

Psychology

S. Kathleen La Voy, PhD, Chair

Objectives

The specific and unique role of the Psychology Department is to provide knowledge of psychology as a human science and as a natural science, both founded on a solid philosophical reflection on values of the human person. The curriculum is designed for students who plan to work as professional psychologists and thus need a sound preparation for graduate study; for students who plan a career in any field dealing primarily with people, such as nursing, teaching, social work, guidance, and human resources; or for those who desire a well-rounded education and thus need a basic knowledge and understanding of human experience and behavior.

Degrees Offered

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Science

Master of Arts in Psychology (See the *Graduate Bulletin*)

Majors Offered

Psychology

Psychology with Departmental Honors

Minor Offered

Psychology

General Program Requirements

Entry into the psychology major requires a 2.75 grade point average for incoming freshmen and a 2.75 grade point average for transfer students and for those transferring majors within the university.

Psychology majors may choose any minor. Premedical students may take a bachelor of science in psychology. Psychology majors may not register for P/F in the courses listed under departmental requirements. They must obtain a minimum grade of C in the required courses, MATH 110, PSYC 120, 205, 303, 305, 370, and 489 in the bachelor of arts and bachelor of arts with honors programs. In the bachelor of science and bachelor of science with honors programs, those courses plus 240 or 316, 403, and 404 or 440 must be graded C or higher. Psychology majors must complete at least 30 credits in the major at Seattle University.

A psychology major cannot count more than 10 credits in independent study toward the credits required for the major.

Several courses in the Psychology major have been identified as satisfying the core interdisciplinary requirement. Those courses may be used to fill major requirements or major electives while also fulfilling university core requirements. The credit for each course completed is included in totals only once.

Bachelor of Arts Major in Psychology

In order to earn the bachelor of arts degree with a major in psychology, students must complete a minimum of 180 credits with a cumulative and major/program grade point average of 2.00, including the following:

I. Core Curriculum Requirements

| | | |
|--|--|--------|
| ENGL 110 | College Writing: Inquiry and Argument | 5 |
| PHIL 110 | Introduction to Philosophy and Critical Thinking | 5 |
| HIST 120 | Origins of Western Civilization | 5 |
| ENGL 120 | Introduction to Literature | 5 |
| MATH 110 or above | | *5 |
| Lab Science | | 5 |
| Fine Arts (one approved 5 credit course; see course descriptions) | | 5 |
| PHIL 220 | Philosophy of the Human Person..... | 5 |
| Social Science I (not psychology) | | 5 |
| Social Science II (not psychology, and different discipline from Social Science I) | | 5 |
| Theology and Religious Studies Phase II (200-299) | | 5 |
| Ethics (upper division) | | 5 |
| Theology and Religious Studies Phase III (300-399) | | 5 |
| Interdisciplinary | | 3 to 5 |
| Senior Synthesis satisfied by PSYC 489 | | |

II. College of Arts and Sciences Requirements

Modern Language 115, 125, 135, or equivalent 15

NOTE: All students with a major in the College of Arts and Sciences must demonstrate competency through the level of 135 in a language other than English. This competency is ordinarily achieved by successful completion of the three-course sequence: 115, 125, and 135. Because these courses are a college requirement, no course in the sequence may be taken on a pass/fail, correspondence, or audit basis. Placement into other than the beginning course of the sequence is achieved by acceptable performance on the Modern Language Competency Examination. See the Modern Languages Department for details on the examinations. Courses used to satisfy the College of Arts and Sciences modern language requirement may not be used to fulfill psychology major requirements.

Choose one of the following two courses: 5

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| HIST 121 | Studies in Modern Civilization |
| HIST 231 | Survey of the United States |

III. Major Requirements

60 credits in psychology, including:

| | | |
|----------|---|----|
| PSYC 120 | Introductory Psychology | *5 |
| PSYC 205 | Writing and Research in Psychology..... | *5 |
| PSYC 303 | Statistics and Research Methods I..... | *5 |
| PSYC 305 | Statistics and Research Methods II..... | *5 |
| PSYC 370 | History and Schools of Psychology..... | *5 |
| PSYC 489 | Senior Seminar..... | *5 |
| PSYC | Electives..... | 30 |

NOTE: 1. *Must be graded C (2.00), or better. 2. No more than 10 credits of independent study are permitted.

Bachelor of Arts Major in Psychology with Departmental Honors

The psychology departmental honors major offers an opportunity for motivated and capable students to engage in more extensive interaction with faculty and to complete challenging research projects that will further their personal and professional goals.

Application to the major: To be accepted to the program, the student must have a cumulative and major/program grade point average of 3.50, and completed PSYC 120 and at least three other psychology courses. Additionally, the student must have PSYC 205, 303, and 305 completed before the spring of the junior year. Interested students should apply to the department chair in the winter quarter of the junior year. Upon acceptance, a Change of Major, Degree or Specialization form is submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

Completion of the major: During the junior and senior years, departmental honors students will take the departmental honors sequence (PSYC 477—spring of junior year; PSYC 478—fall of senior year; and PSYC 479—winter of senior year). Students in the departmental honors program complete 15 credits of course work above the norm for psychology majors (for a total of 75 credits in psychology) and complete a major project or thesis under the direction of their advisor. The format of the project/thesis may include, but is not limited to: a published paper, acceptance and presentation of work at an approved conference, or unique research and/or service. The project/thesis will also be presented at a departmental pro-seminar. In order to complete the requirements for departmental honors and receive a notation to that effect on their transcripts, students must also maintain a cumulative and major/program grade point average of 3.50, as well as receive a grade of A- or higher in PSYC 477, 478, and 479. In addition to the Bachelor of Arts major in psychology requirements, the honors major also includes the following 15 credits:

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| PSYC 477 | Departmental Honors Seminar | 5 |
| PSYC 478 | Departmental Honors Directed Study..... | 5 |
| PSYC 479 | Departmental Honors Thesis Supervision | 5 |

Bachelor of Science Major in Psychology

In order to earn the bachelor of science degree with a major in psychology, students must complete a minimum of 180 credits with a cumulative and major/program grade point average of 2.00, including the following:

I. Core Curriculum Requirements

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| ENGL 110 | College Writing: Inquiry and Argument | 5 |
| PHIL 110 | Introduction to Philosophy and Critical Thinking | 5 |
| HIST 120 | Origins of Western Civilization | 5 |
| ENGL 120 | Introduction to Literature..... | 5 |
| MATH (filled by MATH 110 in major)..... | | * |
| Lab Science (filled by BIOL 161/171 in major)..... | | * |
| Fine Arts (one approved 5 credit course; see course descriptions)..... | | 5 |
| PHIL 220 | Philosophy of the Human Person..... | 5 |
| Social Science I (not psychology) | | 5 |
| Social Science II (not psychology and different discipline from Social Science I)..... | | 5 |
| Theology and Religious Studies Phase II (200-299) | | 5 |
| Ethics (upper division)..... | | 5 |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Theology and Religious Studies Phase III (300-399) | 5 |
| Interdisciplinary | 3 to 5 |
| Senior Synthesis filled by PSYC 489 | |

II. College of Arts and Sciences Requirements

| | |
|--|----|
| Modern Language 115, 125, 135, or equivalent | 15 |
|--|----|

NOTE: All students with a major in the College of Arts and Sciences must demonstrate competency through the level of 135 in a language other than English. This competency is ordinarily achieved by successful completion of the three-course sequence: 115, 125, and 135. Because these courses are a college requirement, no course in the sequence may be taken on a pass/fail, correspondence, or audit basis. Placement into other than the beginning course of the sequence is achieved by acceptable performance on the Modern Language Competency Examination. See the Modern Languages Department for details on the examinations. Courses used to satisfy the College of Arts and Sciences modern language requirement may not be used to fulfill psychology major requirements.

Choose one of the following two courses:

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|---|
| HIST 121 | Studies in Modern Civilization | 5 |
| HIST 231 | Survey of the United States | |

III. Major Requirements

70 credits in psychology, including:

| | | |
|----------|---|----|
| PSYC 120 | Introductory Psychology | *5 |
| PSYC 205 | Writing and Research in Psychology..... | *5 |
| PSYC 303 | Statistics and Research Methods I..... | *5 |
| PSYC 305 | Statistics and Research Methods II..... | *5 |
| PSYC 370 | History and Schools of Psychology..... | *5 |
| PSYC 403 | Advanced Statistics and Experimental Design | *5 |
| PSYC 489 | Senior Seminar..... | *5 |
| PSYC | Electives..... | 25 |

Choose one of the following two courses:

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|----|
| PSYC 240 | Physiological Psychology | *5 |
| PSYC 316 | Health Psychology | |

Choose one of the following two courses:

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|----|
| PSYC 404 | Psychology of Learning | *5 |
| PSYC 440 | Cognitive Psychology | |

IV. Other Major Department Requirements

In Mathematics and physical science:

| | | |
|--------------|--|----|
| BIOL 161/171 | Biology I: Molecular and Cellular/Lab..... | *5 |
| MATH 110 | Functions and Algebraic Methods | *5 |

NOTE: 1.* Must be graded C (2.00), or better. 2. No more than 10 credits of independent study are permitted.

Bachelor of Science

Major in Psychology with Departmental Honors

The psychology departmental honors major offers an opportunity for motivated and capable students to engage in more extensive interaction with faculty and to complete challenging research projects that will further their personal and professional goals.

Application to the major: To be accepted to the program, the student must have a cumulative and major/program grade point average of 3.50, and completed PSYC 120 and at least three other psychology courses. Additionally, the student must have PSYC 205, 303, and 305 completed before the spring of the junior year. Upon acceptance, a Change of Major, Degree or Specialization form is submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

Completion of the major: During the junior and senior years, departmental honors students will take the departmental honors sequence (PSYC 477—spring of junior year; PSYC 478—fall of senior year; and PSYC 479—winter of senior year). Students in the departmental honors program complete 15 credits of course work above the norm for psychology majors (for a total of 75 credits in psychology) and complete a major project or thesis under the direction of their advisor. The format of the project/thesis may include, but is not limited to: a published paper, acceptance and presentation of work at an approved conference, or unique research and/or service. The project/thesis will also be presented at a departmental pro-seminar. In order to complete the requirements for departmental honors and receive a notation to that effect on their transcripts, students must also maintain a cumulative and major/program grade point average of 3.50, as well as receive a grade of A- or higher in PSYC 477, 478, and 479. In addition to the Bachelor of Science major in psychology requirements, the honors major also includes the following 15 credits:

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| PSYC 477 | Departmental Honors Seminar | 5 |
| PSYC 478 | Departmental Honors Directed Study..... | 5 |
| PSYC 479 | Departmental Honors Thesis Supervision | 5 |

Minor in Psychology

In order to earn a minor in psychology, students must earn 30 credits of psychology, including:

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|----|
| PSYC 120 | Introductory Psychology | 5 |
| PSYC | Electives..... | 25 |

NOTE: Only five credits of independent study are permitted. A maximum of 15 transfer credits may be used for the minor in psychology.

See policy for minors (84-1) for more information.

Psychology Courses

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| PSYC 120 | Introductory Psychology | 5 |
| General introduction to the modes of inquiry of scientific psychology, including its nature, scope, and method; organic, environmental, and personal factors that influence human experience and behavior. Core Option: Social Science I. | | |
| PSYC 201 | Statistics for Non-Majors..... | 5 |
| Basic descriptive and inferential statistics; central tendency, variability, correlation and regression, probability, z and t tests, one-way analysis of variance. Not for psychology majors. Prerequisite: At least high school algebra. | | |
| PSYC 205 | Writing for Research in Psychology | 5 |
| Introduces students to the basics of qualitative and quantitative research and writing in psychology, with an emphasis on formulating research questions, learning how to read and interpret psychological literature and published research articles, as well as developing a literature review relevant to a specific research topic. Students will also learn how to write in APA format, gaining a solid understanding of this format's utility and its importance in psychological writing. Prerequisite: PSYC 120. | | |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| PSYC 210 | Personality Adjustment | 5 |
| The normal personality; self-knowledge and self-actualization; personality adjustment problems; various inadequate reactions, escape and defense mechanisms; positive mental health. Core Option: Social Science II. | | |
| PSYC 215 | Abnormal Psychology | 5 |
| Study of standard topics in abnormal psychology, such as diagnosis, treatment, and factors leading to psychological disturbance, as well as consideration of how one comes to a psychological understanding of disturbed, as well as "ordinary," human existence. One of the purposes of psychological interpretation of disturbed persons which is essential for genuine treatment is to uncover and reveal their basic humanness. Prerequisite: PSYC 120. | | |
| PSYC 222 | Social Psychology | 5 |
| A broad overview of the field of social psychology. Throughout the course, students will be introduced to overarching theories of social psychology and the research data that support them. Students will not only learn about the issues and problems that social psychologists confront, but also the methods that they use to explore them. Prerequisite: PSYC 120. | | |
| PSYC 230 | Psychology of Religion | 5 |
| This course uses psychological data—both personal and social-psychological—to confront and explore both contemporary issues and students' own beliefs regarding religious concepts, beliefs, and practices. The goal of the course is to understand one's own and others' religious development using a variety of methods, such as reflections, psychological testing, service learning, individual spiritual guidance, and the study of spiritual models. | | |
| PSYC 240 | Physiological Psychology | 5 |
| Biological basis of behavior, cerebrospinal, autonomic and sensory systems; endocrine glands, relation of the brain to behavior. Prerequisite: PSYC 120. | | |
| PSYC 291-293 | Special Topics | 1 to 5 |
| PSYC 296 | Directed Study | 1 to 5 |
| PSYC 303 | Statistics and Research Methods I* | 5 |
| An introduction to methods of statistical analysis and the use of the natural sciences in the study of human experience and the study of human and animal behavior with an emphasis on the experimental method. Introduction to the application of computers and computer software in descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics will include the creation of data files, the use of statistical software for data and analysis, and the use of graphics software in reporting the results of statistical analysis. Prerequisite: PSYC 120, MATH 110 or above with C or better. Pre- or corequisite: PSYC 205 with a C or better. Majors only. | | |
| PSYC 305 | Statistics and Research Methods II* | 5 |
| A continuation of the first course with a greater emphasis on inferential statistics and the application of the experimental method to areas of psychology such as psychophysics, perception, learning, and memory. Continued study and application of statistical software to the laboratory project. The application of the correlational method and the experimental method in conducting psychological research. Topics will include within-subjects designs, between-subjects designs, and factorial designs. Students will design research projects, collect and analyze data, and prepare a written report following the format of the publication manual of the American Psychological Association. Prerequisite: PSYC 205, and PSYC 303 with C or better. Majors only. | | |

*The two courses, PSYC 303 and 305 are components of a single 10-credit course. All must be completed with a C or above to satisfy any requirement. Students are allowed to re-take any section of Statistics I or II which they fail a maximum of three times. If a student takes and fails any section of Statistics I or II for a third time they will be dismissed from the major.

- PSYC 307 Phenomenological Psychology 5**
 Phenomenological psychology, an alternative to the mainstream approach that imitates the reductionistic philosophy and methods of natural sciences, is founded on a philosophy that places experience at the center of the human struggle with freedom and responsibility. Focus on the ambiguous and paradoxical meanings experienced in perception, learning, development, emotions, motives, social interactions, pathology, and psychotherapy. It uses the rich language of qualitative descriptions as its methodology to reveal directly experienced meanings. Prerequisite: PSYC 120, junior standing.
- PSYC 308 Qualitative Research..... 5**
 An introduction to qualitative research methods from a phenomenological approach. A critical review of the philosophical assumptions of mainstream experimental approach that uses mostly quantitative methods and simultaneously a look at the philosophical foundations of qualitative approach that explores experienced meanings. Students typically conduct projects in groups, collecting, analyzing, and presenting descriptions. Prerequisite: PSYC 120, junior standing.
- PSYC 316 Health Psychology 5**
 An introduction to the field of health psychology from the perspective of both a researcher and clinician. Students will gain a broad understanding of the interrelationships among behavioral, emotional, cognitive, social, and biological components in health and disease. All of this will be understood in the context of the promotion and maintenance of health, as well as the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of illness; in sum, the interface of psychology, behavior, and health. Prerequisite: PSYC 120. PSYC 240 recommended.
- PSYC 322 Growth and Development 5**
 Life span development from infancy through childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle age, old age, and death and dying. Cognitive, personality, social, and emotional development. Optional field work placement in settings related to different age periods. Prerequisite: PSYC 120 or equivalent.
- PSYC 340 Psychology of Gender 5**
 How gender shapes the lives of men and women, including human development, personality, cognition, achievement, and social behavior. Emphasis will be on the mechanisms through which gender has its effect, including possible effects of biology, learning, modeling, social roles, etc. Prerequisite: PSYC 120.
- PSYC 350 Theories of Personality 5**
 Study of the assumptions, basic principles, and implications for psychotherapy and everyday life of selected personality theorists representing the psychoanalytic, social psychological, social learning, humanistic, and existential approaches to psychology. Prerequisite: 15 credits in psychology and PSYC 120 or equivalent.
- PSYC 360 Forensic Psychology 5**
 Overview of forensic psychology and the nexus between psychology, law, and criminology. Survey of policy, practice, and research in forensic psychology and application of psychology to the criminal justice system and criminal and civil litigation. Topics include: Criminal behavior, the relationship between the criminal justice and mental health systems, ethical guidelines and challenges faced in forensic work, methods and instruments used by forensic psychologists, investigative psychology and offender profiling, the insanity defense and competency determinations, risk assessment and prediction of dangerousness, sex offender treatment, and correctional interventions. Cross-listed with CRJS 360. Prerequisites: CRJS 110, CRJS 209, PSYC 120.

- PSYC 370 History and Schools of Psychology** 5
 A critical examination of the history of modern psychology that will include the development of psychology as a recognized discipline, its emerging schools (e.g. structuralism, functionalism, behaviorism, cognitive, humanistic, existential-phenomenological), and its central dilemmas (e.g. scientific status, role of race and gender dualism). This course will focus not only on “the great ideas,” but also on who develops these ideas and in what socio-cultural contexts. As part of this, we will examine the relationships between psychology and other disciplines, as well as between psychology and society. Prerequisite: PSYC 120.
- PSYC 391-393 Special Topics** 1 to 5
- PSYC 396 Directed Study** 1 to 5
- PSYC 403 Advanced Statistics and Experimental Design** 5
 Covers numerous multivariate statistics and related research methodology in the behavioral sciences. Students will gain a strong conceptual understanding of various multivariate statistics and develop an understanding of the application of these techniques to answer various research questions. Students will also learn how to conduct and interpret analyses in SPSS. Prerequisites: PSYC 205, 303, 305.
- PSYC 404 Psychology of Learning**..... 5
 Principles of classical conditioning; instrumental conditioning, reinforcement, punishment, and avoidance learning; generalization and discrimination, biological aspects of conditioning and learning; review of major learning theories; and application of learning principles in the management of animal and human behavior. Prerequisite: PSYC 120.
- PSYC 427 Introduction to Counseling**..... 5
 Basic theory, principles and dynamics of the counselor-client relationship and the counseling process. Prerequisite: PSYC 120, 10 additional PSYC credits, and junior standing.
- PSYC 440 Cognitive Psychology**..... 5
 Considers alternative models of how our mind works to receive, store, and process information. The relative strengths of those models in the light of existing data are evaluated. Topics include processes of attention, memory, reasoning and decision making, including the implications of those processes for issues in education, language, social interaction, risk assessment, etc. Prerequisite: PSYC 120. PSYC 303 recommended.
- PSYC 460 The Psychology of Relationships** 5
 Examines a variety of life’s relationships, through literature, film, psychological theory, discussion and student participation. The aim is to study relationships in the context of ‘real people’ – not through the textbook approach without the human aspect of human behavior. Prerequisite: PSYC 120, and at least two psychology electives.
- PSYC 461 Theory and Experience of Group Dynamics**..... 5
 Basic theory and principles of group dynamics. Experience of dynamics in a group focusing on the interpersonal as a foundation for understanding theory. Course content can be used to better compare and understand the workings of groups in a variety of professional settings. Open to majors and non-majors.
- PSYC 477 Departmental Honors Seminar** 5
- PSYC 478 Departmental Honors Directed Study**..... 5
- PSYC 479 Departmental Honors Thesis Supervision** 5
- PSYC 481 Ecological Psychology**..... 5
 Learn about the planet we call earth and how we relate to it. Study ways we as individuals and systems shape what we see and how we live in the world. Look at how our attitudes—social and spiritual—and character influence and create the world in which we live. Satisfies a social science major requirement for the ecological studies major or a core interdisciplinary option.

- PSYC 482 Psychology of Forgiveness..... 5**
 Explores various aspects of forgiveness as well as related phenomena such as injury, shame, guilt, blame, and revenge. Questions addressed include: what is the nature of this experience, how does one move towards it, what enables a person to forgive, and what are obstacles to forgiveness. Core interdisciplinary option. Prerequisite: PSYC 120.
- PSYC 483 Multi-cultural Psychology:
 Vietnam and Vietnamese-Americans 5**
 Reviews general theories, methods and findings in multi-cultural psychology, then applies them to the case study of Vietnam, the Vietnam War, and Vietnamese Americans. Contributions from other disciplines such as history, sociology, religious studies, geography and philosophy are considered. Options allow 3 credit lecture only course or 5 credits including field work. Either satisfies core interdisciplinary requirement. Prerequisite: PSYC 120 or instructor permission.
- PSYC 485 HIV/AIDS: The Epidemic 5**
 Provides an overview of the HIV/AIDS epidemic including changes in the pattern of occurrence, signs and symptoms, classifications of the disease, recognition of the course of the disease, and strategies for prevention. Satisfies core interdisciplinary requirement. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.
- PSYC 489 Senior Seminar..... 5**
 Reading and discussion of current issues with respect to psychology as a mental health profession, and as a discipline with a particular content and diverse methodologies. Recommended for last quarter of enrollment. Prerequisite: senior psychology majors only or permission for non-majors. Satisfies core senior synthesis.
- PSYC 491-493 Special Topics in Psychology..... 1 to 5**
- PSYC 495 Internships 1 to 5**
- PSYC 496 Independent Study 1 to 5**
- PSYC 497 Directed Reading 1 to 5**
- PSYC 498 Directed Research..... 1 to 5**
 By arrangement. Prerequisite: permission.