

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology Program Learning Outcomes (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/program-learning-outcomes/natural-behavioral-sciences/psychology/>)

College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences

Department of Psychology

Bachelor of Arts

Degree Roadmap

Minor

Master of Arts

Clinical Psychology Option

Health Psychology Option

Faculty

Undergraduate

Heather Butler, Department Chair

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Graduate

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Emeriti Faculty

Jack Adams, Leo Cain, Lisa Gray-Shellberg, Aaron Hass, Diane Henschel, George Marsh, M. Milo Milfs, Harvey Nash, Beverly Palmer, Eleanor B. Simon Price, Larry Rosen, Fred Shima, Quentin C. Stodola, Judith Todd, Sandra Wilcox, Karen Wilson

Program Description

Psychology is about people's behavior and about people's experience. Psychologists teach and do research or applied work on subjects relating to the social and behavioral sciences. In order to discover more about behavior, psychologists study both humans and animals. Psychology covers a wide range of topics, from the way our social environment influences us to the inner workings of our bodies. This diversity of topics is reflected in the psychology curriculum.

The Department of Psychology sees its mission as offering a solid foundation in the theories and scientific methods of psychology to diverse and nontraditional students who choose to study Psychology at the undergraduate and graduate level. The department offers courses in aspects of the empirical knowledge base of scientific psychology and applied psychology for psychology majors and graduate students. Furthermore, the department helps meet the needs of those studying other subjects, such as Human Services majors, Liberal Studies majors, people minoring in Psychology, and other individuals. The department sees its mission as offering these educational experiences within a framework which values and encourages diversity. Within this broad mission, the department develops, evaluates, and alters, as needed, a set of specific goals and objectives for the psychology major.

The department publishes its goals and objectives for all Psychology students to review. It also engages in an ongoing Outcomes Assessment

program to evaluate its success in achieving these goals and objectives. Psychology majors are required to participate in the Outcomes Assessment program in order to evaluate both the effectiveness of the department and student competencies.

Features

At the undergraduate level, the Department of Psychology provides opportunity for the study of three different aspects of the field. For students interested in the research and scientific aspects, courses on the application of the scientific method to the study of human and animal behavior are offered. For those with applied interests, courses relating to counseling, clinical psychology, health psychology and behavioral medicine, industrial and organizational psychology, computers, and service in community agencies are offered. For students with a general interest in psychology, many courses provide knowledge that is useful in understanding one's self and in understanding and relating to others effectively.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology can be completed by attending class during the day or evening hours. At present, it may take six or more semesters to complete the upper division courses in the evening.

Pre-Admission Disclosure for Academic Programs Leading to Licensure or Credentialing

Admission into programs leading to licensure and credentialing does not guarantee that students will obtain a license or credential. Licensure and credentialing requirements are set by agencies that are not controlled by or affiliated with the CSU and requirements can change at any time. For example, licensure or credentialing requirements can include evidence of the right to work in the United States (e.g., social security number or tax payer identification number) or successfully passing a criminal background check. Students are responsible for determining whether they can meet licensure or credentialing requirements. The CSU will not refund tuition, fees, or any associated costs, to students who determine subsequent to admission that they cannot meet licensure or credentialing requirements. Information concerning licensure and credentialing requirements are available from **Keisha Paxton (310) 243-3411**.

Academic Advisement

The Psychology Department Sears Center in SBS B-241B and the faculty provide advising for the psychology major, minor, and electives as well as General Education advisement for psychology majors.

Students who are contemplating or have decided upon a major or minor in psychology or who have an interest in taking psychology courses as electives should see an advisor in the Psychology Department Sears Center at their first opportunity. It is in each student's best interest to see a peer advisor at least once a semester and to keep his or her files in the Sears Center up to date.

Preparation

High school students are encouraged to take four years of English and three years of mathematics including algebra. Courses in biology and psychology and the other social and behavioral sciences are recommended. Knowledge of computers is helpful for some courses.

Transfer students should contact their counseling center or advisor to identify appropriate lower division major/minor preparatory courses. Whenever possible, transfer students who do not plan to transfer until their junior year should take the lower division equivalents of PSY 101 General Education Psychology: Understanding Human Behavior (3), PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3), and PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3).

Career Possibilities

In addition to preparing students for graduate study in psychology and other professions, an undergraduate degree can lead directly to employment in business and industry, education, counseling, human services, and several other areas.

Psychology courses also can be used to develop and strengthen adaptive or intellectual skills, and add to students' knowledge base and facilitate development of behavioral traits and attitudes linked to career success. The adaptive skills that are most directly fostered within the psychology curriculum are: interpersonal and human relations skills, thinking and problem solving skills, communication skills.

Psychology is an excellent major or minor for students who are interested in careers in management, communication, marketing or other positions that require understanding of human behavior and human interactions. Many students who are interested in careers in law or medicine choose a psychology degree for their undergraduate major. The psychology degree is pursued by many students who wish to engage in graduate study in psychology at the master's or doctoral degree level as preparation for careers in mental health, psychological research, industrial and organizational psychology and college teaching. Additional competencies recommended for the major include computer literacy and a second language.

Student Organizations

The department has a chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society for Psychology, a Psychology Club, and numerous opportunities for student involvement in research and service.

Graduation With Honors

An undergraduate student may be a candidate for graduation with Honors in Psychology by meeting the following criteria:

1. A minimum grade point average of at least 3.5 in all courses used to satisfy the upper division requirements in the major;
2. Recommendation by the faculty of the Psychology faculty.

Psychology Skill-Building Elective Course Clusters

Some students may be interested in gaining skills and knowledge in Psychology, but might not want to major in Psychology. Students with interests in gaining psychology-related skills are encouraged to use their general elective courses to take advantage of one of the following skill-building clusters. These clusters are designed to build a foundation in a key area of psychology-oriented skills, such as:

- Business-related Skills:
 - PSY 314 Behavior Modification (3)
 - PSY 340 Social Psychology: Psychological Perspective (3)
 - PSY 367 Effective Communication Skills (3)
 - PSY 372 Industrial and Organizational Psychology (3)

- Counseling and Related Services:
 - PSY 342 Interpersonal and Group Dynamics (3)
 - PSY 360 Theories Of Personality (3)
 - PSY 363 Abnormal Psychology (3)
 - PSY 367 Effective Communication Skills (3)
 - PSY 464 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)
 - PSY 470 Community Psychology: Issues and Practice (3)
- Diversity/Community Issues:
 - PSY 363 Abnormal Psychology (3)
 - PSY 368 Human Sexuality (3)
 - PSY 376 Psychology Of Gender (3)
 - PSY 380 Psychology of the Mexican American I (3)
 - PSY 383 Black Psychology (3)
 - PSY 464 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)
 - PSY 470 Community Psychology: Issues and Practice (3)
- Family Affairs:
 - PSY 350 Child Psychology (3)
 - PSY 351 Psychology of Adolescent Experience (3)
 - PSY 352 Psychology of Adult Development and Aging (3)
 - PSY 353 The Experience of Death and Dying: Psychological Perspectives (3)
 - PSY 382 Psychological Development of the Black Child (3)
- Interpersonal Skills:
 - PSY 340 Social Psychology: Psychological Perspective (3)
 - PSY 342 Interpersonal and Group Dynamics (3)
 - PSY 360 Theories Of Personality (3)
 - PSY 367 Effective Communication Skills (3)
- Children and Adolescents:
 - PSY 350 Child Psychology (3)
 - PSY 351 Psychology of Adolescent Experience (3)
 - PSY 314 Behavior Modification (3)
 - PSY 367 Effective Communication Skills (3)
 - PSY 382 Psychological Development of the Black Child (3)

For Psychology majors, the following cluster is suggested for those who plan to apply to graduate school:

- Graduate School Preparation:
 - PSY 330 Intermediate Statistics and Research Design (3)
 - PSY 331 Measurement In Psychology (3)
 - PSY 360 Theories Of Personality (3)
 - PSY 363 Abnormal Psychology (3)
 - PSY 464 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)
 - additional upper-division Lecture/Laboratory courses

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree

See the "Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/baccalaureate-degrees-undergraduate-studies/>)" in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

Elective Requirements

Completion of elective courses (beyond the requirements listed below) to reach a total of a minimum of 120 units.

General Education Requirements (49 units)

See the "General Education (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/double-counting-general-education-courses/general-education/>)" requirements in the University Catalog or the Class Schedule

for the most current information on General Education requirements and course offerings.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement

See the "Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/graduate-writing-examination/>)" in the University Catalog.

Minor Requirements

No minor required. Students completing this major do not need to complete a minor in another field. However, Psychology majors are encouraged to use their general elective courses to take advantage of the Skill-Building Elective Clusters described above. This will further enhance their psychology-related skills.

Major Requirements (42 units)

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this degree.

A. Core Courses (12 units)

Note: PSY 101 General Education Psychology: Understanding Human Behavior (3), PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3), and PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3) should be taken in this order prior to taking other courses in the major.

1. Lower Division Requirements (9 units)

Students must take all three courses.

PSY 101 General Education Psychology: Understanding Human Behavior (3)

PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3)

PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3)

Note: PSY 101 General Education Psychology: Understanding Human Behavior (3), PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3), and PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3) should be taken in this order prior to taking other courses in the major.

2. Quantitative Methods (3 units)

Select one course from the following:

PSY 330 Intermediate Statistics and Research Design (3)

PSY 331 Measurement In Psychology (3)

Note: Both courses listed in the Quantitative Methods section are recommended for students planning to pursue graduate Studies. PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3) or MAT 131 Elementary Statistics and Probability (3) is a prerequisite for both courses.

B. Upper Division Major Electives (21 units)

Students must select one course from Groups 1 - 6.

Group 1: Biopsychology

PSY 240 Biopsychology (3)

PSY 320 Psychopharmacology (3)

PSY 324 Sensation & Perception (3)

Group 2: Cognitive

PSY 312 Theories Of Learning (3)

PSY 322 Cognitive Psychology (3)

Group 3: Social Community

PSY 306 Design Your Life (3)

PSY 340 Social Psychology: Psychological Perspective (3)

PSY 371 Forensic and Legal Psychology (3)

PSY 376 Psychology Of Gender (3)

PSY 380 Psychology of the Mexican American I (3)

PSY 383 Black Psychology (3)

PSY 470 Community Psychology: Issues and Practice (3)

Group 4: Developmental

PSY 350 Child Psychology (3)

PSY 351 Psychology of Adolescent Experience (3)

PSY 352 Psychology of Adult Development and Aging (3)

PSY 382 Psychological Development of the Black Child (3)

Group 5: Individual Abnormal

PSY 360 Theories Of Personality (3)

PSY 363 Abnormal Psychology (3)

PSY 368 Human Sexuality (3)

PSY 370 Health Psychology (3)

PSY 464 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)

Group 6: Select one course from groups 1-5 or from the list of courses below

PSY 305 History and Systems of Psychology (3)

PSY 314 Behavior Modification (3)

PSY 342 Interpersonal and Group Dynamics (3)

PSY 353 The Experience of Death and Dying: Psychological Perspectives (3)

PSY 367 Effective Communication Skills (3)

PSY 372 Industrial and Organizational Psychology (3)

PSY 480 Sport Psychology (3)

PSY 494 Independent Study (1-3)

PSY 497 Seminar in Peer Advising (3)

PSY 498 Directed Research (1-3)

Group 7: Select one course from either Group 3, Group 4, or Group 5 C. Research Experience (6 units)

Select one of the following pairs:

PSY 411 Advanced Research Methods in Personality and Social Psychology (3)

PSY 412 Research Seminar in Personality and Social Psychology (3)

or

PSY 413 Advanced Research Methods in Learning and Evolutionary Psychology (3)

PSY 414 Research Seminar in Learning and Evolutionary Psychology (3)

or

PSY 415 Advanced Research Methods in Cognitive Psychology (3)

PSY 416 Research Seminar in Cognitive Psychology (3)

or

PSY 417 Advanced Research Methods in Biological Psychology (3)

PSY 418 Research Seminar in Biological Psychology (3)

or

PSY 419 Advanced Research Methods in Forensic and Legal Psychology (3)

PSY 420 Research Seminar in Forensic and Legal Psychology (3)

D. Senior Seminar (3 units)

PSY 490 Senior Seminar Psychology (3)

Minor in Psychology (15 units)

Select five upper division psychology courses, except PSY 481 Applied Sport & Fitness Psychology (3), PSY 482 Psychology of Coaching and Team-Building (3), PSY 483 Contemp Issues in Sports and Fitness Psychology (3), PSY 486 Internship in Sport and Fitness Psychology (3), PSY 490 Senior Seminar Psychology (3) or PSY 497 Seminar in Peer Advising (3). Only one course may be selected from: PSY 396 Practicum In Psychology (3), PSY 494 Independent Study (1-3), PSY 496 Internship (3-6) (a maximum of three units may apply to the minor) or PSY 498

Directed Research (1-3). PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3) may be substituted for one upper division course (15 units).

Master of Arts in Psychology

The Psychology M.A. (Clinical Psychology option) is designed to meet the professional needs of college graduates who plan careers in community mental health or who are already employed as paraprofessionals and desire to further their education and opportunities for advancement.

The student is offered a unique opportunity to obtain solid academic knowledge of clinical psychology coupled with extensive research and supervised experience in the application of the knowledge. The Psychology M.A. (Clinical Psychology option), with the addition of courses in marriage, family and child counseling, can be preparation for the MFT license.

In the Psychology M.A. (Clinical Psychology option) the student is required to complete 33 units of credit, plus 550 hours of supervised practicum in a clinical setting within the community. In addition, the student must successfully complete a written comprehensive examination or a thesis.

The Master of Arts in Psychology (Health Psychology Option) will provide students with a solid academic background in health psychology. This specialized track is designed to meet the professional needs of college graduates who plan careers in community mental health and other health care settings such as rehabilitation centers, primary care centers and hospices. In addition, students enrolled in the Health Psychology Option will learn how to promote wellness in individuals and within organizations, and how to evaluate the effectiveness of prevention and treatment programs. The goal of concentrated study in health psychology is to provide the student with an understanding of the relationships among biological, psychological, and social factors as they interact to influence mental and physical health. This goal is accomplished through an integrated program of coursework and research training. In the Psychology M.A. (Health Psychology option) the student is required to complete 36 units of credit, including three hours of practicum course work. In addition, the student must successfully complete a thesis.

Admission Procedures

A. Mail the following documents directly to

Attention: Graduate Committee
Master of Arts in Psychology Program
Psychology Department
California State University, Dominguez Hills
1000 E. Victoria Street
Carson, California 90747

1. Departmental application for admission to the Master of Arts in Psychology program. Obtain application from the Psychology Department Office (SBS A336) or online (<http://www4csudh.edu/psychology/>).
2. One official transcript from each college attended.
3. Official score report of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. Students can call the Testing Office (243-3909) to obtain a schedule for the GRE.
4. Personal Statement
5. Three letters of recommendation.

B. Submission of university application and supporting documents
C. All documents listed under item "A" must be on file in the Department of Psychology in order for your application to be considered for entrance to the program. The deadline for applications is March 1 for entrance to the program in the fall semester

D. You may be asked to attend a personal interview as part of the selection procedure

Classified Standing and Conditionally Classified Standing

Only students who have met all requirements as noted under Admission Procedures - M.A. Programs for the Psychology Department will be considered for admission into the M.A. in Psychology Program with Classified Standing.

Students who lack some of the admission requirements may be considered for admission into the program with Conditionally Classified Standing. This would allow them to enroll in the University to correct their deficiencies, and also permit them to take up to nine semester units of graduate coursework which could apply toward their degree if and when Classified Standing has been established. Please note that admission to Conditionally Classified Standing does not assure that a student will achieve Classified Standing in the program.

Clinical Psychology Option (33 units)

Admission Requirements

A. A Bachelor's Degree from a fully accredited institution of higher education.

B. Completion of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test

C. At least a "B" average in the last 60 semester units attempted

D. Successful completion of the following undergraduate courses or their equivalent, with at least a "B" average

PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3)

PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3)

PSY 330 Intermediate Statistics and Research Design (3)

or

PSY 331 Measurement In Psychology (3)

PSY 360 Theories Of Personality (3)

PSY 363 Abnormal Psychology (3)

PSY 464 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3)

E. Special consideration concerning the waiving of some of the above requirements is possible (e.g., if the student has had extensive previous experience in the community or clinical area)

Degree Requirements

A. Required Courses (30 units)

PSY 535 Advanced Research Methods (3)

PSY 550 Seminar in Developmental Psychology (3)

PSY 563 Seminar in Psychopathology (3)

PSY 564 Advanced Psychotherapy Techniques (3)

PSY 565 Psychology of Clinical Groups (3)

PSY 567 Individual Assessment (3)

PSY 570 Community Psychology: Current Theory and Issues (3)

PSY 571 Practicum in Clinical-Community Psychology (3)

PSY 574 Practicum: Diversity Issues in Clinical and Health Psychology (3)

PSY 597 Directed Reading (1-3)

or

PSY 599 Thesis (1-3)

B. Select one course from the following (3 units)

PSY 510 Career Development in Clinical and Counseling Psychology (3)

PSY 520 Seminar in Psychopharmacology (3)

PSY 530 Advanced Analysis of Variance and Multivariate Techniques (3)

PSY 555 Psychology and Aging (3)
 PSY 566 Indv Intellectual Assess (3)
 PSY 575 Theories of Health and Behavior (3)
 PSY 576 Seminar in Health Psychology Research (3)
 PSY 585 Neuropsychology (3)
 PSY 595 Special Topics: (3)
 PSY 596 Clinical Psychology Practicum (3)
 PSY 597 Directed Reading (1-3)
 PSY 598 Directed Research (1-3)

C. Additional program requirements include

1. Completion of the Graduate Writing Competency requirement within two semesters of admission to the program.
2. Comprehensive written examination or completion of a thesis. Students should register for PSY 597 Directed Reading (1-3) (3 units) during the semester they plan to take the comprehensive examination. Students who choose to complete a thesis should register for PSY 599 Thesis (1-3) in the semester they plan to defend.
3. A minimum of 550 hours of supervised practicum experience.
4. In addition to the major requirements, students must meet all university requirements for the master's degree indicated in the section of the catalog entitled "Graduate Degrees and Postbaccalaureate Studies (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/graduate-degree-postbaccalaureate-studies/>)."

Health Psychology Option (36 units)

Admission Requirements

- A. Bachelor's degree from a fully accredited institution of higher education**
B. Completion of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test
C. At least a "B" average in the last 60 semester units attempted
D. Successful completion of the following undergraduate courses or their equivalent, with at least a "B" average

PSY 230 Elementary Statistical Analysis in Psychology (3)
 PSY 235 Intro To Research Methods (3)
 PSY 330 Intermediate Statistics and Research Design (3)
 or
 PSY 331 Measurement In Psychology (3)
 PSY 363 Abnormal Psychology (3)
 PSY 370 Health Psychology (3)
 or
 coursework in biological psychology

E. Special consideration concerning the waiving of some of the above requirements is possible (e.g., if the student has had extensive previous experience in the health psychology area)

Degree Requirements

A. Required Courses (33 units)

PSY 520 Seminar in Psychopharmacology (3)
 PSY 530 Advanced Analysis of Variance and Multivariate Techniques (3)
 PSY 535 Advanced Research Methods (3)
 PSY 555 Psychology and Aging (3)
 PSY 563 Seminar in Psychopathology (3)
 PSY 570 Community Psychology: Current Theory and Issues (3)
 PSY 574 Practicum: Diversity Issues in Clinical and Health Psychology (3)
 PSY 575 Theories of Health and Behavior (3)
 PSY 576 Seminar in Health Psychology Research (3)
 PSY 585 Neuropsychology (3)
 PSY 599 Thesis (1-3)

B. Select one course from the following (3 units)

PSY 510 Career Development in Clinical and Counseling Psychology (3)
 PSY 550 Seminar in Developmental Psychology (3)
 PSY 564 Advanced Psychotherapy Techniques (3)

PSY 565 Psychology of Clinical Groups (3)
 PSY 566 Indv Intellectual Assess (3)
 PSY 567 Individual Assessment (3)
 PSY 595 Special Topics: (3)
 PSY 597 Directed Reading (1-3)
 PSY 598 Directed Research (1-3)

C. Additional program requirements include

1. Completion of the Graduate Writing Competency requirement within two semesters of admission to the program.
2. Students must write a thesis as the culminating experience for awarding the degree Master of Arts in Psychology (Health Psychology Option).
3. In addition to the major requirements, students must meet all university requirements for the master's degree indicated in the section of the catalog entitled "Graduate Degrees and Postbaccalaureate Studies (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/graduate-degree-postbaccalaureate-studies/>)."

Advancement to Candidacy

A student must be advanced to candidacy before taking the comprehensive examination or enrolling in PSY 599 Thesis (1-3). The requirements for advancement to candidacy are as follows:

1. Classified Standing in the Psychology M.A.
2. Completion of a minimum of 24 semester units of required courses.
3. Completion of the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.
4. Approved Program of Study.
5. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all courses taken as a graduate student.
6. No grade lower than a "C" in the degree program.