

# Academic Offerings

This section contains descriptions of programs, majors, minors, areas of concentration, fields of specialization, and courses. Semesters following course titles indicate when each course is normally offered. On rare occasions, a course may not be available when indicated because of low enrollment or unexpected staffing changes.

Courses listed as Fall Odd and Spring Even are scheduled to be offered during the 2011-2012 academic year. i.e., fall 2011-2012 is Fall Odd, spring 2011-2012 is Spring Even.

## Psychology

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**General Major—** Foundation (common to both emphases): Psychology 201, 202, 230, 366, 384; Mathematics 131.

Students must select one of the following emphases:

**General:** Foundation; six psychology electives (17 or more credits), at least two of which must be at the 300-level.

**Clinical:** Foundation; Psychology 224, 370, 371, 376, 378; one 3- or 4-credit psychology elective.

The department encourages students to either plan an off-campus semester or double major in another program (e.g., Spanish, Business, Communication, Criminal Justice, Youth Ministry).

**General Minor—** Psychology 201, 202, 204, 224; three psychology electives (9 or more credits).

For descriptions of the *ELEMENTARY* fields of specialization, see pages 111-134, *Teacher Education Program*.

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- 201 Introduction to Psychology (3)** ..... Fall, Spring  
This course introduces major subfields within psychology including consciousness, memory, development, social influences, personality, mood disorders, therapy, schizophrenia, and homosexuality. As the study of individual humans, psychology reveals a great deal about the grace and sin at work in our thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and relationships. Consideration is given to various philosophical presuppositions underlying contemporary psychology, and an attempt is made to understand various problems in terms of a biblical view of humans.
- 202 Psychological Studies (3)** ..... Spring  
This course is designed to deepen students' appreciation for the field of psychology as a means to learn about human beings, to develop students' self-insight and professional skills, and to strengthen their desire for service in God's Kingdom. Major topics include career preparation and planning, clinical interviews and testing, psychology research, and service learning. Pre- or corequisite: Psychology 201.
- 204 Lifespan Development (3)** ..... Fall, Spring  
This course studies the growth and maturation of persons throughout the entire lifespan, including examination of physical, cognitive, personality, social changes, faith development, and other developmental tasks. This course will also focus on evaluating the theoretical issues and descriptive information portraying the growth of an individual from conception through late adulthood. Students will develop a Biblically-informed vision of who we are as image-bearers of God and what it means to be humans living in God's creation. [Cross-listed: CORE 251]

- 210 **The Social Psychology of Persons (3)** ..... Fall, Spring  
 We influence and are influenced by culture, social structures, groups, personality, family, and the media, just to name a few. Studying the situational and personal/interpretive factors that influence an individual's social behavior can reveal new insights about the grace and sin at work in our relationships and social situations. Utilizing a biblical perspective on the social psychology of persons, this class will explore how we can function as faithful Christians within all of these situations. [Cross-listed: CORE 252, Sociology 210]
- 218 **Biopsychology (3)** ..... Fall  
 This course is an introduction to the physiological/biological processes in human psychology. Primary emphasis will be on relating brain and nervous system functioning with basic psychological processes, such as motivation, emotion, sleeping, learning, memory, and abnormal behavior. In addition, several topical areas will be addressed, including alcohol dependence, drug addiction, homosexuality, physiology of sexual differences, and a Christian perspective on the mind-body-soul dilemma. Prerequisite: Psychology 201 or Biology 201.
- 224 **Psychopathology (3)** ..... Fall, Spring  
 This course examines the development and symptoms of emotional and behavioral problems. Topics covered include the clinical assessment of affective disorders, schizophrenia, personality disorders, psychosomatic disorders, anxiety disorders, and the process of adjustment to stress. Attention will be given to personality, social, and religious factors, and their role in mental health. Prerequisite: Psychology 201 or 204 or 210.
- 230 **Research Methods (3)** ..... Spring  
 This course introduces students to the research process, including formulation of hypotheses, design, interpretation, and communication of results. The course will include a review of statistical procedures with an emphasis on selection and interpretation of analyses and an introduction to computer data analysis with SPSS. Methods of research are discussed from a reformed, Christian perspective. Students complete research proposals. Pre- or corequisites: Psychology 202; Mathematics 131.
- 260 **Ethics (1)** ..... Spring  
 This seminar course considers the American Psychological Association's published "Ethical Principles of Psychology" and the practical application of those standards in real-life situations. Students also wrestle with how those standards fit with Christian ethics and the complexities of practice in a diverse social context. Prerequisites: Psychology 201, 202.
- 281- **Service-Learning (1-3)** ..... Fall, Spring, Summer  
 283 See page 161, Individual Studies
- 341- **Special Topics (3)** ..... Occasional  
 348 Each of these courses is designed to be a special interest course utilizing individual instructor strengths and interests. Each topic will be concerned with material not usually treated to any great extent in regularly scheduled courses.
- 362 **Cognitive Psychology (4)** ..... Spring Even  
 A survey of contemporary research and theory on human cognition and higher mental functioning approached from an information-processing perspective. Topics include attention, concept formation, perception, language, mental representation, and problem solving. Students will be challenged to critique both theory and research methods from a reformed, Christian perspective. Two lectures and a two-hour lab each week. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing.
- 364 **Learning: Theory and Application (4)** ..... Spring Odd  
 The study of the basic processes of conditioning and learning and the major theories, research, and applications associated with learning issues. The main areas to be examined include both human and animal models of learning. Activities, discussions, and lab work will be directed to the application of these concepts to behavioral research with animals, as well as clinical, educational, and other applied settings for humans. Students will be challenged to critique both theory and application from a reformed, Christian perspective. Two lectures and a two-hour lab each

week. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing.

- 366 **Senior Research Project (4)** ..... Fall  
This highly interactive course develops students' collaborative, cognitive, and communication skills as they design, conduct, and present psychological research as a service to campus or community groups. We also consider tensions that face Christian psychologists as they conduct research and enter the profession of psychology. Our weekly labs involve opportunities to practice new learning in a just-in-time approach that prepares students for the next step in their own research.. Satisfies core program writing-intensive requirement. Prerequisite: Psychology 230.
- 370 **Helping Skills (3)** ..... Spring  
Class focus is on developing the foundational interpersonal and helping skills required for psychology students interested in human service practice. Topics include active listening, attending, problem-solving, challenging, brainstorming, and group counseling skills. The course is organized around an experiential learning model and students are given feedback on their helping skills. Prerequisites: Psychology 224; junior or senior psychology major or minor.
- 371- **Field Experience in Psychology (3)** ..... Fall, Spring  
372 The field experience is designed to provide a sample of the type of activities in which psychologists and other human service professionals are engaged; it is not intended to develop competence to the level of a beginning practitioner. Requirements include the completion of eight hours on site per week plus one hour of consultation with psychology department supervisor. Deadline for application for the spring semester is November 1; deadline for the fall (and summer) semester is April 1. Prerequisites: Psychology 224; junior or senior standing; approval of department. Psychology 370 strongly recommended
- 374 **Counseling Theories (3)** ..... Fall Odd  
This introductory course in counseling theory emphasizes the dynamics of the counseling process and characteristics of the counseling relationship in the light of biblical directives concerning human nature, purpose, responsibility, and conduct. Prerequisites: Psychology 224; junior or senior standing.
- 376 **Personality Theories (3)** ..... Fall Even  
A comparative analysis of the major theoretical perspectives on personality in the field of psychology, including psychoanalytic, trait, learning, cognitive, humanistic, and existential views. Significant topic areas include disorders of personality, the principles and methods used to assess personality, and a reformed anthropological model of personality. Prerequisites: Psychology 224; junior or senior standing.
- 378 **Psychometrics (2)** ..... Spring  
Course covers basic psychometric theories, principles of test construction, and a survey of common personality, achievement, and intelligence tests. Not open to non-majors. Prerequisites: Psychology 202, 224.
- 382 **Health Psychology (3)** ..... Spring Even  
Survey course examines the contributions of psychology to the understanding, prevention, and treatment of a variety of health concerns. Topics include stress, pain management, cancer, eating disorders, exercise, and health promotion. Prerequisites: Psychology 218 or 224; junior or senior standing; or by permission of instructor.
- 384 **History of Psychology and Worldview (3)** ..... Fall  
A brief study of the historical development of psychological theories from the ancient world to the present, with extended treatment given to major contemporary movements or perspectives in psychology (such as psychoanalysis, behaviorism, and humanism) and to recent attempts by Christians to "integrate" theology and psychology. Prerequisites: CORE 200; Psychology 201; senior standing. [Cross-listed: CORE 324]
- 391- **Individual Studies (1-3)** ..... Fall, Spring, Summer  
393 See page 161, Individual Studies