Department of Psychology

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Assistant Professors
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Lecturer
K. DuVall

Mission Statement
The mission of the Department of Psychology is to educate students in, and contribute to, the science of psychology.

Goals
The vision of the Department of Psychology is to sustain and advance a nationally recognized department focused on promoting scientific proficiency within the interdisciplinary field of psychology. To that end, the curriculum is designed to provide students with a strong foundation in psychological science that reflects multiple perspectives within the discipline. The hallmarks of our program are learning opportunities that promote the skills necessary to conduct and evaluate research and to interpret findings. The department trains our students to be responsive to emerging trends and apply their knowledge of psychological science as responsible global citizens.

The Department of Psychology is a dynamic contributor to the General Education program and the university community through the delivery of high quality courses and other educational experiences emphasizing psychological science. Our faculty strive to create and implement creative and effective pedagogy, embracing the dual role of teacher/scholar. The department will foster a collegial and collaborative environment within which divergent opinions as well as cultural diversity are respected, valued and promoted.

Co-curricular Activities and Organizations
- Psychology Club. This club is open to all students with an interest in psychology.
- ABPsi. The JMU student circle of the Association of Black Psychologists is open to all students interested in promoting the field of psychology among all people.
- Psi Chi. The local chapter of the national honor society in psychology is open to students with a strong interest in psychology and an exceptional academic record.
- Peer Advising. These students serve as peer-consultants to psychology majors and minors. Students are trained during their junior year and serve as advisers during their senior year.
- Psychologists for Sustainability. This organization promotes education, awareness and action regarding environmental issues and sustainability within the psychology majors and throughout the JMU community.

Special Admission Requirements
Students interested in completing the intermediate and advanced courses required for the psychology major must meet the department’s progression standards and be fully admitted to the major.

Before applying to become a psychology major, students must complete GPSYC 101 (General Psychology) and MATH 220 [Statistics] or MATH 205, MATH 231 or MATH 235 [Calculus]. MATH 220 is recommended. Overall GPA is an important factor in acceptance decisions. Procedures for becoming a major are available on the department Web site.

Retention
All psychology courses taken must carry a grade of “C-” or better to apply to the major. A psychology course completed with a grade of “D” may be credited toward graduation requirements but may not be included in courses credited toward the psychology major.

Prerequisites
Psychology majors must complete GPSYC 101 and two statistics and research methodology courses (PSYC 210-211 or PSYC 212-213) before enrolling in courses numbered 330 and above. The prerequisite for PSYC 210 and PSYC 212 is any mathematics course numbered 205 or above. Most psychology courses numbered 330 and above have specific prerequisites. See course listings for details. Non-psychology students may enroll in the 300- and 400-level courses only if they have fulfilled course prerequisites.
Registration and Assessment
During registration, psychology majors will be given priority for course selection. Graduating majors must participate in assessment activities. Assessment information helps the faculty modify the psychology curriculum to meet student needs.

Degree and Major Requirements
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Degree Requirements

Required Courses | Credit Hours
--- | ---
General Education1 | 41
Foreign Language classes (intermediate level required) | 0-14
Philosophy course(s) (in addition to General Education courses) | 3
Major requirements (listed below) | 44
Electives | 18-32

**Total:** 120

Major Requirements 2

The courses listed below are required of all students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree, or any other bachelor's degree program except Bachelor of Science, regardless of whether psychology is their first or second major.

**Credit Hours**

**General Education1** | 41

Methodology Core1 (choose one of the following sequences): | 8
- PSYC 212. Psychological Research Design and Data Analysis I and PSYC 213. Psychological Research Design and Data Analysis II

SS Content Core – Psychology as a Social Science | 9
(choose at least three of the following):
- PSYC 330. Psychology of Personality
- PSYC 335. Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 345. Social Psychology
- PSYC 365. Developmental Psychology

NS Content Core – Psychology as a Natural Science | 9
(choose at least three of the following):
- PSYC 375. Sensation and Perception
- PSYC 380. Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 385. Biopsychology
- PSYC 390. Psychology of Learning
- PSYC 395. Comparative Animal Behavior

Upper Level Specialty Content Courses | 3
(choose at least one of the following):
- PSYC 400. Advanced Topics
- PSYC 410. Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- PSYC 412. Psychology of Motivation
- PSYC 420. Advanced Psychological Statistics
- PSYC 425. School Psychology
- PSYC 427. Tests & Measurement
- PSYC 428. Educational Psychology
- PSYC 430. Clinical Psychology
- PSYC 435. Community Psychology
- PSYC 440. Counseling Psychology
- PSYC 450. Child Abuse and Neglect
- PSYC 452. Child Psychopathology
- PSYC 460. Community Psychology within Developing Societies5
- PSYC 465. Black/African Psychology6
- PSYC 475. Psychology of Adulthood
- PSYC 480. Applied Behavior Analysis
- Psychology electives (at least three hours of these electives must be at the 400 level) | 9
Capstone course: (choose one of the following):
- PSYC 492. History of Psychology
- PSYC 493. Laboratory in Psychology
- PSYC 495. Field Placement in Psychology
- PSYC 497. Senior Seminar in Psychology
- PSYC 499. Honors Thesis4

1 The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.
2 All psychology majors are required to complete at least one course that satisfies our sociocultural awareness requirement. Courses that meet this requirement appear in various sectors of the curriculum and can be used to meet other major requirements.
3 Some sections of this course MAY meet the sociocultural awareness requirement depending on the content; when this course does meet the requirement it will be listed in the notes section of the course listing in e-campus.
4 Course meets sociocultural awareness requirement.

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Degree Requirements

Required Courses | Credit Hours
--- | ---
General Education1 | 41
Major requirements (listed below) | 44
Cognate requirements2 | 9-11
Electives | 18-32

**Total:** 120

Major Requirements 3

The courses and cognate described below are required of all students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree, regardless of whether psychology is their first or second major.

**Credit Hours**

**General Education1** | 41

Methodology Core4 (choose one of the following sequences): | 8
- PSYC 212. Psychological Research Design and Data Analysis I and PSYC 213. Psychological Research Design and Data Analysis II

SS Content Core – Psychology as a Social Science | 9
(choose at least three of the following):
- PSYC 330. Psychology of Personality
- PSYC 335. Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 345. Social Psychology
- PSYC 365. Developmental Psychology

NS Content Core – Psychology as a Natural Science | 6
(choose at least two of the following):
- PSYC 375. Sensation and Perception
- PSYC 380. Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 390. Psychology of Learning
- PSYC 395. Comparative Animal Behavior

Upper Level Specialty Content Courses | 3
(choose at least one of the following):
- PSYC 400. Advanced Topics
- PSYC 410. Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- PSYC 412. Psychology of Motivation
- PSYC 420. Advanced Psychological Statistics
- PSYC 425. School Psychology
- PSYC 427. Tests & Measurement
- PSYC 428. Educational Psychology
- PSYC 430. Clinical Psychology

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PSYC 435. Community Psychology
PSYC 440. Counseling Psychology
PSYC 450. Child Abuse and Neglect
PSYC 452. Child Psychopathology
PSYC 460. Community Psychology within Developing Societies
PSYC 465. Black/African Psychology
PSYC 475. Psychology of Adulthood
PSYC 480. Applied Behavior Analysis

Psychology electives (at least three hours of these electives must be at the 400 level)

Capstone course (choose one of the following):
PSYC 492. History of Psychology
PSYC 493. Laboratory in Psychology
PSYC 495. Field Placement in Psychology
PSYC 497. Senior Seminar in Psychology
PSYC 499. Honors Thesis

Cognate Requirements
Quantitative Competency (in addition to General Education; can count toward B.S. degree, second major and/or minor requirements)
Any MATH course numbered 205 or above

Scientific Literacy (choose at least two of the following; in addition to General Education; can count toward B.S. degree, second major and/or minor requirements)
ANTH or GANTH – any course number
BIO or GBIO – any course number
CHEM – any course number
CS 139, 239, 240, 345 or 350
ECON or GECON – any course number
GSCI 101 or GSCI 121
POSC or GPOSC – any course number
SOCI or GSOCI – any course number

Recommended Schedule for Majors

The following program sample is intended as a guide. Courses must be taken in the sequence outlined; however, the semester during which a particular course is taken depends on a number of factors, including readiness to take MATH 220, the semester the psychology major is started and other majors or minors the student is completing.

Students are encouraged to meet regularly with their psychology academic adviser to plan their personal course schedule. Because of course sequencing requirements, even with the most compressed program, a minimum of five semesters (or four semesters and summer school) is required to complete the psychology major.

First Year
First Semester
MATH 220. Elementary Statistics
PSYC 101. General Psychology
General Education courses

Second Semester
General Education, B.A./B.S. degree requirement, B.S. Psychology Cognate, and/or minor program courses

Second Year
First Semester
PSYC 210. Psychological Measurement and Statistics or PSYC 212. Psychological Research Design and Data Analysis
General Education, B.A./B.S. degree requirement, B.S. Psychology Cognate, minor program, and/or psychology elective courses

The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.

With the assistance of their faculty advisers, students majoring in psychology select their area courses and psychology electives to meet their own individual needs and goals. Within the structure of the program, students may choose the courses of greatest interest to them.

Behavior Analysis Concentration

Dr. Sherry Serdikoff, Concentration Coordinator

This concentration prepares students for employment with agencies that provide behavior analytic services and/or for pursuing a graduate degree in behavior analysis. This course sequence includes the course work requirements necessary to sit for the Board Certified Associate Behavior Analysis (BCABA) national certification examination.

Required Courses
PSYC 180. Introduction to Behavior Analysis
PSYC 390. Psychology of Learning
PSYC 480. Applied Behavior Analysis
Choose one of the following:
PSYC 402. Independent Study: Practicum – Behavior Analysis
PSYC 402. Independent Study: Research – Behavior Analysis
PSYC 402. Independent Study: Readings – Behavior Analysis
PSYC 402. Independent Study: Teaching – Behavior Analysis
Choose one of the following:
PSYC 493. Laboratory in Psychology
PSYC 497. Senior Seminar in Psychology
PSYC 499. Honors Thesis

1 Cannot be taken by students who have completed PSYC 390 or PSYC 480.
2 Only certain sections will qualify; consult with the concentration coordinator before enrolling.
3 This course will count toward the experience requirements for the Board Certified Associate Behavior Analysis (BCABA) national certification examination.
Second Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 211. Psychological Research Methods</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>or PSYC 213. Psychological Research Design and Data Analysis II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education, B.A./B.S. degree requirement,</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.S. Psychology Cognate, minor program, and/or</td>
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<tr>
<td>psychology elective courses</td>
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Third Year

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<th>Course</th>
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<td>SS content core courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>NS content core courses</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor program courses or electives</td>
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Fourth Year

<table>
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<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td>Psychology Upper level Specialty Content Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology 400 level elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology capstone course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology, minor program or elective courses</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 A preliminary math course may be suggested after placement examinations. If suggested, the preliminary course should be taken first semester and MATH 220 second semester. Other 200-level mathematics courses may be substituted for MATH 220. Any MATH course numbered 205 or above is an acceptable prerequisite for the psychology major.

2 Any MATH course numbered 205 or above is a prerequisite for PSYC 210 and PSYC 212. MATH 220 is recommended.

3 PSYC 210 is a prerequisite for PSYC 211.

4 PSYC 212 is a prerequisite for PSYC 213.

Recommended Courses

The following courses are recommended for all psychology majors especially those who plan to pursue advanced study at the graduate level after earning their bachelor's degrees.

- Participate in experiential learning, such as:
  - PSYC 290. Directed Studies in Psychology
  - PSYC 402. Independent Study in Psychology
  - PSYC 435. Field Placement in Psychology

- Taking an advanced statistics courses is highly recommended. Consider the following:
  - MATH 321. Analysis of Variance and Experimental Design
  - MATH 322. Applied Linear Regression
  - MATH 324. Applied Nonparametric Statistics
  - MATH 325. Survey of Sampling Methods
  - MATH 327. Categorical Data Analysis

- A minor or a selection of courses from other departments that complements the psychology major for the professional field you are pursuing might be very helpful. Discuss your professional goals with your faculty adviser and ask for recommendations. Consider taking courses that emphasize writing skills, quantitative skills, critical thinking and analysis, and/or oral communication.

Students should discuss their career aspirations with their academic advisor throughout their academic program. Students interested in applying to graduate school should discuss the necessary preparation with their adviser early in their academic program. Students are encouraged to visit the department's Peer Advising Office in Johnston Hall where materials are available about career and graduate school opportunities.

Other Psychology Programs

Accelerated Graduate Experiences

With special permission, seniors with outstanding academic records may take up to 9 credit hours of graduate courses. These courses cannot count towards their undergraduate degree. Successful completion of graduate courses does not guarantee admission to any graduate program; however, completion of graduate courses can be excellent preparation for future graduate school experiences.

Graduate Programs

The Department of Graduate Psychology at James Madison University offers the following graduate degree programs:

Master of Arts
- Counseling Psychology, Psychological Sciences, School Psychology

Master of Education
- School Counseling, College Student Personnel Administration

Educational Specialist
- Counseling Psychology, School Psychology

Doctor of Philosophy
- Assessment and Measurement

Doctor of Psychology
- Combined/Integrated Program in Clinical and School Psychology

Inquiries concerning any of these graduate programs should be directed to the respective program director.

Counseling Psychology
- Psychological Sciences
- School Psychology

Combined Integrated Program in Clinical and School Psychology
- Admissions Secretary
- Phone: (540) 568-6439

Doctoral Program in Assessment and Measurement
- Dr. Christine Harmes
- Phone: (540) 568-7132
- E-mail: harmesjc@jmu.edu

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