisite requirements for CJ 3329 and 4340 will be waived only for students pursuing this minor. This is justified by the fact that students will be exploring many of the issues covered in those requisite courses in the psychology coursework portion of the minor.

Minor in Sports Psychology

Sports Psychology examines the relationships between psychological concepts, theories and an individual's thoughts toward health and exercise. Current theoretical perspectives of personality factors in exercise, why people exercise, exercise adherence, mental skills and the psychological effects of exercise will be investigated. The minor will focus on topics such as methods of training and coaching, teamwork and leadership, motivation and stress, and social issues in sport. Students will study the relationships between brain biology and behavior. Students will learn to apply psychological theories and perspectives toward understanding thoughts about exercise, an individual's willingness to exercise, choice of exercise, and to assess the relationships between physical health and mental health.

A minor in Sports Psychology requires 21 hours, including the following: PSY 3331 and 4390L; PSY 3350 or 3361; PSY 3321 or 4322; PE 3317 and 3329; one course selected from PHIL 3325, SOCI 3340, or an elective approved by the Department.

Psychology majors pursuing the sports psychology minor cannot double count courses toward their both major and the minor. Enrollment in the required PSY courses assumes that non-psychology majors will have completed PSY 1300 as part of their social science core curriculum component. If not, PSY 1300 is a prerequisite for PSY 3321, 3331, 3350, 3361, 4322, and 4390L.

Courses in Psychology (PSY)

Group 0: Foundations of Psychology

1300 (PSYC 2301) Introduction to Psychology. (3-0) A survey of the major principles derived from research on human and animal behavior. Topics studied include learning, thinking, motivation, emotion, personality, the senses, perception, and the form and functions of the nervous system. PSY 1300 is a prerequisite for all other psychology courses.

3300 Lifespan Development. (3-0) Survey of the psychology of human development from the pre-natal period through adulthood. Emphasis placed on cognitive, motivational, and physiological processes of development in childhood and adolescence. Prerequisite: PSY 1300.

3301 Introduction to Statistics. (2-2) The application of elementary descriptive statistics, statistical inference, and correlation and regression of behavioral science data, with an emphasis on the relationship of theory and methods in the research setting. Prerequisite: Psychology major standing or permission of the Department Chair.

(WI) **3302 Experimental and Research Methods.** (2-2) Introduction to laboratory equipment and procedures, with basic instruction in experimental design, data collection and treatment, and technical report writing. Several psychological experiments and research reports will be required of each student. Prerequisite: PSY 3301 and Psychology major standing or permission of the Department Chair.

(WI) **4391 History and Theory.** (3-0) Study of the evolution of psychology as a science through a systematic review of the principal scientific and philosophic antecedents of modern psychology, and analysis of the status of the major contemporary theoretical schools. Prerequisite: PSY 3302 or consent of instructor.

Group 1: Individual Differences in Behavior.

3315 Abnormal Psychology. (3-0) An introduction to the study of abnormality: (1) issues in defining and evaluating it, (2) examples, (3) theories and research attempting to categorize, describe, and explain it, and (4) approaches used to prevent or change it when it is deemed a problem by the individual and/or society.

3316 Personality Psychology. (3-0) A comprehensive introduction to research, theory, and application in the field of personality. Individual differences and situation influences are examined concerning authoritarianism, achievement motivation, anxiety, intelligence, self-concept, interpersonal attraction, aggression, sexuality, and altruism. An integrative model is suggested for describing and predicting human behavior.

Group 2 Biological Bases in Behavior

3321 Sensation and Perception. (3-0) An introduction to the processes of perception. Topics will include perceptual measurement, the physiological bases of perception, basic visual processes, and basic haptic, olfactory, and gustatory processes.

4322 Brain and Behavior. (3-0) Research findings and theoretical concepts concerned with the physiological, anatomical, and pharmacological bases of behavior. Topics include sensory systems, the physiological mechanisms of motivation, and the physiological correlates of associate processes such as learning. Prerequisite: PSY 3302 or consent of instructor.

Group 3: Social Bases for Behavior

3331 Social Psychology. (3-0) The study of how people influence each other. The course covers such topics as conformity, inter-personal attraction, prejudice, and aggression.

3333 Industrial Psychology. (3-0) The study of applying psychological knowledge and techniques to the modern industrial environment. Topics studied include employee needs, attitudes, selection, testing, boredom, motivation, anxiety, and job satisfaction.

Group 4: Learned Bases of Behavior

(WI) **3341 Cognitive Processes.** (3-0) The acquisition and use of knowledge, contemporary research on perception, pattern recognition, memory, thinking, problem solving, and language comprehension will be considered. Prerequisite: PSY 3302 or consent of instructor.

(WI) **4342 Learning and Memory.** (3-0) A study of memory and learning in humans and animals. Attention is given to comparative cognition, cognitive and neuropsychological aspects of memory, and memory deficits. Prerequisite: PSY 3302 or consent of instructor.

Ungrouped Courses

2311 (PSYC 2306) Psychology of Human Sexuality. (3-0) A psychological and physiological examination of the human sexual experience from conception through old age. Current research findings serve as a basis for study. Major consideration is given to the human sexual system, the sexual act, sexual attitudes and behavior, and sexual complications.

3312 Adolescent Psychology. (3-0) A developmental psychology course designed to examine the complex characteristics of human cognitive and emotional life during the period of adolescence. Emphasis is directed toward the basis of behavior, interpersonal relationships, development, growth, and motivation. Prerequisite: PSY 3300.

3313 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging. (3-0) The development of individuals in the post-adolescent period, particularly after middle age. Topics studied include social, psychological, and physiological changes and problems associated with the aging process.

(WI) **3314 Psychology of Consciousness.** (3-0) An introduction to theory, research, and experiential applications in the study of consciousness; topics studied include the findings and implications of post-Einsteinian science relevant to the study of consciousness.

3323 Evolution and Behavior. (3-0) A consideration of the evolution and function of behavior as viewed from a biological base. The course includes a comparative analysis of species-specific behaviors in man and lower animals. Laboratory periods will be devoted to observation and classification of behavior, as well as independent laboratory research. Prerequisite: PSY 3302 or consent of instructor.

3325 Psychology of Persuasion. (3-0) This course uses a socio-psychological perspective to understand the dynamics of persuasion and propaganda. It applies selected theories and research on social influence, persuasion, and attitude change to such areas as political and educational campaigns, product advertising, mass media and public opinion. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 (PSY 3302 recommended).

(WI) **3332 Psychology of Women.** (3-0) The special problems and demands made on the woman within modern western culture. Topics studied include status, roles, values, opportunities, expectations, stress, and self-realization of the modern woman. (MC)

3334 Psychology of Human Diversity. (3-0) Explanations about how the environment, genetics and culture shape human differences, and how these differences are linked to world progress and understanding are addressed. (MC)

3335 Forensic Psychology. (3-0) Examines the relationships between psychology and the processes of the American courtroom. Sample issues to be addressed include; (a) What psychological theories are used to explain jury decision-making? (b) How accurate is the memory of eyewitnesses? (c) How do characteristics of defendants influence juries?

3336 Sports Psychology. (3-0) This course examines the relationships, psychological concepts, and individual's thoughts regarding sports, health and exercise. Sample topics include (1) current theoretical perspectives of personality factors at sports and exercise, (2) why people engage in sports, (3) exercise adherence, (4) mental skills, and (5) the psychological effects of sports and exercise.

3337 Psychology of Prejudice, Discrimination, and Hate. (3-0) This course will explore psychological theories and factors that underlie prejudice, discrimination, and hate. Although the course will focus primarily on these issues as they have developed and influence realities in the United States, global issues will also be explored.

(WI) **3350 Behavior Modification.** (3-0) The course provides theory, research, and application of psychological principles that affect humans in education, business, and personal life. Emphasis is placed on effective use of reinforcement, classroom management, self-control, relaxation, and assertiveness.

(WI) **3352 Group Processes.** (3-0) A study of how the individual relates to his group membership. Students will analyze the development and functioning of their own groups, with attention to such issues as problems faced by group members in the early phases of a group's existence, leadership roles, group pressure, and trust. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

3353 Computer Applications in the Social and Behavioral Sciences and Education. (3-0) The principles of data analysis and interpretation using SPSS. Topics studied include data entry and management, statistical concepts, hypothesis testing and the proper interpretation of SPSS output. Prerequisite: PSY 3301 and 3302.

(WI) **3361 Health Psychology.** (3-0) Surveys contemporary theory and research on body/mind interaction in physical and mental health. Emphasis on personality, psychosocial, and stress factors in physical health. Other topics include the effects of physical health on psychological well being, pain management, longevity and aging, and coping with illness and dying.

4318 Psychological Measurement. (3-0) Study of principles, concepts, and methods involved in tests and inventories currently used in the assessment of intelligence, aptitudes, interests, and personality, with emphasis on the proper administration, scoring, and evaluation of psychological instruments. Prerequisites: PSY 3301; 3302 or consent of instructor.

4350 Reality Therapy/Choice Theory. (3-0) This course focuses on Glasser's concepts of Choice Theory and Reality Therapy. This course explores how the "total behaviors" and choices we make impact our lives, the kinds of relationships we want to have with others, health and quality of the life.

(WI) **4352 Introduction to Clinical Psychology.** (3-0) Overview of clinical psychology. Emphasis on current theories and methods of individual psychotherapy. Class discussions of readings, films, audiotapes, and live examples illustrating approaches. Experiential learning via class exercises in pairs and small groups and by role-playing both therapist and client in a series of helping sessions. Practical focus on developing relationship skills and job skills. Prerequisites: PSY 3315, 3302 and consent of instructor. (Apply in advance.)

4390 Special Topics in Psychology. (3-0) Tutorial sessions focusing in depth on a selected topic of great interest in psychology. Topics must be within the scope of 3000 or 4000 level psychology courses presently in the catalog. Open to junior and senior students by invitation of instructor and consent of the chair. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.

4390B Emotion and Human Behavior. (3-0)

4390C Interpersonal Relationships. (3-0)

4390F Psychology of Persuasion. (3-0)

4390J International Psychology. (3-0)

4390M Psychology and Opera. (3-0)

4390N Psychopharmacology. (3-0)

(WI) **4395 Individual Study.** (3-0) Students design and execute original research, or engage in extensive fieldwork, in the field of psychology under the supervision of a faculty member. All students planning to attend Graduate School are advised to enroll in the course. May be repeated once for additional credit. Prerequisites: PSY 3302 and consent of instructor.

4396 Internship in Psychology. (0-10) Extensive field work in a professional setting related to psychology. May be repeated once for additional credit. Prerequisites: 12 hours of PSY and consent of instructor.