

PSYCHOLOGY - Course Descriptions

PSY 100 Principles of Psychology (3) (GE) Students will explore basic psychological concepts, methods, and findings leading to an understanding of human behavior.

PSY 101 Interactive Psychology (3) (GE) This course is an exploration of significant lifestyle choices. Individual activities, group discussion, and a self-directed behavior change project facilitate self-awareness and personal growth. This course is designed for the non-psychology major.

PSY 205 Human Development (3) This course is an overview of human development from conception through death. This course provides an introduction to the study of lifespan development focusing on physical, cognitive, and social development. Prerequisite: PSY 100.

PSY 208 Child Psychology (3) This course is an introduction to factors influencing children's social and emotional, motor, cognitive, and language development from conception to late childhood. Prerequisite: PSY 100.

PSY 220 Health Psychology (3) This course is an investigation and discussion of the psychological influences on how people stay healthy, become ill, and adapt physically, behaviorally, and cognitively when they become ill. Attention is given to the effect of the mind-body relationship and various socio-psychological variables on both physical and psychological health. Topics will include exercise, stress, weight control, pain management, meditation, coping styles, psycho-immunology, and behavioral habits. Prerequisites: PSY 100.

PSY 231 Critical and Creative Thinking (3) This course is an intensive experience designed to develop an understanding of the processes of problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking. Students will be directly involved in activities through which they can explore and expand their own creativity in solving everyday problems encountered in management, decision-making, working, and living. Prerequisite: PSY 100.

PSY 235 Psychology of Grief (3) This course provides the student with the opportunity to examine the issues of death and bereavement in the context of one's later life. Many people have participated in the systematic avoidance of death and paid the price in anxiety and burdensome defenses. In this course, consideration is given to dramatic and violent forms of death, the kind that go by such names as homicide, suicide, genocide, terrorism, accident, and disaster. However, students will not be allowed by these events to be lulled into believing that death mostly happens to other people, in other places, when something has gone very wrong. Prerequisite PSY 100.

PSY 290 Special Topics in Psychology (3) This course is a focused study of particular topics in the field of Psychology and may be repeated for credit as topics vary. Prerequisites will vary by topic.

PSY 303 Abnormal Psychology (3) This course is a survey of major classes of mental disorders. Emphasis is given to understanding symptoms, the complex interaction of factors related to mental disorders, and controversies in the field. Prerequisite: PSY 100.

PSY 304 Basic Research Methods (3) This is a first course in the logic and methods of behavioral research. Students will complete group research projects that are designed to reinforce pivotal concepts. Prerequisites: PSY 100, C or higher in MTH 141, and one Psychology above 100-level. Must be taken concurrently with PSY 306.

PSY 305 / REL 305 The Psychology of Religion (3) (GE) This course is an overview of the field of psychological study of religion and its impact on the individual and will provide an overview of psychological research in the areas of faith development, conversion experiences, religion/personality/

mental health, and religious development from early childhood through old age. Prerequisites: one introductory religion course and one introductory psychology course.

PSY 306 Behavioral Science Statistics (3) The course places emphasis on the application of descriptive and inferential statistics in behavioral science research. Prerequisites: PSY 100, C or higher in MTH 141, and one Psychology above 100-level. Must be taken concurrently with PSY 304.

PSY 309 Personality (3) Core concepts in the field of personality are studied, with an emphasis on how these concepts are integrated into personality theories and how they are evaluated scientifically. Students will apply these concepts in independent projects. Prerequisite: PSY 303.

PSY 311 Behavior Modification (3) This course is an introduction to environmental influences on human behavior with an emphasis on behavior modification procedures and behavior management. Prerequisites: PSY 330.

PSY 312 Psychology of Aging (3) This course is a study of psychological development in later adulthood. Internal and external influences on aging individuals and dynamics of continuity and change are explored. Mental health issues related to emotional, cognitive, and social functioning are addressed. Prerequisite: PSY 100 and PSY 205 or SW 280.

PSY 313 Psychology of Adolescence (3) This course is a cultural approach to the study of physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development during the period of adolescence. Historical context and research studies are given special attention in studying the development of a sense of personal identity, changing roles in the family, school, and community, and problems of adjustment, delinquency, and drug abuse. Prerequisite: PSY 100 & PSY 205 or SW 280.

PSY 324 Psychological Testing (3) This course is a study of theory of mental measurement and the principles of reliability, validity, and standardization as they are applied to the construction, interpretation, and use of education and psychological tests. Tests of achievement, aptitude, intelligence, interest, and personality will be studied as illustrations of the problems of measurement and the variety of solutions to those problems. Ethics of test use will be given special consideration. Prerequisites: PSY 303 & MTH 141.

PSY325 Behavioral Neuroscience (3) This course examines the human nervous system focusing on the central nervous system, the development and function of nerve cells, and the relation between the brain and behavior. Topics include motivation, learning, sensation and perception, movement, emotions, and brain dysfunction. Prerequisites: PSY100, BIO 107, & two additional psychology courses above the 100 level.

PSY 330 Psychology of Learning and Memory (3) This course studies how old behaviors are changed and new behaviors are acquired as a result of experience. Attention is given to theories, models, and empirical findings in the field of learning and memory. Prerequisite: C or higher in PSY 304.

PSY 331 Cognitive Psychology (3) This course examines mental processes that will include topics such as perception, attention, problem-solving, thinking and decision making. Theories and major concepts will be presented as well as some introduction to experimental methods used in cognitive research. Prerequisites: C or better in PSY 304.

PSY 332 The Psychology of Motivation and Emotion (3) This Lindenwood University Undergraduate Catalog 2008/2009 • 103 course is an analysis of the major theories of motivation, the data on which they are based, and applications of motivation concepts. Prerequisite: PSY 100 and ENG 170.

PSY 334 Social Psychology (3) This course is a study of theories of and research into the individual's interrelationships with other people and with his/her social groups. Topics include social motivation, socialization, personal perception, liking and attraction, conformity, persuasion, attitude formation and change, prejudice, and mob and crowd behavior. Prerequisite: PSY 100 and ENG 170.

PSY 341 Psychotherapy (3) This course is an introduction to the theories, principles, and techniques of various current approaches to psychotherapy. Prerequisite: PSY 309 (formerly 301).

PSY 365 Human Sexuality (3) This course is a survey of theories of and research into psychological aspects of human sexual behavior. Topics include sex differences in the development of sexuality, psychological factors in sexual behavior, sexual behavior in cross-cultural perspective, sexual behavior in special populations, aberrant sexual patterns, and current sexual trends in America. Prerequisite: PSY 100 and BIO 107 or PE 207.

PSY 390 Special Topics in Psychology (3) This course is a focused study of particular topics in the field of Psychology. This course may be repeated for credit as topics vary. Prerequisites will vary by topic.

PSY 404 Advanced Research Methods (4) This is an advanced course in the techniques of behavior observation and analysis in which students learn to design and conduct behavioral research, to analyze the data meaningfully, and to present their findings to others. This course is strongly recommended for any student planning to pursue graduate studies in social or behavioral science. Prerequisites: C or higher in both PSY 304 and PSY 306.

PSY 412: Personality Disorders (3) This course provides an in-depth look at the Personality Disorders. Topics include the various models currently used to understand this class of disorders, including cognitive, psychoanalytic, neurobiological, and interpersonal models. The primary aim is to gain an appreciation of the subtleties among the various personality disorders, and knowledge of the mechanisms which underlie such disorders, and issues related to the diagnosis and treatment of people with these conditions will also be addressed. This course is well suited for junior/senior level students moving toward careers in the counseling and psychotherapy field, the mental health field more generally, or other careers involving substantial contact with people with mental disorders. Prerequisite: C or higher in PSY 341.

PSY 420 Senior Research Project (4) Advanced students will design, conduct, and write up their own substantial research project. Students will be encouraged to participate in a regional and/or national conference to present the results of their work. Prerequisites: A grade of B or better in PSY 404 and instructor permission.

PSY 432 Senior Seminar (3) Students survey the history of psychology and analyze recent developments in various fields of psychology in historical perspective. Professional issues and ethics are covered. Prerequisites: 18 credit hours in Psychology and senior standing.

PSY 450 Psychology Practicum (1-6) Advanced students may pursue opportunities to explore applications of psychology in independently-arranged off-campus supervised practicum experiences. Practica require prior mastery of psychological concepts related to the designated situation, and thus must be approved by the instructor prior to registration. Prerequisites: Minimum GPA of 3.0 in Psychology, junior standing and instructor permission.