



PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

Professor: D. Jones

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Psychology is defined as the science of mental processes and behavior. The Department of Psychology offers both a major and a minor in psychology. The courses that comprise the psychology major are designed to acquaint the student with the systematic and quantitative demands of scientific thought, as well as to ensure that students will be able to comprehend human behavior from cognitive, environmental, and biological perspectives.

The Psychology Department's learning goals are for students to:

1. Develop a conceptual framework that includes important psychological facts, principles, and theories.
2. Use critical thinking to analyze human behavior recognizing behavior as the product of antecedents and consequents.
3. Develop quantitative reasoning skills to a level enabling organization and analysis of data from survey, field, or laboratory research.
4. Master use of computer technology in the execution and/or presentation of research findings.
5. Demonstrate writing skills incorporating APA style elements for the presentation of psychological findings.
6. Develop cooperative learning skills by working productively in groups providing leadership for task completion.
7. Demonstrate oral presentation skills incorporating APA style elements for the presentation of psychological findings
8. Master information gathering and integration, in which knowledge from several subfields in psychology is synthesized to address a major question.
9. Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.

Beyond the pedagogical goals cited above, the curriculum is designed to provide introductory courses for the College's general education requirements, and a few collateral courses supplementing other major programs.

In order to graduate with Honors in Psychology, the student must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Graduate with minimum 3.50 GPA in psychology courses
2. Be a member of Psi Chi, the national honor society in psychology
3. Complete satisfactorily a senior thesis

Present at least one paper at an off-campus regional or national conference or have a publication in a refereed journal.

Majors are strongly urged to take a biology course, such as BIO 107 or BIO 108. MAT 114 Elementary Statistics is a required pre-requisite for the required PSY 270 course. No more than six credit hours of PSY 398 Independent Study may be counted towards meeting major requirements and only three credit hours from 200 level electives may be counted toward the major. Majors must earn a grade of C- or better in all psychology needed to satisfy major requirements. PSY 422 or PSY 431 must be taken while enrolled at Westminster. Graduation with a psychology major at Westminster will require that a student complete at least 20 hrs. of Westminster psychology courses with grades of C- or higher.

You can find the course descriptions for all courses required for this major by clicking on the following links:

- [Psychology Course Descriptions](#)

Major: PSYCHOLOGY

Student's Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Advisor

Date Major Declared

Course #	Title of Course	Hours Completed	Semester Completed	Grade
Required Courses (12 hrs):				
PSY 112	Psychology as a Natural Science	3		
PSY 113	Psychology as a Social Science	3		
PSY 270	Research Tools	3		
PSY 274	Methods in Experimental Psychology	3		
Four of the Following, with AT LEAST ONE from each list (12 hrs):				
<i>List One:</i>				
PSY 310	Social Psychology	3		
PSY 312	Developmental Psychology	3		
PSY 315	Psychology of Personality	3		
PSY 390	Abnormal Psychology	3		
<i>List Two:</i>				
PSY 290	Biological Psychology	3		
PSY 320	Memory and Cognition	3		
Two of the following Laboratories (2 hrs):				
PSY 311	Social Psychology Laboratory	1		
PSY 313	Developmental Laboratory	1		
PSY 316	Personality Laboratory	1		
PSY 321	Memory and Cognition Laboratory	1		
PSY 391	Abnormal Psychology	1		
A Senior Capstone Course or Courses (3 -6 hrs):				
PSY 422	Senior Seminar	3		
	<i>or</i> both			
PSY 430	Pre-Thesis <u>and</u>	3		
PSY 431	Senior Thesis	3		
Three Psychology electives - 9 hrs (6 hrs must be upper level)				
PSY 1xx/2xx				
PSY 3xx/4xx				
PSY 3xx/4xx				
TOTAL HOURS FOR MAJOR		38-41 hrs		