Psychology

The School of Social Sciences

Chair
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Anne Bibiana Sereno
Mihriban Whitmore
Heidi Ziemer

Adjunct Instructors
Roberta M. Diddel
Mark H. McManis
Anne Victoria Wilkinson

Visiting Scholars
Mary Newsome
Henry Trueba

Degrees Offered: B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

The undergraduate program offers the core preparation recommended by the nation’s leading graduate schools of psychology, with advanced courses and research opportunities to fit individual needs. Programs of study may be structured around prospective careers in medicine, law, business, and education. Program emphasis in graduate study is on doctoral training, which requires course work in memory, cognition, engineering and industrial/organizational psychology, social psychology, and methodology. Faculty research interests include cognitive psychology (human memory, psycholinguistics, perception, and information processing), cognitive neuropsychology (memory, perception, and language disorders), and industrial/organizational psychology (personnel selection, training, work motivation, discrimination, and group processes).
Degree Requirements for B.A. in Psychology

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 20–23). Students majoring in psychology must complete 29 semester hours in departmental courses, including the following required courses.

Core Courses
- PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychology
- PSYC 202 Introduction to Social Psychology
- PSYC 203 Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 339 Statistical Methods—Psychology
- PSYC 340 Research Methods
  (no substitutions or transfer credits allowed for PSYC 339 or 340)

At least 1 course from each block*

Block 1
- PSYC 308 Memory
- PSYC 309 Psychology of Language
- PSYC 350 Psychology of Learning
- PSYC 351 Psychology of Perception
- PSYC 360 Thinking
- PSYC 362 Biopsychology

Block 2
- PSYC 329 Psychological Testing
- PSYC 330 Personality Theory
- PSYC 331 The Psychology of Gender
- PSYC 332 Abnormal Behavior
- PSYC 460 The Psychology of Motivation

*No substitutions or transfer credits allowed to fulfill Block I and II requirements.

Honors Program. Qualified students may apply to the honors program during preregistration in the spring semester of their junior year. A written proposal for the project must be submitted by the end of the second week of classes in fall of the senior year, and the faculty will decide on final admission to the honors program by the end of the fourth week of classes. Admission to the honors program requires a psychology GPA of 3.5 and an overall GPA of 3.3, completion of PSYC 339, and completion or concurrent enrollment in PSYC 340. To graduate with departmental honors, students must complete the requirements for the psychology major, a written honors thesis approved by a faculty committee, and other requirements as determined by their honors committee (see Honors Program, page 34). Detailed information about the honors program is available from the instructor of the course or the departmental office.

Degree Requirements for M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychology

Students must complete an admission-to-candidacy procedure that should establish their expertise in their chosen specialty. For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (pages 65–70). For both M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, students must complete a research thesis, including a public oral defense, and accumulate 30 semester hours for the M.A. and 60 hours for the Ph.D. Course work includes required courses in certain areas, plus whatever offerings are available in the student’s specialty area, either cognitive/experimental, industrial/organizational/social, or engineering psychology. Competence in a foreign language is not required.

See PSYC in the Courses of Instruction section.