# Courses for Psychology

## Psychology Courses

### PY101 Intro To Psychology
- **SB**
- **Hours 3**
- Basic principles of psychology.

### Social and Behavioral Sciences

### PY105 Honors Intro Psychology
- **SB, UH**
- **Hours 3**
- Honors section of PY 101.

### Social and Behavioral Sciences, University Honors

### PY211 Elem Statistical Methods
- **Hours 3**
- Methods are presented that enable students to make inferences about a population from a knowledge of small samples. Offered each semester and in the summer session.

Prerequisite(s): MATH 100 or MATH 110 or MATH 112 or MATH 115 or MATH 121 or MATH 125 or MATH 126 or MATH 145 or MATH 146 and PY 101 or PY 105

### PY313 Sensation and Perception
- **Hours 3**
- Physiological and psychophysical aspects of the senses.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

### PY321 Professional Issues Proseminar in Psychology
- **Hours 1**
- Course orients psychology majors to career opportunities for psychology majors terminating with a BA or BS, as well as those students moving on to post-graduate work.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

### PY352 Developmental Psych
- **Hours 3**
- Physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development throughout the life span.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

### PY353 Biological Basis of Psychological Disorders
- **Hours 3**
- There is increasing evidence that biological factors either increase risk for or directly cause many psychological disorders. This lecture-based course focuses on understanding biological research on psychological disorders, including research on biological risk factors, biological factors associated with the presence of disorders, and the biological effects of various forms of treatment (e.g., therapy and medication). We will take an interdisciplinary approach, reviewing research from neuroscience, psychopharmacology, biochemistry, genetics, epigenetics, endocrinology, and physiology to understand the biological bases of the development of and treatments for psychological disorders. The course will include an introduction to a variety of biological research methods. The course will include brief introductions to the major psychological disorders listed in DSM-V, but will primarily focus on providing an understanding of the biological basis of these disorders. The course will also include discussions about controversial and ethical issues related to biological research on psychological disorders.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105 is required, or upon instructor permission

### PY355 General Experimental Psychology
- **Hours 3**
- Scientific methods applied to the problems of psychology.

Prerequisite(s): PY211 (grade of C- or higher required) AND 9 hours of Psychology coursework. Corequisite: PY 356

### PY356 Research Laboratory
- **Hours 2**
- Application of experimental and statistical techniques in a laboratory setting.

Prerequisite(s): PY211 (grade of C- or higher required) AND 9 hours of Psychology coursework. Corequisite: PY 355

### PY358 Psychopathology
- **Hours 3**
- This course will provide an introduction to the field of psychopathology. This course will cover clinical descriptions of psychological disorders, factors that contribute to the development and progression of psychological disorders, and treatment for psychological disorders.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

### PY361 Psychology Of Learning
- **Hours 3**
- Theoretical and applied implications of principal findings in learning, memory, and cognition.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

### PY365 Psychology Of Aging
- **Hours 3**
- The intellectual, social, cognitive, and physical development in adulthood with special emphasis on late adulthood.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105
Courses for Psychology

**PY368 Intro To Personality**
Hours 3
A study of theories that represent the psychoanalytic, neopsychoanalytic, trait, life span, humanistic, cognitive, behavioral and social-learning approaches to understanding human behavior. Clinical and experimental data are used to evaluate representative personality theories.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY370 History & Systems in Psychology**
Hours 3
A detailed presentation of the systematic points of view in Psychology with a consideration of their historical origins and significance for modern thought.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY371 Psychology Of Gender**
Hours 3
Review of the contribution of psychological theories and research to the understanding of sex differences in general and to women’s roles in particular.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY372 Social Psychology**
Hours 3
Major aspects of social psychology, including aggression, altruism, attitude change, interpersonal relations, prejudice, leadership, and group dynamics.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY375 Special Topics In Psychology**
Hours 3
Courses devoted to topics not currently covered in the Psychology curriculum will be offered under this title.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY376 Behavioral Medicine**
Hours 3
This course explores the theories, research, and practice of behavioral medicine, particularly as it relates to integration of behavioral health into primary medical care. Students will examine the roles of psychology and other behavioral health professions in research and practice within healthcare. Theories of practice in the field of behavioral health will be covered. Students will develop competence in the connection between behaviors and health.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY377 Psych Law And Justice**
Hours 3
Psychological interpretations of criminality, treatment of offenders, and the roles of psychologists and psychological issues in the justice system.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

**PY378 Junior Honors Seminar**
*UH*
Hours 1
The course is the first semester of a four-semester honors sequence. Exposure to research methods and opportunities for research within the Department of Psychology.
Prerequisite(s): PY 355
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: PY 355
University Honors

**PY379 Junior Honors Seminar**
*UH, W*
Hours 3
The course is the second semester of a four-semester honors sequence. Preparation of a research proposal and approval of thesis committee is required. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.
Prerequisite(s): PY 378
University Honors, Writing

**PY380 Practicum in Community-based Psychology**
Hours 3
This course combines specialized coursework with hands-on mentoring of middle and high school youth. It explores the development of civic engagement in youth and how to promote it.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101

**PY381 Cognitive Neuroscience**
Hours 3
How does our brain give rise to our abilities to perceive, act and think? Survey of the basic facts, empirical evidence, theories and methods of study in cognitive neuroscience exploring how cognition is instantiated in neural activity. Representative topics include the neural underpinnings of perceptual and motor processes, decision making, learning and memory, attention, reinforcement learning, sensory inference, and cognitive control. The course will cover a functional analysis of cognitive disorders from a biological basis and the relation between brain and behavior. The latter will be addressed through studies of lesion localization and neuroimaging of the intact brain. This class should prepare you to take more specialized upper level classes in specific areas of neuroscience.
Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105
PY390 Art to Life
Hours 3

Art to Life is an experiential seminar course offered in collaboration with Cognitive Dynamics Foundation in Tuscaloosa through the foundation’s Bringing Art to Life @ program. The primary purpose of the course is to improve quality of life for persons living with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias and their families and care partners through art therapy and life story preservation, to teach students about Alzheimer’s/dementia and person-centered care and the development of empathy for those living with cognitive impairment, to enhance students' understanding of the art of storytelling and life story preservation, and to promote intergenerational relationships through this novel service learning model. A trained art therapist will conduct a series of therapy sessions with participants and students over a period of eight to ten weeks. Students will document the sessions, interview family and friends of the participants, and collect memorabilia (including old photographs, sheet music, letters from loved ones, photographs of participant art, student poetry, etc.) for the creation of the life story project. Weeks not set aside for art therapy may be used for a special class session or for visiting with participants and their families.

PY391 Junior Seminar
W
Hours 3

Course will expose students to specialty areas in Psychology and provide opportunities to develop skills associated with writing and oral presentation. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105 and PY 211

Writing

PY394 Mentoring Students with Autism
Hours 3

This course is designed to give students experience working with individuals on the autism spectrum. Each student will be paired with a UA-ACTS student who they will meet with 2-3 times per week to address academic organization, social skills, and daily-living and career-building skills. Students will also learn about best practices, trends, and barriers in working with individuals with ASD in the college environment.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105

PY395 Child Mental Health: Theory and Field Experience
Hours 3

The course will expose students to issues in child mental health and treatment, with a focus on professional ethics, mentoring, and evidence-based treatments for childhood disorders. The course will combine in-class lecture/discussion with a practicum experience at Brewer Porch.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101

PY399 Internship in Psychology
Hours 3

An opportunity for students to gain practical experience in psychology. Enrollment by application and interview only.

Prerequisite(s): PY 101 or PY 105 and PY 321

PY413 Physiological Psych
Hours 3

Bodily structures (nervous, muscular, and glandular) underlying behavior.

Prerequisite(s): PY 355

PY451 Undergraduate Research
Hours 1-3

Individual research projects. A maximum of 6 credit hours may be earned in PY 451.

Prerequisite(s): PY 355

PY461 Child Psychology
Hours 3

Scientific approaches to understanding the psychological development of youth and its applications. Suggested for undergraduate seniors.

Prerequisite(s): PY 355

PY470 Intro Cognitive Psychology
Hours 3

Contemporary approaches to cognitive psychology, including topics such as attention and memory.

Prerequisite(s): PY 355

PY478 Senior Honors Seminar
UH
Hours 2

The course is the third semester of a four-semester honors sequence. Implementation of an approved research proposal.

Prerequisite(s): PY 379

University Honors

PY479 Senior Honors Seminar
UH
Hours 3

The course is the final semester of a four-semester honors sequence. Preparation and defense of senior honors thesis.

Prerequisite(s): PY 478

University Honors

PY481 Readings In Psychology
Hours 1-3

Selected supervised readings. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours.

Prerequisite(s): PY 105 or PY 101 or PY 355 or PY 356
PY491 Senior Seminar In Psychology

Hours 3

Thorough examination of a selected contemporary psychological area. Different topics are offered each semester; descriptions are available at registration. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course. Offered each semester and in the summer session. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours.

Prerequisite(s): PY 355 and PY 356

Writing

PY495 Teaching Internship

Hours 3

Supervised experience and training in teaching, course administration, etc., as additional preparation for students planning to pursue graduate study in psychology.