

## **Psychology (PSY)**

Psychology attempts to give meaning to human behavior and mental processes. The field is multifaceted, addressing topics as diverse as human physiology, interpersonal relationships, emotions, motivations, group dynamics, learning, and mental disorders. The psychology program at Pikeville College bridges the chasm between humanistic and scientific inquiries. Students are provided the opportunity to explore such fascinating topics as personality, dreams, lifespan development, psychopathology, social psychology, learning and cognition, memory, myths and archetypes, research methodology, the psychology of religion, and psychology in law.

### **Psychology Major**

Basic program for a baccalaureate degree

- I. Core Requirements..... 52-56 hours
- II. Psychology Major Requirements ..... 36 hours
  - PSY 110 General Psychology ..... 3
  - PSY 215 Lifespan Development
  - or*
  - PSY 315 Social Psychology ..... 3
  - PSY 300 Experimental Psychology I..... 3
  
  - PSY 323 Abnormal Psychology
  - or*
  - PSY 440 Psychology of Personality ..... 3
  - MTH 200 Elementary Probability and Statistics
  - or*
  - PSY 285 Statistics for Social Sciences ..... 3
  - PSY 452 Interdisciplinary Commons  
in Law, Justice, and Society ..... 3
  - PSY Electives ..... 18
  - Up to 6 of these hours may be in Social Work at the 300 or 400 level.*
- III. General electives as needed to meet the minimum requirements of 128 semester hours.

### **Psychology Minor**

- Minor Requirements ..... 21 hours
- Must include PSY 110, 215 or 315, 300, 323 or 440, and MTH 200 or PSY 285 and 6 hours of Psychology electives.

### **Psychology Course Descriptions**

PSY 110 General Psychology .....(3)  
Introduces the field of psychology by examining fundamental issues in the field from various perspectives, some of which can be resolved by moving beyond the old antitheses. For instance, the classic argument over nature versus nurture is resolved by Albert Bandura's notion of reciprocal determinism. Topics include learning, scientific

method, measurement, personality, mental disorders, memory, dreams, language, cognition, behavior, and consciousness.

**PSY 215 Lifespan Development.....(3)**

This course uses an integrative approach to study the lifespan. It focuses on the major developmental theories, as well as their views of maturation in the physical, social, emotional and intellectual realms. The interrelatedness of various aspects of development from conception through death is emphasized. *Prerequisite: PSY 110.*

**PSY 285 Statistics for the Social Sciences .....(3)**

This course will examine both descriptive (e.g. distributions, central tendency, variability, graphic representations) and inferential (e.g. t-tests, Analysis of Variance) statistics within the context of the social sciences. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the conditions that call for the use of one test over another. Students will be exposed to theory as well as to hands-on application through computer statistics packages such as SPSS. *Prerequisites: PSY 110 and MTH 111 or higher. Cross-listed as CJ 285.*

**PSY 300 Experimental Psychology I.....(3)**

Introduction to design, methods, and theory in psychological research. Includes examination of both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Students will conduct studies involving laboratory and field techniques. *Prerequisites: PSY 110 and MTH 200 or PSY 285.*

**PSY 310 Psychology of Learning .....(3)**

Survey of the seemingly contradictory approaches to understanding human learning - beginning with classical behavioral principles involved in classical conditioning and instrumental conditioning, followed by the transition to cognitive theories involved in verbal learning, schemas, and memory, and ending with current models attempting to integrate behavioral and cognitive schools of thought toward a fuller understanding of human learning. *Prerequisite: PSY 110.*

**PSY 315 Social Psychology .....(3)**

Examines the scientific study of how one's thoughts, feelings, and behavior are influenced by the social context. Students explore a range of contemporary topics such as attitudes, cognitions, self-concept, prejudice, interpersonal perception, persuasion, relationships, aggression, conformity, and obedience. *Prerequisite: PSY 110. Cross-listed as SOC 315.*

**PSY 320 Psycho-Social Adjustment .....(3)**

Approaches the adjustment between society and psyche from a psychological perspective. Regional novels are often used to discern the patterns underlying the behavior associated with particular regions or ethnic groups. *Prerequisite: PSY 110.*

**PSY 323 Abnormal Psychology.....(3)**

Examines mental disorders in terms of their etiology, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment. Introduces students to the major diagnostic categories of mental disorders from mild neuroses to severe psychoses. Shows how each theoretical perspective and its attendant classification system can blind as well as clarify the phenomenon being investigated. *Prerequisite: PSY 110.*

**PSY 325 Psychology of Religion .....(3)**

Offers multiple psychological perspective on a variety of religious experiences in order to foster dialogue between the fields of psychology and religion. Religious texts such as the Tao Te Ching and the Bhagavadgita may be examined for their psychological significance. *Prerequisites: PSY 110 and REL 213 or REL 214.*

**PSY 390 Special Topics ..... (1-4)**

A study of a selected topic of special interest. The topic may differ each time the course is offered and may be proposed by either the instructor or students. Topics may include psychology in film, in law, of Appalachia, human motivation, Transition to the World of Academia or Employment, etc. This course may be taken for credit any number of times, provided that a different topic is studied each time. *Prerequisites: PSY 110 and consent of the Instructor.*

**PSY 405 Physiological and Biological Psychology .....(3)**

This course is an introduction to the physiological, neurophysiological, chemical, and genetic bases of human behavior. The study of anatomy, neuroanatomy, and physiology will show the relevance of sensory and motor activity to emotion, mental health, motivation, and learning. The student will learn to regard human behavior from a biological point of view. The course emphasizes basic concepts, current research, and psychopharmacological implications. *Prerequisites: PSY 300, BIO 100, or BIO 151; BIO 250 recommended.*

**PSY 410 Psychological and Educational Testing and Evaluation .....(3)**

Standardized and teacher prepared tests, as well as test selection, construction, administration, scoring, and interpretation. Includes a unit on statistics and the measurement of abilities, interests, achievement, and personality. *Prerequisite: PSY 110.*

**PSY 440 Psychology of Personality.....(3)**

We shall explore how theories of personality evolved over the course of the last century by delving deeply into the personalities of the theorists. The philosophical and cultural assumptions implicit in both theorist and theory will be explicated as a function of creative illness responding to the Zeitgeist. *Prerequisite: 15 hours of Psychology or Social Work.*

**PSY 452 Interdisciplinary Commons in Law, Justice, and Society.....(3)**

This capstone course will examine the interdisciplinary connections between psychology, sociology, law, criminal justice, and public policy. We will draw on the knowledge of experts and practitioners in representative fields to construct a common ethical and philosophical basis from which to view contemporary problems in a legal, social and psychological sense. *Prerequisite: Senior standing or permission of Instructor. Cross-listed as SOC 452 and CJ 452.*

**PSY 455 History and Systems of Psychology.....(3)**

Delineates the philosophical, cultural, and historical factors contributing to particular theories and systems in the field of psychology. Attempts to discern which factors are responsible for the modern perspectives. Will the earth still be flat when these paradigms shift? *Prerequisites: Senior standing and 15 hours in Psychology.*

**PSY 487 Advanced Cognitive Behaviorism .....(3)**

This course explores observable and measurable behavior as they are combined in clinical settings with cognitive processes. The course will introduce specific response technologies for rehabilitation of special populations. Using modern S-R psychology, cognitive models, and computer programs, as well as diagnosis planning and intervention, there will be applications in health care, mental health, family, and school. *Prerequisites: Junior status and 15 hrs. in Psychology/Social Work; or consent of the Instructor.*

**PSY 495 Seminar in Psychology .....(3)**

Small group study of contemporary and classic topics in the field of psychology such as dreams, drugs, consciousness, aggression, advanced experimental, myths, personal adjustment, chaos theory, synchronicity, and counseling. May be repeated for a second three semester hours (on a different subject). *Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor and fifteen hours of Psychology.*

**PSY 499 Directed Individual Study in Psychology ..... (1-3)**

Independent investigation in selected fields of psychology. Reports and conferences based on these studies. Open to students who are majoring in psychology and have completed at least fifteen hours in the field. *Prerequisites: Senior standing and consent of the Instructor, the Division Chair, and the Dean of the College.*