

# DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Undergraduate Academic Center Room 253  
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www.psych.txstate.edu (<http://www.psych.txstate.edu>)

The Department of Psychology offers an outstanding undergraduate program attracting more than 1,900 majors and a large number of minors. The curriculum provides both structure and flexibility with a required sequence of core courses and many electives to serve students' personal interests. Students have many opportunities to gain research experience in faculty laboratories and job experience in faculty coordinated internships. Students can also develop leadership, communication, and team building skills via membership in the Psychology Club and the Texas State University Chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology. The department is committed to strong academic, advising and houses a full-time advisor accessible to all undergraduate Psychology majors.

Departmental faculty members are highly qualified as teachers, scholar-researchers, and mentors. They are committed to helping students succeed. Faculty have received numerous awards and honors including the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, which is the highest level of recognition in teaching at Texas State University, and the Presidential Seminar Award, which is the highest level of recognition in research at Texas State University.

The department has a strong commitment to faculty-student research. Students can gain quality research experience by participating in a variety of research projects. The breadth and quality of faculty research is a valuable resource for students as they acquire strong research skills and partner in the advancement of knowledge.

Psychology graduates with B.A. or B.S. degrees hold positions in business, government, health, and education. Approximately 20% of graduates pursue further education in psychology as a science or as profession by enrolling in masters or Ph.D. programs. Employment as a psychologist in clinical psychology and some other fields requires a doctoral degree. For more information planning courses for a suitable program, the "Guide for Psychology Majors" is available at [www.psych.txstate.edu](http://www.psych.txstate.edu). (<http://www.psych.txstate.edu>)

## Course Prerequisite Sequence

The Department of Psychology strictly enforces all course prerequisites. Adherence to the following course sequence is necessary for completion of the B.A. and B.S. degrees. This sequence requires four separate semesters (or summer terms), because course prerequisites may not be taken concurrently.

Code	Title	Hours
PSY 1300	Introduction to Psychology <sup>1</sup>	3
MATH 1312	College Statistics and Algebra (or higher except MATH 1316) <sup>1</sup>	3
PSY 2301	Introduction to Statistics <sup>1</sup>	3
PSY 2101	Introduction to Statistics Laboratory <sup>1</sup>	1
PSY 3402	Experimental and Research Methods <sup>1</sup>	4

One course from Group C

PSY 4391	History and Theory	3
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<sup>1</sup> Or its equivalent, with a grade of "C" or higher.

*Note: Psychology majors are required to select a minor outside the major, thus, a Psychology major may not declare a minor in Forensic Psychology, General Psychology, or Sport Psychology.*

## Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

- Major in Psychology (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/psychology-ba>)

## Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

- Major in Psychology (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/psychology-science-minor-bs>)

## Minors

- Forensic Psychology (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/forensic-minor>)
- Psychology
- Sport Psychology (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/psychology/sport-minor>)

## Courses in Psychology (PSY)

### PSY 1300. Introduction to Psychology.

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 with a grade of "C" or better is required for most other Psychology courses.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Soc & Behav Sciences Core 080

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**TCCN:** PSYC 2301

### PSY 2100. Professional Seminar.

This course examines the characteristics of Psychology as a discipline and profession. Coverage includes current trends in Psychology and its subfields, degree options in Psychology and its subfields as they relate to professional and/or career issues, and how to be an intelligent consumer of discipline-specific data and information. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

### PSY 2101. Introduction to Statistics Laboratory.

This statistics laboratory course provides an introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics used in psychological research with an emphasis on data analysis techniques through the use of computer applications (ex., SPSS, R, etc.). Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better, concurrent enrollment in PSY 2301 or previous completion of PSY 2301 with a grade of "C" or better.

**1 Credit Hour. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 2301. Introduction to Statistics.**

(PSYC 2301) The course provides an introduction to statistical methods in behavioral sciences with special emphasis on application to psychological research. The topics covered include descriptive statistics, principles of statistical inference and common hypothesis testing techniques such as z-test, t-tests, analysis of variance, correlation and regression, and selected non-parametric tests. Prerequisites: Grades of "C" or better in PSY 1300 and MATH 1312 or higher (excluding MATH 1316).

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**TCCN:** PSYC 2317

**PSY 2311. Psychology of Human Sexuality.**

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.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**TCCN:** PSYC 2306

**PSY 3300. Lifespan Development.**

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 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3312. Adolescent Psychology.**

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 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3313. Psychology of Adulthood and Aging.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3314. Psychology of Consciousness.**

This course is an introduction to the study of consciousness from the perspective of psychology, neuroscience, and the natural sciences. Topics reviewed included philosophical foundations, cognitive and neuroscientific approaches, the physical correlates of consciousness, introspection, sleep and dreaming and altered states of consciousness. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3315. Abnormal Psychology.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3316. Personality Psychology.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3321. Sensation and Perception.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 & PSY 3402 both with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3322. Brain and Behavior.**

This course covers 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 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3323. Evolution and Behavior.**

The course provides a contemporary understanding of human behaviors, emotions, and cognitions through an examination of Darwin's theories of natural selection, sexual selection, and mental evolution. Relevant interdisciplinary perspectives from philosophy, history, anthropology, archaeology, biology, ethology, and genetics are incorporated. Prerequisites: PSY 1300, PSY 3300 both with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3325. Psychology of Persuasion.**

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 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3331. Social Psychology.**

The study of how people influence each other. The course covers such topics as conformity, inter-personal attraction, prejudice, and aggression. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3332. Psychology of Women.**

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) (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Course Attribute(s):** Multicultural Content|Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3333. Industrial Psychology.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3334. Psychology of Human Diversity.**

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) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Course Attribute(s):** Multicultural Content|Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3335. Forensic Psychology.**

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 decisionmaking? (b) How accurate is the memory of eyewitnesses? (c) How do characteristics of defendants influence juries? Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3336. Sport Psychology.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3337. Psychology of Prejudice, Discrimination, and Hate.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3338. Service Learning: Protecting the Vulnerable.**

This course examines clinical, legal and psychosocial conditions of adults who, due to mental illness, developmental impairments, brain injuries or aging, are declared "incapacitated" and have court-appointed guardians. Students will serve as the probate court representatives who inspect living conditions and services for individuals under the court-ordered guardianships. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better and Instructor Approval.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3341. Cognitive Processes.**

This course covers the acquisition and use of knowledge, contemporary research on perception, pattern recognition, memory, thinking, problem solving, and language comprehension. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 & 3402 both with a grade of "C" or higher.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3350. Cognitive Behavioral Therapies.**

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) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3352. Group Processes.**

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: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3361. Health Psychology.**

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. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**  
**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3402. Experimental and Research Methods.**

This course introduces students to basic instruction in experimental design, data collection, and technical report writing in Psychology. By examining applications of various methodologies, this course provides information on the steps involved in crafting and executing empirical research projects as well as instruction on procedures and software. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 and PSY 2301 and PSY 2101, all with a grade of "C" or better.

**4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 3404. Advanced Research Methods.**

The course provides students with the opportunity to conduct original research in psychology using best practices in research methods. Course requirements include obtaining IRB approval, conducting research, analyzing results and presenting findings in a professional setting. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better, PSY 3402 with a grade of "B" or better, and instructor consent.

**4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4318. Psychological Tests and Measurements.**

The course provides an introduction to basic principles, research, and theories on testing and measurement of psychological constructs. It includes validity, reliability, item analysis, administration, scoring, and interpretation of existing tests and measures, and construction of new measures including surveys and other psychological instruments. Prerequisites: PSY 1300 and PSY 2101 and PSY 2301, all with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4342. Learning and Memory.**

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. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 and PSY 3402, all with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4350. Reality Therapy/Choice Theory.**

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) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4352. Introduction to Clinical Psychology.**

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. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4390B. Emotion and Human Behavior.**

This course will provide an advanced understanding of the multifaceted phenomenon of emotion and its effect on human behavior. Students will be introduced to the philosophical and theoretical underpinnings of emotion, the various individual emotions (e.g. fear, anger, happiness) and will learn how emotion can affect physical and psychological health.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4390N. Psychopharmacology.**

This course reviews psychopharmacology topics including: neuronal and chemical mechanisms underlying drug action; environmental factors modulating the impact of drugs on emotion, cognition, perception and behavior; the processes underlying drug dependency, tolerance, and withdrawal; and the implications for drug abuse treatment and prevention strategies, especially concerning adolescents. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4390P. Human Factors and Ergonomics.**

This course examines characteristics of people that are applicable to the design of systems and technological devices. This course will illustrate how methods and principles of human factors and ergonomics enhance the usability, safety and performance of human-machine systems. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4390Q. Introduction to Developmental Disabilities.**

This course will provide students with perspectives on the causes, manifestations, and treatment of developmental disabilities throughout the lifespan. Historical views and societal issues will be investigated along with current practices and research. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 and PSY 3315 with grades of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4390R. Intermediate Statistics.**

This course introduces statistical methods designed for psychological research with multiple independent variables. Topics include factorial analysis of variance and multiple regression. Interpreting interaction effects is a main focus. This is a practice-based course that will cover both the theoretical constructs and also step-by-step computer procedures. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 and PSY 2301 and PSY 2101, all with a grade of "C" or better.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4391. History and Theory.**

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. (WI) Prerequisite: PSY 1300 and PSY 3302, or PSY 3402, all with a grade of "C" or better, and 24 Psychology hours.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4393. International Psychology.**

The course focuses on the history, status, and future directions of scientific and professional psychology throughout the world. It requires reading about, discussing, and writing about the relatively new specialty area of international psychology. The objective is to deepen students' knowledge of psychology's relevance to the solution of global problems. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 with a grade of "C" or better. (WI).

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4395. Individual Study.**

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. Prerequisite: PSY 1300 and PSY 3402, all with a grade of "C" or better and consent of instructor.

**3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Writing Intensive

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter

**PSY 4396. Internship in Psychology.**

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.

**3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 10 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Course Attribute(s):** Exclude from 3-peat Processing

**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter