

PSYCHOLOGY

Michael J. De Vries, Ph.D., department chairperson



FAITH AND PSYCHOLOGY FOR ME GO HAND IN HAND.

In each of my classes, my professors challenge me to examine all subject matter in light of Scripture and biblical truth."

Brittany Lee '10
Psychology (Lookout Mountain, Georgia)

The psychology program assists students in developing the theoretical insight and professional skills that enable them to enter graduate study and to serve in a variety of psychology-related careers and professions. The program involves the student in learning the principles of the humanistic, biological, behavioral, cognitive and psychoanalytic approaches to psychology. The purpose of the program is to develop students equipped with psychological insight informed by a biblically based Christian perspective.

As an integral dimension of this purpose, students are introduced to a variety of training experiences in psychological research and in clinical/counseling practice. In addition, a supervised field education or advanced research practicum experience is required for all psychology majors. Students may complete the field education requirement by participating in the Chicago Semester program and may earn up to nine hours of psychology credits. Psychology majors will meet the communication arts requirement through oral presentations distributed among several courses offered in psychology.

All students intending to major in Psychology must apply to the Psychology Department for admission to the Psychology program. Application forms can be found at the Psychology Web site.

The department also offers minors in general psychology and biopsychology. Neuroscience is a rapidly expanding area in both biology and psychology. The biopsychology minor is designed to provide coursework tailored to students planning on pursuing graduate studies in behavior, cognitive, or clinical neuroscience as well as for those preparing for medical school with an interest in neurology and/or psychiatry. This minor is not available for Psychology majors.

The **psychology major** consists of 42 hours:

Psychology 121, 122, 200, 222, 358, 400, 401;

One from Group A: Psychology 123, 202, 226, 242, 243, 252, 263, 300, 331, 332;

One from Group B: Psychology 201, 211, 217, 244, 253, 311, 322, 323;

One from Group C: Psychology 250, 251, 340, 345, 352, 353, 355;

Psychology Electives (9 hours)

Required Cognate: Mathematics 105 (or 151).

A **psychology minor** consists of 18 hours:

Psychology 121, 122, one course from Group A, B, and C, psychology electives.

A **biopsychology minor** (18 hours)

Psychology 121, 122, 353, 355;

One from Psychology 345, 340, 352

One from Psychology 250, 251 (Prior introductory course work in Biology 101 or 205 are strongly recommended for majors outside of biology.)

Psychology Courses (PSYC)

Note: Semesters listed are when courses are normally offered. However, course offerings and scheduling are subject to change at the discretion of the department.

121 Introduction to Psychology (3)

Fall, Spring

This introductory course examines critically the assumptions and methods in psychology. Such topics as anxiety, defenses, body image, self, aggression, and mental illness are studied. Some emphasis is placed upon career uses of psychology. *Fulfills the social science general education requirement.*

122 Basic Research Skills (3)

Spring

The focus of this course is an explanation of the experimental method as a tool for examining causation, and will cover (1) the purpose and use of basic research designs, (2) the role of statistical analysis in research, (3) the use of library resources, both print and computer, for conducting thorough literature reviews, and (4) the rationale for the standard research report format and proper use of the APA writing style. There will also be a unit on the role of graduate studies in the development and training of research skills.

123 Life Span Development (3)

Fall, Spring

This course is a study of the developmental characteristics of the human life-cycle from birth to old age and an introduction to the major psychological theories of development. *Fulfills the social science general education requirement.*

200 Orientation to Psychology as a Major (3)

Fall

The course will allow students to examine the breadth of the psychology major, an incorporation of vocational planning, an experience of service learning, and an understanding of preparation for our culturally diverse society. Prerequisites: Psychology 121 or 123 and intent to major in psychology.

201 The Psychology of Personal Growth (3)

Spring

This investigation of the dynamics of personal functioning and change includes an examination of the relationship between attitudes, emotions, and behaviors. Major approaches to personal growth are studied. Students are required to reflect on their personal history and apply their learning to their own personal growth. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

202 Interpersonal Relations (3)**Fall**

This course examines perspectives on relationships between persons and the process of interpersonal communication. Through small group interaction students develop insight into styles of relating and communicating with others. This course is identical to Communication Arts 202.

211 Basic Helping Skills (3)**Spring**

Students study and evaluate the essentials of helping relationships and the behaviors, attitudes, and emotions that promote helping. Students are required to practice the various skills discussed in class, such as attending, empathy, genuineness, and confrontation. Case studies of major psychotherapeutic approaches are also examined. Prerequisites: sophomore standing or above, and Psychology 121. Recommended: Psychology 201 or 202.

217 Psychological Tests and Measurements (3)**Spring, Odd**

An introduction to psychological procedures and assessment will be the focus of this course. The course will focus upon principles of construction, administration, and interpretation of standardized psychological tests as well as clinical techniques for assessment of normal and abnormal psychological processes. Attention will be given to statistical concepts in test construction and interpretation. Ethical standards and issues associated with psychological testing will be addressed. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

222 Statistical Reasoning for Behavioral Sciences (3)**Fall**

This class will cover statistical concepts and their use in the analysis of data and making causal/functional inferences within behavioral science research. Topics to be covered include: the experimental method, research ethics, variability, characteristics of the normal distribution and standard scores, correlation, statistical inference, theory formation, hypothesis testing, z scores, t tests, and analysis of variance. The importance of research methodology to clinical and applied areas of psychology will be discussed. Prerequisite: Psychology 121 and 122.

226 Psychology of Death and Dying (3)**Spring, Odd**

This study of the experience of dying, including the social and personal response to death, and the impact of religious belief upon the dying person, emphasizes the interpersonal skills for relating in the situation of death.

242 Human Sexuality (3)**Spring, Odd**

Students study the anatomy, physiology, and attitudes and behaviors of human sexual response. Specific attention is given to the place and function of sexuality in the life of the Christian.

243 Group Dynamics (3)**Varies**

This course utilizes the "self-analytic group" to study the group as a phenomenon distinct from the individual, the institution, and the crowd. It probes the foundation of human interaction and communication in face-to-face settings. Students analyze: group structure; physical formations; emotional factors and attachments; and evolution of leadership functions, norms, values, and procedures. This course is identical to Communication Arts 243 and Sociology 243. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

244 Behavior Analysis and Therapy (3)**Spring, Even**

Students study and evaluate the assumptions and methods of behavior analysis and behavior modification techniques. Research findings related to the behavior therapies, including techniques based on associative and operant conditioning and more recent “cognitive” or language-based behavioral therapies, will be addressed, and students will be exposed to behaviorally based models of mental and behavioral disorders. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

250 Psychology of Learning and Memory (3)**Fall, Even**

This course will focus on the principles of learning, memory, and behavior as derived from the experimental literature--classical and instrumental conditioning, acquisition, extinction, punishment, generalization, discrimination, motivation, drives, and incentives as well as their possible neurobiological mechanisms or correlates. Coverage also will be given to the learning of more complex behavioral and cognitive processes in mammalian and non-mammalian species, such as concept formation and language comprehension, as well as clinical disorders related to learning and memory. Prerequisites: PSYC 121.

251 Cognitive Psychology (3)**Fall, Odd**

This course introduces the theory and research concerning human cognition. Various models of human cognition are considered in the context of perception, memory, thinking, and problem-solving. In addition, students examine the process of cognitive development with particular attention to childhood. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

252 Cross-Cultural Psychology (3) - CCS**Fall**

This course examines the relationships between culture, personality, and human behavior. Psychological theories and research aimed toward the understanding of human behavior in the context of cultural and ethnic diversity are the primary focus of the course. Special attention will be given to intercultural communication and counseling in the multicultural context. *Fulfills one of the cross-cultural studies general education requirement.* Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

253 Multicultural Counseling and Psychotherapy (3)**Fall, Even**

The course will examine the issues of counseling persons from various cultural backgrounds. There will be an emphasis on the politics of privilege, oppression, and racism in our culture and the implications this has on the practice of psychotherapy. There also will be consideration given to gender as a part of cultural diversity. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

263 Industrial and Organizational Psychology (3)**Spring, Even**

This course will examine the major themes of industrial organization psychology, which is the branch of psychology that deals with the structures, processes, and behaviors in work organizations. Particular attention will be given to the assessment and evaluation of job performance and the work environment. The course will also look at the organization structure of groups and group process in industrial/organizational settings. These issues and topics will be assessed from a Christian perspective. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

300 Psychology of Gender (3)**Spring, Odd**

This course will survey a variety of psychological theories and research on gender. The course will examine psychological approaches from a Christian perspective on gender reconciliation. The course format will focus on reading, group discussions, reflective writing, and small research projects.

301 Advanced General Psychology (3)**Fall, Spring**

This comprehensive survey of psychology is for the advanced psychology major who plans to go to graduate school. Such basic areas as perception, learning, development, motivation, psychopathology, and therapeutic treatment are studied. Open only to psychology majors. Students preparing for the GRE should take this course in the junior year. Offered by arrangement. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

311 Theories of Psychotherapy (3)**Spring, Odd**

Students examine several theories of psychotherapy in terms of constituent concepts and basic assumptions. A variety of current approaches are investigated from a critically Christian perspective. This is a companion course to Psychology 211. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

322 Psychopathology (3)**Fall, Even**

Students study the symptoms, causes, and treatments of persons suffering from neurotic or psychotic disorders, paying special attention to the major theories concerning psychopathology and the types of therapy employed. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

323 Theories of Personality (3)**Spring, Even**

This critical exposition of the personality theories of Freud, Jung, Adler, Horney, Sullivan, Rogers, and others includes a further consideration of the development of a Christian anthropology, especially in relation to personality, psychic disorders, and psychotherapeutic counseling. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

331 Psychology of Religion (3)**Spring, Even**

This is a study of the history of the relationships between psychology and religion and of the relationship between religion and current knowledge on personal and interpersonal functioning. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

332 Social Psychology (3)**Fall, Even**

This course considers the nature and the psychology of different social relationships. Such topics as attraction, cooperation, person perception, bargaining, and social influence are investigated. This course is identical to Sociology 332. Prerequisite: Psychology 121 or Sociology 121.

340 Emotion and Motivation (3)**Spring, Odd**

This course will examine variables affecting emotional processes and motivation in animals and humans. Topics include motivation based on social and cultural processes, cognitive goals, as well as those based on biological needs. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

345 History and Systems of Psychology (3)**Fall, Odd**

This course is an advanced study of the development of psychology as a science and related professional disciplines such as psychotherapy and psychological testing. Students examine the historical roots of specific problems in contemporary psychology. Prerequisite: Psychology 121.

352 Behavioral Pharmacology (3)**Fall, Odd**

This course will provide a survey of research on the effects of drugs on the behavior of humans and animals, concentrating on the relationship between drug influences on behavior and their effects on the central nervous system. Therapeutic/psychiatric uses of psychoactive substances will be examined, as will the neurological and behavioral effects of common recreational drugs. Approaches to treating drug addiction will be discussed. Prerequisite: Psychology 121, or Biology 100, 101 or 110.

353 Brain and Cognition: Human Neuropsychology (3)**Spring, Odd**

This course will focus on the role of human brain functioning in cognitive and psychological processes. Main topics will include the basic cortical areas of the human brain, how various cognitive functions are currently thought to relate to specific brain regions, and the relationship between damage to the regions and the resulting cognitive, emotional, and behavioral changes. Prerequisite: Psychology 121 or Biology 101.

355 Psychobiology: Behavioral Neuroscience (3)**Spring, Even**

This course will focus on the role of biological processes in the behavioral and cognitive functioning of humans and other species. Topics will include the structure and function of nerve cells, basic structure of the human nervous system, psychopharmacology, sensory and motor systems, motivation, emotion and reinforcement, learning and memory, and discussions of the relationship between brain functioning and psychopathology. Prerequisites: Psychology 121 or Biology 101.

356 Topics in Psychology (3)**Fall, Even**

This course is a systematic examination of key issues and movements within the discipline of psychology. Selected topics vary according to current interests and discussion within psychology, including clinical and theoretical areas of concern to an emerging Christian perspective on psychology. Prerequisites: Psychology 121.

358 Capstone Course (3)**Fall**

In this course psychology majors will reflect and articulate an understanding of psychology from the philosophical, ethical and historical aspects of a Christian worldview. Students will prepare a thesis paper which they will present in a public forum. Students will also explore their participation in psychology by identifying, clarifying and planning for their post-college career goals. Prerequisite: senior status.

399 Independent Study (1-3)**Fall, Spring**

Students who have done advanced work in psychology may study a particular subject independently under the direct supervision of the department. Arrangements must be made with an individual faculty member.

400 Supervised Field Education (3-6)**Fall, Spring**

Students engage in a paraprofessional work experience in a setting off campus. The setting is determined by the faculty supervisor on the basis of student's career objectives and his or her current level of experience. Application must be made with the Psychology Department before the beginning of the term in which the student intends to register for field experience. Two options are available to the student: an off-campus internship supervised by the Psychology Department or participation in the Chicago Semester Program. Prerequisite: senior status.

401 Advanced Research Practicum (3-6)**Fall, Spring**

This course will give students the opportunity to complete supervised quantitative research projects using experimental methodology, correlative techniques, or survey research (or a combination of the three) in order to address theoretical questions that arise from the academic interests of the student. Weekly seminars will focus on issues of scientific theory in areas of student interest, the relationship between the scientific process and Christian worldview, experimental design, research methodology, and proper statistical analysis of collected project data. A research paper or equivalent will be required. This course can also be used to fulfill the field education requirement. Prerequisite: senior psychology majors and consent of instructor.

SCIENCE

Science Minor

The science minor is an appropriate choice for elementary education majors, who need exposure to a broad spectrum of science courses.

The minor consists of 20 hours from:

Biology 100, 101, 102, 110, 111, 204, 205, 206; Chemistry 100, 101, 102, 103, 104; Geology 101; Physics 101, 121, 122.

Science 280 is designed to meet the state of Illinois elementary education standards for elementary education majors. Students interested in the teaching sciences should consider either secondary biology education or secondary chemistry education, because the state of Illinois no longer offers certification in general science education.

Science Courses (SCI)

Note: Semesters listed are when courses are normally offered. However, course offerings and scheduling are subject to change at the discretion of the department.

280 Science Concepts and Methods (3)

Fall, Spring

This course covers the characteristics of science, goals for elementary science education, an inquiry approach to science teaching, and resources for science teachers. Topics include conducting laboratory experiments; laboratory safety; data collection and analysis; care of plants and animals in the classroom; instrumentation; technology and society; sources of information and materials; professional organizations; planning and teaching science courses, units, and lessons; and assessing learning outcomes. Emphasis is placed on inquiry and ways to address the needs of a diversity of students. Prerequisites: 9 hours of college science courses, including biological, physical, and earth science.

380 Teaching Science in Grade 6-12 (3)

Fall, Even

This course focuses on the teaching methods and the characteristics of science from a Christian worldview. This course will cover teaching methods pertaining to biology, chemistry, and physics, with the primary focus on biology and chemistry methods. This course will be based on inquiry, with lecture, discussion, reflection, laboratory, and presentation components. Students will become familiar with standards for secondary science, will use technology in the classroom and laboratory, will design and conduct experiments, and will plan and teach classroom and laboratory lessons. Students will become acquainted with source materials, laboratory safety practices and good laboratory management. Prerequisites: Education 203 and completed course work or concurrent enrollment in biology, chemistry and physics.