Psychology

The School of Social Science

Department Faculty

Chair
James L. Dannemiller

Professors
Michelle (“Mikki”) R. Hebl
Randi C. Martin
Stephan J. Motowidlo
James R. Pomerantz

Professors Emeriti
John W. Brelsford
Kenneth R. Laughery
David J. Schneider

Professor in the Practice
Philip T. Kortum

Associate Professors
Sarah A. Burnett
Michael D. Byrne
David M. Lane
Frederick L. Oswald

Assistant Professors
Chandramallika Basak
Daniel J. Beal
Margaret E. Beier
Xiaohong Denise Chen
Jessica Logan
Tatiana Schnur
Anton J. Villado

Joint Appointments

Professors
Jennifer M. George
H. Albert Napier
Ronald N. Taylor
Rick K. Wilson

Associate Professor
Richard R. Batsell

Adjunct Appointments

Adjunct Professors
John H. Byrne
John M. Cornwell
William C. Howell
Paul Richard Jeanneret
Harvey S. Levin
Katherine A. Loveland
Lynn M. Maher
John E. Overall
Deborah A. Pearson
Anthony A. Wright

Adjunct Associate Professors
S. Morton McPhail
Anne Bibiana Sereno
Kevin C. Wooten

Adjunct Assistant Professors
Michael Beauchamp
Janice Bordeaux
Harold K. Doerr
Ronald E. Fisher
Wei Ji Ma
S. Camille Peres
Betty S. Sanders
Angela L. Stotts
Mihriban Whitmore
Rachel Winer

Adjunct Instructors
Roberta M. Diddel

Visiting Scholars
Yvonne Kao
Mary R. Newsome

Research Faculty

Postdoctoral Research Associate
L. Robert Slevc

Research Scientist
A. Cris Hamilton
**Degrees Offered: BA, MA, PhD** 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 as well as in psychology.

Program emphasis in graduate study is on doctoral training. An important feature of our doctoral program is its strong research orientation. Students are expected to spend a good portion of their graduate years actively engaged in research and are expected to acquire a high level of research competence. Faculty research interests and areas of specialization for graduate students include: cognitive psychology (basic mental activities as perceiving, attending, remembering, learning, judging, verbalizing, and imagining), systems and cognitive neuroscience (understanding the relationship between the human brain and higher forms of behavior), human factors/human–computer interaction (the scientific discipline concerned with the understanding of interactions among humans and other elements of a system and the application of theories, principles, data and other methods of design in order to optimize human well-being and overall system performance), industrial and organizational psychology (human behavior in organizational and work situations), perception (psychology of sensory and perceptual systems in humans and animals), social/personality (examines both the way people think about, influence, and interact with others as well as individual differences in people that accentuate such cognitions and behaviors), and training (broad interdisciplinary area drawing on cognitive psychology, industrial/organizational psychology, and educational psychology).

**Degree Requirements for BA in Psychology**

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (Undergraduate Students section, pages 2–5). Students majoring in psychology must complete 35 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 one 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  
PSYC 375 Neuropsychology of Language and Memory

**Block 2**

PSYC 321 Developmental Psychology  
PSYC 329 Psychological Testing  
PSYC 330 Personality Theory  
PSYC 331 The Psychology of Gender  
PSYC 332 Abnormal Behavior  
PSYC 345 Health Psychology  
PSYC 352 The Psychology of Emotion and Motivation

*No substitutions or transfer credits allowed to fulfill Block 1 and 2 requirements. Once enrolled at Rice, students must have prior approval from the psychology department to transfer courses taken at another college or university.*

Students are encouraged to take PSYC 339 and PSYC 340 as soon as possible, preferably by the end of their sophomore year.
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 3.7 and an overall GPA of 3.5, 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, Undergraduate Students section, pages 14–15). Detailed information about the honors program is available from the instructor of the course or the departmental office.

Degree Requirements for MA and PhD 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 (Graduate Students section, pages 3–4). For both MA and PhD degrees, students must complete a research thesis, including a public oral defense, and accumulate 30 semester hours for the MA and 60 hours for the PhD. Required coursework is determined by the student's research area (cognitive, cognitive neuroscience, human factors/human–computer interaction, industrial organizational, perception, or training.) Competence in a foreign language is not required.

See PSYC in the Courses of Instruction section.