

School of Psychology Fall 2016 Courses

Start your exploration here!!

PSYC 1101 is our ENTRY foundational course and is a pre-requisite for all other PSYC Courses

PSYC 1101 – General Psychology (3 hrs.)

How, when, and why did people begin investigating human cognition and behavior? Get an introduction to the major problems and concepts of psychology, including topics like human development, learning and memory, perception, emotion, personality, and stress. This class is essential for anyone interested in understanding the science of the human mind.

PSYC 2015 – Research Methods (4 hrs.)

How do we design psychological experiments? This course provides a fundamental understanding of major issues in designing, analyzing, and publishing research. Students will learn about the ethical principles of research including, what is and what is not possible in human psychological research, and the different quantitative and qualitative approaches. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 2020 – Psychological Statistics (4 hrs.)

How do we analyze data from human psychological studies? An introduction to the principal statistical methods used to analyze psychological data including tests for means, variances, correlation, ANOVA, and regression. Students will learn through hands-on activities. This class is essential for anyone wanting to better understand how scientists use statistics to interpret data from human subjects. (PreReq: PSYC 2015)

PSYC 2103 – Human Development (3 hrs.)

How do children and teens learn? What explains a child's tantrums? Their giftedness? Their ability to empathize with others? Are these behaviors mostly influenced by a child's biological nature or is it due to the way they are raised by their parents? This course is essential for anyone who is curious about children and who is eager to discover what research tells us about human development. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 2210 – Social Psychology (3 hrs.)

What leads us to like some people but not others? Why do people get into conflicts? How do prejudices develop and how can we overcome them in order to better function in society? Students in this course will learn about these provocative research questions that are as relevant today as ever, especially considering the dynamics of the workplace, families, and society as a whole. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 2220 – Industrial/Organizational Psychology (3 hrs.)

How do employers select the best person for the job? How do interpersonal relationships (both good and bad) affect workplace satisfaction and productivity? How do organizations ensure that teams of people work together efficiently and with minimal conflict? This course is essential for anyone interested in the psychology of the workplace. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 2230 – Abnormal Psychology (3 hrs.)

What are the symptoms of Schizophrenia, Bipolar disorder, and personality disorders? Can people with psychological disorders function successfully in society? How do psychologists study and treat people with these kinds of disorders? This course offers students an introduction to the theories and research concerning abnormal human behavior. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 2240 – Personality Theory (3 hrs.)

Is our behavior shaped by the situation we are in or by the type of person we are? Personality psychology is the study of individual differences. It covers the major theoretical approaches to the study of human personality and encourages an evaluation of these approaches in light of empirical research. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 2270 – Engineering Psychology (3 hrs.)

What are the limits of a person's capacity to process information when we design a machine for them to use? How do we optimize human performance? Engineering psychology encompasses the design and evaluation of human-machine systems. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 3040 – Sensation & Perception for Non-Majors (3 hrs.)

In this course you will be introduced to the science of discovering how our bodies and minds interact with the environment to create sensations and perceptions of the world around us. Along the way, you will explore questions such as: How do we see color? Why are we susceptible to illusions? Why do moving objects capture our attention so well? Why are tastes and smells often associated with powerful emotions? And what about pain? This class teaches students about the structure and function of human sensory systems. (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

PSYC 4010 - Human Abilities (3 hrs.)

The course is devoted to understanding intelligence and related topics. You will learn about the development of modern intelligence and aptitude tests, issues of reliability and validity, and gender differences. We will review the nature of different abilities (e.g., verbal, numerical, spatial), how abilities develop during the lifespan, and the influences of other traits (e.g., personality, motivation) on the development of adult intellect. (PreReq: PSYC 2020)

PSYC 4011- Cognitive Psychology (4 hrs.) (for PSYC Majors Only) Formerly Psyc 3011

How do we perceive our environment, learn from experience, and make decisions? This course examines the psychological research behind these questions. It covers a selection of topics including: perception, object recognition, attention, motor control, memory, problem solving, decision making, and language. The focus is on the interaction between theory and data in mainstream cognitive psychology. Central themes for the course are the nature, structure and organization of mental representations and of human information processing. (PreReq: PSYC 2015 and PSYC 2020. Credit not allowed for both PSYC 3011/4011 and PSYC 3012. PSYC majors must take PSYC 4011, not PSYC 3012)

PSYC 4020 – Biopsychology (3 hrs.) Formerly Psyc 3020

What is the structure of the mammalian nervous system? How does the brain support cognitive functions like vision, movement, emotion, and memory in mammals including humans? How do various diseases like multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, and drug abuse change the structure and the functioning of the nervous system? This class provides students with a fundamental understanding of neurobiology. (PreReq: PSYC 1011 and BIO 1520)

PSYC 4025 – Learning & Memory (3 hrs.) This course meets the PSYC 3031 EAB Requirement

In every class I have ever taught, there are people who, when they meet someone with a certain first name, have a negative first impression of that person. How do these emotions come about? This course covers the basic principles of how we learn to have emotional responses to specific stimuli including features of people such as their name. You will also learn how the world works to shape you into certain behaviors and attempts to punish you for other behaviors. We will discuss how the processes of reward and punishment are often best exemplified in the interpersonal interactions between two people. (PreReq: PSYC 1101, PSYC 2015, and PSYC 2020).

PSYC 4100 – Behavioral Pharmacology (3 hrs.)

How do drugs like opiates, cocaine, and anti-depressants affect the brain and behavior? Why do drugs have so many side-effects? Why are some people more likely to abuse drugs than others? What are the impacts of drug use and abuse on society and culture? This course will provide students with an understanding of the psychology, chemistry, neurobiology, sociology, botany, and law associated with psychoactive drugs. (PreReq: PSYC 1101, BIO 1520, CHEM 1310).

PSYC 4260 – Psychology of Aging (3 hrs.)

This course explores our scientific knowledge about how aging affects psychological processes and mechanisms, while covering key questions about growing older and its implications for quality of life of people of different ages. It addresses questions like: What are the issues that face our society as older people become a larger proportion of the population? How does abnormal and pathological aging affect older adults' cognition, as well as their ability to function in everyday life? What are common stereotypes about being old, and how do they affect older people? (PreReq: PSYC 1101)

*To view all School of Psychology courses, please access the OSCAR Georgia Tech Registration and view the Course Catalog for a formal description of courses, their pre-requisites and credit hours (select the term and then the subject) or Schedule of Classes for specific times the course is taking place. If you have questions about prerequisite waivers, please email the course instructors directly.