

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND MEASURES

The goals and directives for the psychology major are taken directly from the work of the Task Force on Undergraduate Psychology Major competencies appointed by the American Psychological Association's Board of Educational Affairs, March 2002.

Goal	Objective	Courses in which these goals/objectives are addressed	Methods of Assessment
Acquire a knowledge base in the field of psychology	<p>Student will be required to do the following:</p> <p>Explain why psychology is a science.</p> <p>Identify and explain the primary objectives of psychology</p> <p>Describe at least four major theoretical perspectives including the following: identify their proponents; compare and contrast the major perspectives; and describe advantages and limitations of each.</p>	Introduction, Learning, Cognitive, Physiological, Comparative, Sensation & Perception, Personality, Social, Family, Child, Adult Development & Aging, Educational, Psychometrics, Behavior Modification, Industrial/Organizational, Interpersonal Relations & Communications, Theories of Counseling, Abnormal, Health	Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers
Learn research methods in psychology	<p>Student will be required to do the following:</p> <p>Explain different research methods used by psychologists.</p> <p>Articulate strengths and limitations of various research designs.</p> <p>Conduct a literature review of relevant research implement at study.</p> <p>Perform the appropriate statistical</p>	Introduction, Research Methods, Statistics, Psychometrics, Independent Study (research)	Quality of APA Format Research Paper, Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations

	<p>analysis, including the following: collection, analysis, interpretation and reporting data using appropriate statistical strategies. Address different types of research questions and hypotheses and generalize research conclusions appropriately.</p>		
<p>Acquire critical thinking skills in psychology</p>	<p>Student will use critical thinking effectively by doing the following: Evaluating the quality of information, by identifying and evaluating the source, context and credibility of information; Intentionally pursuing unusual approaches to problems; Identifying components of arguments (e.g. conclusions, premises/assumptions, counter arguments); Distinguishing among assumptions, emotional appeals, speculations and defensible evidence; Weighing support for conclusions; Identifying weak, contradictory and inappropriate assertions, Developing sound arguments based on reasoning and evidence.</p>	<p>This is done in all psychology classes. It is explicitly addressed in Research Methods, Statistics, Psychometrics, Independent Study (research), Practicum, Senior Seminar</p>	<p>Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers</p>

<p>Apply psychological principles to themselves and the world around them</p>	<p>Student will be required to: Describe major applied areas of psychology, identify appropriate applications of psychology in solving assigned problems. (e.g. origin and treatment of abnormal behavior); Apply psychological concepts, theories and research findings as these relate to everyday life.</p>	<p>This is done in all psychology classes. It is explicitly addressed in Introduction, Industrial/Organizational, Personality, Child, Adolescent, Self-Control & Stress Management, Career Planning & Development, Educational, Psychology of Women, Abnormal, Social, Health, Sexuality, Behavior Modification, Interpersonal Relations & Communication, Theories of Counseling, Counseling Theory & Practice, Practicum, Senior Seminar, Family, Adult Development & Aging, Cross Cultural, Advanced Development, and many Special Topics classes</p>	<p>Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers</p>
<p>Develop values in psychology</p>	<p>Student will be asked to do the following: Provide a rationale for the necessity for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology; Evaluate scientific evidence for assigned psychological claims; Describe situations in which ambiguity is inevitable, and therefore to be tolerated; Describe the reasons that respect for human diversity is desirable; Demonstrate an understanding that psychological explanation may vary across populations and contexts.</p>	<p>This is done in most psychology classes. It is explicitly addressed in Introduction, Research Methods, Statistics, History & Systems, Theories of Counseling, Counseling Theory & Practice, Practicum</p>	<p>Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers</p>
<p>Gain information &</p>	<p>Student will: Formulate a researchable topic that can be</p>	<p>Research Methods, Statistics, Independent Study (research), Senior Seminar</p>	<p>Exams, Quizzes, Papers and/or</p>

technology literacy	supported by database search strategies; Read and accurately summarize the general scientific literature of psychology; Use appropriate software to produce understandable reports of the psychological literature; Demonstrate computer skills such as basic word processing, data base, email, spreadsheet and data analysis programs.		Homework Assignments Requiring use of Statistical Software (e.g. spss, excel), PsychInfo, or Computer Programs such as PowerPoint.
Develop effective communication skills.	Student will demonstrate effective writing and oral communication skills in various formats, such as: essays, technical papers, group discussion, and debate), use APA style effectively in empirically-based reports, literature reviews and theoretical papers, demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills (e.g. Listen accurately and actively, articulate ideas thoughtfully, attend to nonverbal behavior.	This is done in all psychology classes as all classes require some form of written work, class discussions, and/or oral presentations.	Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers
Develop sociocultural and international	Student will interact effectively and sensitively with people from diverse backgrounds and cultural perspectives.	This is done in most psychology classes. It is explicitly addressed in Child, Adolescent, Psychology of Women, Social, Practicum, Senior Seminar, Family, Women and Mental Health, Cross Cultural Psychology, Advanced	Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal

awareness	<p>Students will explain how individual differences influence beliefs, values, and interactions with others.</p> <p>examine how sociocultural and Students will describe ways in which international contents influence individual differences.</p>	Development, Experimental Social Psychology, and many Special Topics Classes (e.g. Religion, From Disorder to Orientation).	Analysis Papers
Foster personal development	<p>Student will describe the meaning of selected personal experiences;</p> <p>They will identify and defend personal or professional values;</p> <p>They will write papers/essays demonstrating insightful awareness of their feelings, emotions, motives and attitudes.</p> <p>They will describe ways in which they can apply psychological principles to promote their own personal development.</p>	This is done in most psychology classes. It is explicitly addressed in Adolescent, Self-Control & Stress Management, Career Planning & Development, Health, Behavior Modification, Interpersonal Relations and Communications	Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers
Career Planning and Development	<p>Student will apply knowledge of psychology to formulating career choices by doing the following:</p> <p>Describing preferred career paths;</p> <p>Collecting relevant job-related materials;</p> <p>Identifying and develop skills and experiences (such as resume writing, training and education programs, interviewing skills) relevant to achieving related</p>	Career Planning and Development, Practicum, Senior Seminar, Independent Study	Exams, Quizzes, Oral Presentations, Research Based Papers, Personal Analysis Papers

	career goals.		
--	---------------	--	--