PSYCHOLOGY

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Psychology combines perspectives from both the natural and social sciences to gain an understanding of the processes underlying human and animal behavior by examining influences ranging from the neurological to the sociocultural. The Psychology curriculum prepares students for diverse professional experiences. Over two thirds of its graduates enter professional programs at either the M.S. or Ph.D. level in psychology or related areas (e.g., education, law, social work, medicine). Other students enter the job market in a variety of settings immediately after graduation (e.g., technology, sales, finance, and social services).

The Psychology major stresses an empirical scientific approach to the broad range of psychological and behavioral issues and problems. As such, the curriculum is intended to expose students to both scientific and applied aspects of the discipline. As part of its facilities, the Department of Psychology maintains a statistical/computer facility and well-equipped animal, developmental, cognition, sensory/perception, and social/personality laboratories. Students also have access to the College's nursery school for observational studies.

Major in Psychology

Consists of ten courses:

- PSYC 10000
- PSYC 25000
- One elective 200-level Psychology course
- One of the following 300-level courses: PSYC 32100, 32200, 33500, or NEUR 32300
- One of the following 300-level courses: PSYC 32500, 32700, or 33000
- Three elective 300-level Psychology courses
- Senior Independent Study: PSYC 45100
- Senior Independent Study: PSYC 45200

Minor in Psychology

Consists of six courses:

- PSYC 10000
- PSYC 25000
- One elective 200-level Psychology course
- One of the following 300-level courses: PSYC 32100, 32200, 33500, or NEUR 32300
- One of the following 300-level courses: PSYC 32500, 32700, or 33000
- One elective 200- or 300-level Psychology course

Special Notes

- Majors are encouraged to take a two-semester sequence of a laboratory course in either Biology or Chemistry and at least one course in Mathematics and Computer Science.
- **Advanced Placement:** A student who has received a 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in Psychology may receive credit for PSYC 10000 and does not need to take that course as a prerequisite for advanced courses. The advanced placement policy of the College is explained in the section on *Admission*.
- A student who has earned a D or F in the same course two times may not repeat that course or count it within the major or minor.
- A minimum grade of C is required in PSYC 25000 to advance in the major or minor.
- Majors and minors are not permitted to take any courses within the department for S/NC credit, except for internships.
- A student must earn a grade of C- or higher for a course to count toward the major or minor, or to count as a prerequisite for any Psychology course.

PSYCHOLOGY COURSES

PSYC 10000. INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (Neuroscience)
An introduction to psychological theory, research, and methods. Coverage includes basic neurological processes, principles of learning and cognition, individual differences in personality, developmental processes, sensation and perception, mental health, and social influences on behavior. Students may take the course only once for course credit. *Annually. Fall and Spring. [HSS]*

PSYC 11000. CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT (Communication, Education)
A study of the processes that contribute to the development of the individual as a person. The emphasis is typically on the child from conception to early adolescence. This course is intended primarily for students seeking licensure in Education. Psychology majors and minors are strongly encouraged to enroll in PSYC 10000. A 2-hour per week field placement at the College of Wooster Nursery School is required of all students. The field placement satisfies licensure requirements for Education minor students. Precludes enrollment in PSYC 32700. *Annually. [HSS]*

PSYC 21100. MATURITY AND OLD AGE (Communication)
A course exploring the individual's needs and developmental tasks to be accomplished by people as they progress from young adulthood to retirement and beyond. The impact of biological, sociological, and psychological factors on the aging process will be examined in an attempt to separate myth from reality about aging. The emphasis will be on middle aged people to senior citizens. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Alternate years. [HSS]*

PSYC 21200. ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY (Neuroscience)
Examines the origin, development, and classification of abnormal behavior and human psychopathology. Topics will include mood and anxiety disorders, psychosis, substance-related disorders, and disorders usually diagnosed in childhood. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Alternate years. [HSS]*

PSYC 21500. PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN AND GENDER (Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)
This course focuses on the societal construction and significance of gender, as well as the psychological implications of events unique to women. We will engage in a critical examination of theories and evidence concerning differences between women and men. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Alternate years. [HSS]*

PSYC 21800. ANIMAL COGNITION
Animal cognition is designed to attract students from a variety of disciplines (especially psychology, biology, anthropology and neuroscience), to explore the comparative science of cognitive processes in a wide range of animals, including humans. We examine research from a number of different fields and perspectives, including experimental psychology, ethology, neuroscience, physical anthropology, biology, evolutionary psychology, and developmental psychology. The comprehensive textbook is Animal Cognition (2nd edition) by an authoritative comparative psychologist, Sarah Shettleworth (2010). We also read a number of primary research articles. The course covers a wide range of animal abilities (in a remarkable range of species), including associate learning,

navigational abilities, perceptual and memory processes, concept and rule acquisition, quantitative abilities, cognitive models of timing abilities, observational learning and imitation, self-recognition and self-awareness, cooperation, language and the capacity to teach others. Students write several papers, and classes involve a variety of learning strategies. *[HSS]*

PSYC 22500. ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (Environmental Studies)
The field of environmental psychology explores the interrelationships between people and their physical environments, including both built and natural environments. This course covers the major areas of research in environmental psychology, including effects of the environment on humans, human perception of the environment, the relationship between humans and the natural world, and psychological factors affecting human care for the natural environment. We will also consider how this information can be applied to promote a healthier relationship between humans and their environment. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000, or permission of the instructor. Alternate years. [HSS]*

PSYC 23000. HUMAN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY (Communication, Neuroscience)
This course will explore the functioning of the fascinating human brain by discussing how we make decisions, how we rationalize choices, how we consider emotions and how we learn, to name a few. The course emphasizes the various methodologies used to assess the functions of brain regions and behavior through case studies as well as empirical research. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Annually. [HSS]*

PSYC 23500. EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY
The course provides an integrated approach to studying human behavior based on an evolutionary model. Using Darwin's theory of natural and sexual selection we will investigate adaptive problems such as predator avoidance, inter-group aggression, mate selection, child rearing, and negotiating social relationships. Other topics include: "human nature," the origins and functions of various behavioral sex differences, the evolutionary basis of nepotism, gene-behavior relations, reproductive behavior, and how culture and social learning interface with Darwinian evolution. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Alternate years. [HSS]*

PSYC 24000-24004. TOPICS IN APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY
A course in which traditional concepts, methods, and theories in psychology are applied to a practical issue. Topics selected yearly and announced in advance by the faculty member responsible for the course. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Annually. Fall and Spring. [HSS]*

PSYC 24500. HUMAN SEXUALITY
A survey course examining the evolutionary, comparative, biological, developmental, social, and historical-cultural aspects of human reproductive behavior. Additional topics include: sexually transmitted disease, sex in the context of human relationships, and issues of sexual orientation. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Alternate years. [HSS]*

PSYC 25000. INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS AND EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN (Neuroscience)
Introduction to the basic principles of descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, and experimental design. Includes SPSS instruction and a one-hour laboratory. Minimum grade of C is required to advance in the major or minor. *Prerequisite: PSYC 10000. Annually. Fall and Spring. [Q]*

PSYC 31500. MUSIC AND SPEECH PERCEPTION
Music and speech have long been proposed to have common evolutionary roots. Both have a hierarchical structure and complex rhythm. Both convey emotion and share many other communicative properties. In this class we will examine theory, methodology and phenomena surrounding the perception and production of music and speech with a particular focus on the overlap between these two domains. One goal of this course is to provide a strong foundation for conducting a research project in this area, either as an I.S. project or in another capacity. *Prerequisite: PSYC 25000.*

PSYC 31800. HEMISPHERIC SPECIALIZATION
What are the functions of the left and right brain hemispheres? Why is hemispheric specialization a useful adaptation in humans? Do other animals show hemispheric differences and laterality effects in their behavior? How does one study hemispheric specializations and what does the research show? These are some of the questions addressed in the advanced course, Hemispheric Specialization. We begin with research by the leading researcher in the world on split-brain studies, Michael Gazzaniga, who has examined not only hemispheric specialization but also a number of questions about the intricacies of the anatomy and functions of the human brain, and how it is both evolutionarily similar to, but also intriguingly different from, the brains of other animals. We will also examine some of the primary literature on hemispheric specialization and the behaviors

related to a lateralized brain. During the (approximately) last third of the course, we turn to research topics related to hemispheric specialization and brain "modules" . The course culminates in a term paper on a topic in hemispheric specialization. *Prerequisite: Psychology 25000 and at least one advanced laboratory course in psychology or biology. Some background in Neuroscience highly recommended.*

PSYC 32100. LEARNING AND BEHAVIOR (Neuroscience)
Detailed critical examination of theory, research and applications of learning processes, from simple associative processes (classical and operant conditioning) to complex processes (conceptual abstraction and reasoning). Scientific writing is emphasized. Three-hour weekly laboratory with additional outside hours for animal testing. Class and laboratory components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000. Annually. [W]*

PSYC 32200. MEMORY AND COGNITION (Communication, Neuroscience)
Analysis of complex human behavior, including learning, memory, perception, and cognition. Scientific writing is emphasized in this course. Includes a 3-hour laboratory in addition to class. The laboratory and classroom components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000. Annually. [W]*

PSYC 32300. BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE (Communication, Neuroscience)
An introduction to the anatomical and physiological basis of animal and human behavior. Content areas include basic neuronal physiology and brain anatomy, neural/endocrine interactions, methods in neuroscience, control of movement, sexual development and behavior, sleep, learning and memory and physiological correlates of psychopathology. Includes a 3-hour laboratory in addition to class. The laboratory and classroom components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000 or Math10200, suggested prerequisite: NEUR 20000. Annually. Fall. [W]*

PSYC 32500. PERSONALITY: THEORY AND RESEARCH
This course emphasizes theories of human personality and research generated from the theories. Scientific writing is emphasized in this course, which includes a 3-hour laboratory in addition to class. The laboratory and classroom components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000. Annually. [W]*

PSYC 32700. DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY: THEORY AND RESEARCH (Education)
A survey of methods, research topics, and theory in developmental psychology. Scientific writing is emphasized in this course. Includes a 3-hour laboratory in addition to class. The laboratory and classroom components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. A 2-hour per week field placement at The College of Wooster Nursery School is required of all students. The field placement satisfies licensure requirements for Education minor students. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000. Annually. [W]*

PSYC 33000. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: THEORY AND RESEARCH
This course surveys theory and research on human social cognition and behavior, addressing the ways in which human beings are affected by others and covering topics such as social influence, prosocial and antisocial interactions, and relationships. Scientific writing is emphasized in this course. Includes a 3-hour laboratory in addition to class. The laboratory and classroom components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000. Annually. [W]*

PSYC 33100. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
This course is designed to develop clinically-oriented critical thinking (e.g., How do clinicians approach cases, challenges, research?). It covers professional issues, ethics, research methodologies, clinical assessment and therapeutic modalities.. *Prerequisite: PSYC 21200 and 25000. Alternate years.*

PSYC 33500. PERCEPTION AND ACTION (Communication, Neuroscience)
This course reviews principles of perception and models of how perceptual information is acquired, represented cognitively, and used to interact with the environment. Primary topic areas will include vision and hearing with a particular focus on how these systems interact with the motor system. Evolutionary, psychophysical, and physiological perspectives are emphasized. Scientific writing is also emphasized in this course. Includes a 3-hour arranged laboratory to addition to class. The laboratory and classroom components are closely integrated and must be taken concurrently. *(1.25 course credits) Prerequisite: PSYC 25000. Annually. Spring 2013. [W]*

PSYC 34000-34019. ADVANCED TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY
A seminar for junior and senior majors and minors that explores current theory and research in selected topics in psychology. Topics selected yearly and announced in advance by the faculty member responsible for the seminar. *Prerequisite: PSYC 25000, junior or senior standing with advanced background in Psychology. Annually. Fall and Spring.*

PSYC 39500. HISTORY AND SYSTEMS OF PSYCHOLOGY
A study of changing views of psychology from Aristotle to the present, with emphasis on the influences of ideas and methodologies of the evolution of systems and theories of psychological thought over the past hundred years. The course offers an integrative perspective on the varied courses of the Psychology major. *Prerequisite: Psychology major, a 300-level Psychology lab course. Annually.*

PSYC 39900. SPECIAL PROBLEMS
Special courses on selected topics offered for a single time only to groups of students. *Prerequisite: as specified by the instructor.*

PSYC 40000. TUTORIAL
A tutorial course on special topics offered to an individual student under the supervision of a faculty member. *Prerequisite: The approval of both the supervising faculty member and the chairperson is required prior to registration. Annually. Fall and Spring.*

PSYC 40700, 40800. INTERNSHIP
An academically-oriented, applied experience that provides off-campus placement in an approved clinic, agency, institution, or research center. Focuses on the practical application and implications of theory and research under supervision and within the limits of the student's competence. Number of credits allowed for the experience (1-2 units) will be determined in advance by the department. Advanced planning and permission of the department chairperson are required. Credits cannot be substituted for major requirements. *(1 – 2 course credits) S/NC course. Prerequisite: Advanced standing and permission of the department chairperson. Annually. Fall and Spring.*

PSYC 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY - SEMESTER ONE
The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student engages in creative and independent research guided by a faculty mentor and which culminates in a thesis and an oral examination in the second semester. The Independent Study Thesis must be a data-gathering research project. Students are encouraged to base their projects on a study from the experimental, comparative, personality, developmental, social, clinical, or neuroscience literature. *Prerequisite: Senior standing and completion of two 300-level laboratory courses.*

PSYC 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY - SEMESTER ONE
The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the thesis and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: PSYC 45100.*