



## Course Descriptions - Psychology

### **PSY121 Introduction to Psychology (3-0-3)**

This course introduces students to the major theories and concepts in contemporary psychology. Topics covered include the approaches and research methods of psychology, the biological basis of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and memory, consciousness, motivation and emotion, intelligence, personality, social psychology, and mental illness. F, S

### **PSY155 Introduction to Special Education (3-0-3)**

This course is an introduction to the education of exceptional children from birth to age twenty-one. It explores characteristics of various exceptionalities, as well as laws, policies, and procedures affecting students with special needs. The course emphasizes the identification of quality learning environments that ensure the inclusion of every child, and it identifies current practices, methods, and strategies for teaching children with diverse learning and developmental needs. A ten-hour field experience is included to enable students to connect course content to an environment serving individuals with special needs.

### **PSY200 Statistics for Social Sciences (3-0-3)**

This course introduces students to the application of statistical methods in the social sciences for the purpose of experimentation. The course provides an overview of how descriptive and inferential statistics, including measures of central tendency and variability, correlation and regression, estimation, confidence intervals and various methods of hypothesis testing such as ANOVA and Chi-square, are used in research. PR: SOC 121 or PSY 121 and eligible to enroll in a 100-level math course Fall only

### **PSY221 Educational Psychology (3-0-3)**

This course provides students with an introduction to research-based concepts and principles about human learning, development and motivation and how that information is applied to classroom teaching. Emphasis is placed on learning theory and design of instruction through identification of learning outcomes, effective teaching strategies and assessment procedures. The role and methods of service learning are explored and applied through classroom instruction and the development of a service learning plan. PR: PSY 121

### **PSY222 Developmental Psychology (3-0-3)**

This course provides a broad overview of human development from the lifespan perspective (prenatal development through the stages of aging). The major domains of development including physical, cognitive, emotional and social development are identified with an emphasis on the joint contribution of both biology and environment. The course provides students with the opportunity to examine major theoretical perspectives and explore the impact of culture, and context on development. PR: PSY 121

**PSY223 Adolescent Psychology (3-0-3)**

Students will study human development from puberty to young adulthood. They will examine the adolescent in terms of biological, cognitive, social, and emotional domains. Normal development will be emphasized, but special issues will be investigated. The impact of cultural factors will be explored. PR: PSY 121 S

**PSY224 Abnormal Psychology (3-0-3)**

This course introduces students to a wide range of mental disorders as recognized in the current Diagnostic Statistical Manual (DSM). It examines the biological, psychological and sociocultural approaches to the study of abnormal psychology, as well as the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment process. PR: PSY 121 F, S

**PSY225 Introduction to Special Education (3-2-4)**

This course is an introduction to the education of exceptional children. Characteristics of the various exceptionalities as well as laws, policies, and procedures affecting students with special needs are explored. Emphasis is placed on identifying quality learning environments that ensure the inclusion of every child, and current practices for teaching children with diverse learning and developmental needs. The methods and strategies for teaching and including children with special needs are discussed and applied. Students observe 30 hours in an environment serving children with special needs.

**PSY226 Social Psychology (3-0-3)**

This course is designed to introduce students to the major theoretical concepts in the study of social psychology. It will examine the nature and causes of individual behavior and thought in social situations with emphasis on how social behavior is shaped by culture, evolution, personal construal, and situational variables. Topics covered include research methods, the nature of the social self, social judgments and attitudes, emotion, social relationships, stereotyping and prejudice, altruism, and social behavior in groups. PR: PSY 121 or SOC 121

**PSY230 Child Development (4-0-4)**

This course is a study into the principles of child growth and development from conception to adolescence. The course content will focus on the physical, cognitive, social and emotional domains of development. The student will be required to observe the development of a child outside the classroom in order to complete a comprehensive child study project. In order to complete this major project, 10-20 hours of outside observation are required.

**PSY235 Psychology of Sport (3-0-3)**

This course will examine the major psychological theories related to sport and exercise behavior. The course is designed to introduce students to the field of sports and exercise psychology by providing a broad overview of the major topics in the area, including the history of sports and exercise psychology, foundations of personality, motivation, coaching and leadership, gender and cultural issues, team dynamics, performance enhancement strategies, and sports as recreation. PR: PSY 121 or SOC 121

**PSY240 Human Sexuality (3-0-3)**

This course is an introductory overview of the field of human sexuality. Human sexuality will be examined from psychological, biological, sociocultural and historical perspectives. Students will be encouraged to become aware of their own sexual attitudes, values, and behaviors and to evaluate the consistency of their behaviors within their own moral frameworks. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate about sexuality with a greater degree of effectiveness and personal comfort. PR: PSY 121 or SOC 121

**PSY296 Human Sexuality (3-0-3)**

This course is an introductory overview of the field of human sexuality. Human sexuality will be examined from psychological, biological, sociocultural and historical perspectives. Students will be encouraged to become aware of their own sexual attitudes, values, and behaviors and to evaluate the consistency of their behaviors within their own moral frameworks. By the end of this course, students will be able to communicate about sexuality with a greater degree of effectiveness and personal comfort. PR: PSY 121 or SOC 121