

Area: Behavioral & Social Sciences  
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Degree: A.A. - Psychology

## Psychology Degree

Psychology focuses on the study of behavior of humans and other animals. It involves both pure and practical application of science to matters of everyday life.

### Student Learning Outcomes

*Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:*

- Differentiate between scientifically derived knowledge versus myth and conjecture within the field of psychology.
- Compare and contrast the major theoretical orientations in psychology.
- Define basic psychological terminology regarding behavior, cognition, and emotion, and be able to express it clearly when writing or speaking about psychology.
- Evaluate psychological data using the scientific method, draw reasonable conclusions, recognize the ethical implications of these conclusions, and apply these to personal, community, and scientific problems.
- Employ psychological principles that lay the foundation for life-long personal growth and development of interpersonal and social skills.
- Demonstrate appropriate interpersonal and social skills in interactions with a diverse population using principles of equity, justice, and inclusion.

### Career Opportunities

The Psychology degree is designed to facilitate students' successful transfer to four-year programs that prepare them for advanced study in a variety of graduate programs. Psychologists with graduate degrees and professional certificates have a broad range of employment opportunities including, but not limited to, clinical practice, research, and teaching. Clinical psychologists work in a variety of settings and with a wide range of clients. Research psychologists work in a range of fields associated with the study of human behavior, including biomedical, sports psychology, and cognitive neuroscience.

Requirements for Degree	18 Units
PSYC 300 General Principles .....	3
PSYC 310 Biological Psychology .....	3
PSYC 320 Social Psychology .....	3
PSYC 330 Introductory Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences .....	3
PSYC 335 Research Methods in Psychology .....	3
<b>And a minimum of 3 units from the following:</b> .....	<b>3</b>
ECE 312 Child Development (3)	
or PSYC 372 Child Development (3)	
GERON 302 Psychology of Aging: Adult Development and Aging (3)	
or PSYC 374 Psychology of Aging: Adult Development and Aging (3)	
HSER 330 Issues of Diverse Populations (3)	
or PSYC 365 Issues of Diverse Populations (3)	

HSER 340	Introduction to Chemical Dependency (3)
or PSYC 400	Introduction to Chemical Dependency (3)
HSER 342	Alcoholism: Intervention, Treatment & Recovery (3)
or PSYC 402	Alcoholism: Intervention, Treatment & Recovery (3)
PSYC 305	Personal Growth and Adjustment (3)
PSYC 340	Abnormal Behavior (3)
PSYC 354	Marriage, The Family and Alternatives (3)
PSYC 356	Human Sexuality (3)
PSYC 361	Psychology of Women in a Multicultural Society (3)
PSYC 370	Human Development: A Life Span (3)
PSYC 383	Introduction to Organizational Psychology (3)
PSYC 390	Psychology of Death and Dying (3)

**Associate Degree Requirements:** The Psychology Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See ARC graduation requirements.

### PSYC 300 General Principles 3 Units

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D9; IGETC Area 4I  
 Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course provides a broad overview of general principles of psychology. Topics include the scientific method, statistics, biological determinants, as well as general processes of behavior, such as development, learning, language, intelligence, perception, motivation, emotion, personality, and mental health.

### PSYC 305 Personal Growth and Adjustment 3 Units

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D9; IGETC Area 4I  
 Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course explores human behavior emphasizing the practical and adjustive aspects of psychology in everyday life. Topics include development, personal growth and adjustment over the life span, motivation, emotions, stress, adjustment, behavior disorder, personality, attitudes, values, and interpersonal relationships.

### PSYC 310 Biological Psychology 3 Units

*Prerequisite: PSYC 300 with a grade of "C" or better*

*General Education: AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B2; IGETC Area 5B  
 Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is an analysis and description of the physiological determinants of behavior. Content includes the brain, the nervous system, central nervous pathologies, endocrine function and the biochemistry of mental disease. This is a basic course for psychology, medical and biological science majors.

**PSYC 311 Biological Psychology Laboratory 1 Unit**

*Corequisite: PSYC 310*

*General Education: AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B2; CSU Area B3; IGETC Area 5B*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LAB*

This course involves the applied study of the nervous system, focusing on its anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, and impact on behavioral and mental processes. It provides a foundation in the principles of the scientific method and practical experience in its application to the study of biological psychology. Specific topics include anatomy, physiology, and organization of the nervous system, with special emphasis on the brain; anatomy and physiology of the neuron; physiology of nerves and nerve conduction; the biochemistry of the synapse; anatomy and physiology of sensory systems; and psychophysical examination of sensation and perception. Brain dissection procedures, interactive computer simulations, and lab experiments with data collection and analysis are utilized.

**PSYC 320 Social Psychology 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: PSYC 300 with a grade of "C" or better*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D9; IGETC Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course analyzes human behavior in relation to the social environment, including the power of the situation, other individuals, and the social group. Emphasized topics include aggression, prejudice, attraction, altruism, attitude change, conformity, gender roles, cultural norms, person perception, and social cognition.

**PSYC 330 Introductory Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: PSYC 300 and Math 120 or Math 124 with a grade of "C" or better.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area B4; IGETC Area 2*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course focuses upon the concepts and applications of descriptive and inferential statistics in psychology and other behavioral sciences. Topics include hypothesis testing, correlation, chi-square, and analysis of variance procedures.

**PSYC 331 Introduction to Statistics for the Behavioral Science - Lab 1 Unit**

*Corequisite: PSYC 330.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LAB*

This lab complements Introduction to Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (PSYC 330) and/or Research Methods in Psychology (PSYC 335) by providing hands-on experience and facilitated instruction in the use of both the SPSS and Microsoft Excel computer software programs. Emphasis is on the techniques of software-assisted applied statistical analysis and data presentation using these software packages.

**PSYC 335 Research Methods in Psychology 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: PSYC 300 with a grade of "C" or better*

*Corequisite: PSYC 330 or STAT 301*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 36 hours LEC; 54 hours LAB*

This course covers the planning and execution of research studies in the behavioral sciences. Crucial topics include hypothesis formation, review of the professional literature, research design, collection of data, statistical analysis, and scientific report writing.

**PSYC 340 Abnormal Behavior 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: PSYC 300 or 305 with a grade of "C" or better*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area D9; CSU Area E1; IGETC Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is an exploration of the broad questions of normality and abnormality. Topics include the investigation of specific mental, emotional, and behavioral difficulties and current approaches to psychological intervention including present community mental health practices. It considers the contribution of social, biological and psychological factors to the development and persistence of behavior disorders.

**PSYC 342 Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: PSYC 300 or 305 with a grade of "C" or better*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course focuses on basic behavioral principles that describe relations between operant behavior and the social and physical environment. Behavior is examined as a part of the natural world and in everyday situations. The primary focus is on principles of operant conditioning, such as reinforcement, extinction, differential reinforcement, and punishment, as they are related to naturally occurring events. Additional topics include experimental and intervention procedures of applied behavioral analysis. It also covers practical applications including self management, institutional settings, schools, child behavior management, as well as treatment of developmental disorders such as Autism and Asperger's disorders.

**PSYC 354 Marriage, The Family and Alternatives 3 Units**

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a study of marriage, the family and alternatives from historical, sociological and psychological viewpoints. Topics include the structure and functions of the family, childbearing, gender roles, mate selection, the sexual revolution, conflict, crisis, divorce, and alternatives to traditional marriage.

**PSYC 356 Human Sexuality 3 Units**

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Areas D4, D9, and E1; IGETC Area 4D and Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course provides an overview of human sexual behavior from birth through adulthood. Sexuality is explored from historical, cultural, psychological, physiological, sociological and legal viewpoints.

**PSYC 358 Principles of Interpersonal Relations 3 Units**

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is an introduction to the principles involved in effective interpersonal relationships. Topics will include interpersonal feedback, self-disclosure, listening, the role of emotions, conflict resolution, personal values, and self-awareness. Emphasis is on methods to enhance relationships at home, work, and school.

**PSYC 359 Stress Management and Health 3 Units**

*Same As: HEED 352*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course examines productive and nonproductive stress and the influence of various types of stress on health and wellness. Topics include the physiological aspects of stress and its effects on health, assessments of personal coping style, strategies for coping effectively with stress, relaxation techniques, and positive reinforcers. Emphasis is placed on practical application of stress management techniques in daily life. This course is not open to students who have completed HEED 352.

**PSYC 361 Psychology of Women in a Multicultural Society 3 Units**

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D3; CSU Area D9*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a study of the psychological effects of society upon women. Emphasis is on the exploration of gender roles, sex roles, stereotypes, as well as the sociocultural, intrapersonal, and interpersonal factors in the development of women.

**PSYC 365 Issues of Diverse Populations 3 Units**

*Same As: HSER 330*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a study of the values, problems, issues, concerns and counseling needs of special population groups including the elderly, African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans, homosexuals, the poor and terminally ill. It also includes the nature and extent of chemical dependency and other addictive behaviors. Not open to students who have completed HSER 330.

**PSYC 370 Human Development: A Life Span 3 Units**

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area D9; CSU Area E1; IGETC Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course examines human development across the lifespan, from conception through death, by focusing on development from the perspectives of physiology, cognition, and psychology along with the interaction among these three domains. Emphasis is placed on development as an on-going process and practical application of course material. This course is designed as a foundation for careers in educational, social, psychological, and medical fields as well as providing a better understanding of one's own developmental process.

**PSYC 372 Child Development 3 Units**

*Same As: ECE 312*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D9; CSU Area E1; IGETC Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a study of the growth and development of children from the prenatal stage through adolescence. For each stage of development, the physical, cognitive, linguistic, social-moral, and emotional aspects of development, with attention to both typical as well as atypical development in each area, are discussed. Included are the influences of culture, family, and the environment. This material is designed as a foundation for early care and education, teaching, and parenting. This course is not open to students who have completed ECE 312.

**PSYC 373 Child Psychology 3 Units**

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b) (effective Summer 2009)*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course introduces the science of child psychology through the analysis of developmental theories and research. Key developmental events across the main domains in developmental psychology (physical, cognitive, socio-emotional) are examined from conception through adolescence. Questions about development are investigated, with an emphasis on the role of the scientific method. Typical and atypical psychological development research is explored as well as the influences of culture, society, family, and physical environments on children's behavior and mental processes. This course provides a scientific foundation for future studies in social sciences, including psychology.

**PSYC 374 Psychology of Aging: Adult Development and Aging 3 Units**

*Same As: GERON 302*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course covers the physical, psychological, and social aspects of the aging process including the interactions between the elderly and the rest of society. Topics include an analysis of stereotypes, social bonds, environmental factors, sexuality, physical health, mental health, death, and bereavement. Not open to students who have completed GERON 302.

**PSYC 378 Communicating with and Validating Older Adults 3 Units**

*Same As: GERON 330*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b)*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course introduces the basic theory, techniques, and experiences for communication with, validation of, and stimulation of the elderly at different cognitive levels in long-term care. This class is held off campus in a long-term care setting. For internet modality, supervision by an activity professional in a long-term care setting is required. It is not open to students who have completed GERON 330.

**PSYC 379 Reminiscence Therapy 3 Units**

*Same As: GERON 334*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b)*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course introduces the basic theory and techniques of reminiscence therapy and provides experience in planning, facilitating, and evaluating reminiscence groups with the elderly in an institutional setting. Off-campus supervision by an activity professional in long-term care setting is required for internet modality. It is not open to students who have completed GERON 334.

**PSYC 383 Introduction to Organizational Psychology 3 Units**

*Advisory: PSYC 300, 330, and 335*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D9*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course provides an overview of the field of organizational psychology, focusing on motivation, leadership, organizational assessment, personnel selection, training, and the application of psychological research techniques in the work environment.

**PSYC 390 Psychology of Death and Dying 3 Units**

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course involves an investigation of beliefs, attitudes, anxieties, and behaviors associated with dying and death. Included will be information relevant to suicide, life-threatening illnesses, bereavement, euthanasia, and various philosophical views on the phenomenon.

**PSYC 400 Introduction to Chemical Dependency 3 Units**

*Same As: HSER 340*

*Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116 with a grade of "C" or better; OR ESLR 320 and ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better; OR placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course examines the physiological effects of chemical dependency on the individual. It includes an analysis of the effects of substance abuse on the family; the sociological, economic conditions contributing to substance abuse; and a description of community efforts at prevention and treatment. This course is not open to students who have completed HSER 340.

**PSYC 401 Physiology and Pharmacology: Alcohol & Other Drugs 3 Units**

*Same As: HSER 341*

*Prerequisite: HSER 340 or PSYC 400 with a grade of "C" or better*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a study of the chemical composition of alcohol and the mechanism of action in the body of alcohol and other psychoactive drugs, including opiates, stimulants, depressants, psychotherapeutics, and psychedelics. It also includes the social and psychological implications of tolerance, habituation, and substance abuse of the user and abuser. This course is not open to students who have completed HSER 341.

**PSYC 402 Alcoholism: Intervention, Treatment & Recovery 3 Units**

*Same As: HSER 342*

*Prerequisite: HSER 341 or PSYC 401 with a grade of "C" or better*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is a study and evaluation of techniques used in the treatment of chemical dependency. Topics include intervention, individual and group counseling, detoxification, twelve-step program, therapeutic communities, and aftercare programs. This course is not open to students who have completed HSER 342.

**PSYC 480 Honors General Principles 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above; ENGWR 300 or 480 with a grade of "C" or better. ENGRD 015 with "C" or better, or placement through assessment process.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D9; IGETC Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is for psychology majors, behavioral science majors and other students who desire a challenging, critical thinking and issues oriented introduction to general principles. Topics include the scientific method, statistics, biological determinants and general processes of behavior such as development, learning, verbal behavior, intelligence, perception, motivation, emotion, personality and mental health. Using a seminar style, the focus will be on encouraging thorough analysis and evaluation of psychological theories and research studies as they relate to practical, everyday issues.

**PSYC 481 Honors Abnormal Behavior 3 Units**

*Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above; PSYC 300 or PSYC 480 with a grade of "C" or better; ENGWR 300 OR ENGWR 480 with a grade of "C" or better.*

*General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area D9; CSU Area E1; IGETC Area 4I*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 54 hours LEC*

This course is for psychology majors, behavioral science majors, and others who desire a challenging, critical thinking, and issues-oriented exploration of normality and abnormality. Examination of the origins, symptoms and treatment of psychological disorders through first-person accounts, role of multicultural factors, and various theoretical stances. The focus is on thorough analysis and evaluation of biopsychosocial theories and research studies as they relate to the development and persistence of behavior disorders and treatment approaches.