Psychology

http://www.odu.edu/psychology

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Bachelor of Science—Psychology Major

A student who intends to major in psychology must attend a Major Declaration Session in the Department of Psychology. Freshmen with 0-30 Earned Hours need to meet with an advisor from the College of Sciences advising team for pre-registration advising for their first academic year. Once students have earned 30 hours with an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher and a psychology GPA of 2.0 or higher, and completed MATH 102M or MATH 103M (or a higher math), PSYC 201S, PSYC 316, and both composition courses, earning a C or better in each, they will need to attend a Major Declaration Session.

For further information about the major and advising schedules, visit/call MGB 246 (757 683-4441), refer to the bulletin board across from MGB 246, email psychadvising@odu.edu, or visit the Psychology Department advising web page at http://www.odu.edu/psychology/advising. (http://www.odu.edu/psychology/advising)

Goals for the Psychology Major

1. Students will be able to define, interpret, and apply major concepts, theories, and findings in psychology.
2. Students will be able to compute, analyze, and interpret quantitative and qualitative psychological data.
3. Students will be able to recognize, analyze, and design experimental and non-experimental research in psychology.
4. Students will be able to interpret and produce scientific writing in psychology using standard APA format.
5. Students will be able to identify, recognize, and apply principles of ethics and respect for individual, social, and cultural differences.
6. Students will be able to apply discipline information to decisions about careers in psychology and related fields.

Four-Year Plan - Psychology - BS (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/collegeofsciences/psychology/psychology-bs-fouryearplan/)

- The four-year plan is a suggested curriculum to complete this degree program in four years. It is just one of several plans that will work and is presented only as broad guidance to students. Each student is strongly encouraged to develop a customized plan in consultation with their academic advisor. Additional information can also be found in Degree Works.

Lower-Division General Education

- Written Communication * 6
- Oral Communication 3
- Mathematics ** 3
- Language and Culture 0-6
- Information Literacy and Research 3
- Human Creativity 3
- Interpreting the Past 3
- Literature 3
- Philosophy and Ethics 3
- The Nature of Science 8
- Impact of Technology 3

Human Behavior *** 3
Total Hours 41-47

* A grade of C (2.0) or better is required in all courses meeting the Written Communication requirement.
** MATH 102M/MATH 103M or higher with a grade of C (2.0) or better is required.
*** PSYC 201S and PSYC 203S may not be used to satisfy this requirement.

Departmental Requirements for the Major in Psychology

A grade of C (2.0) or better is required in all psychology courses. Students must achieve an overall grade point average of 2.0, including all psychology courses. No 200-level psychology courses outside PSYC 201S can count toward the major in psychology.

- PSYC 201S Introduction to Psychology 3
- PSYC 316 Scientific Reasoning in Psychology 3
- PSYC 317 Quantitative Methods 4
- PSYC 318W Research Methods in Psychology 4

Students must select one course from each of the following four Areas:

Area 1: Biological Bases and Cognition 3
- PSYC 410 Human Cognition
- PSYC 413 Sensation and Perception
- PSYC 424Physiological Psychology

Area 2: Personality and Social Processes 3
- PSYC 304 Social Psychology
- PSYC 408 Theories of Personality
- PSYC 420 Cross-Cultural Psychology

Area 3: Developmental Changes 3
- PSYC 322 The Psychology of Adolescence
- PSYC 351 Child Psychology
- PSYC 353 The Psychology of Adulthood and Aging

Area 4: Applied Psychology 3
- PSYC 303 Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- PSYC 306 Health Psychology
- PSYC 344 Human Factors
- PSYC 405 Psychopathology

PSYC electives (may include additional Area courses) 12
Total Hours 38

Elective Credit

General elective credit will be needed to meet the minimum requirement of 120 credit hours. No 200-level psychology courses outside of PSYC 201S (https://catalog.odu.edu/search/?P=PSYC%20201S) can count toward the major in psychology. Students with 200-level psychology courses can use these hours as general elective credit.

Upper-Division General Education

- Option A: Approved Disciplinary Minor (a minimum of 12 hours determined by the department) or second degree or second major.
- Option B: Interdisciplinary Minor (specifically 12 hours, 3 of which may be in the major)
- Option C: An approved Certification Program such as teaching licensure
- Option D: Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Sciences and not required by the major (6 hours)

Requirements for Graduation

Requirements for graduation include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major, 120 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of
upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University, completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, and completion of University and Psychology Senior Assessments.

**Psychology Assessment**

The Psychology Assessment is sent to students via email during their graduating semester approximately one month prior to graduation. Students must complete the assessment in the time frame (typically two weeks) provided in the email. Students must have applied for graduation in order to receive the assessment. The department will make all reasonable efforts to assure that students have ample opportunity to complete the assessment. However, any student who applies for graduation after the deadline set by the Office of the Registrar must email psychadvising@odu.edu to request the link to complete the assessment within an indicated time frame.

**Minor in Psychology**

PSYC 201S must be completed as a prerequisite for the minor in psychology and is not included in the calculation of the grade point average for the minor. The minor in psychology requires at least one course from each of the four Areas. Refer to the previous section on required psychology courses for a listing of the courses in each area. PSYC 201S is a prerequisite for most 300- and 400-level psychology courses. Additional prerequisite courses may also be required. A student must earn a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all psychology courses taken exclusive of 200-level courses and prerequisite courses. A minimum of six hours in the minor must be taken through courses offered by Old Dominion University. Courses in the minor may not be taken on a Pass/Fail basis.

**BS/MBA Linked Program**

Students interested in pursuing a Master of Business Administration (MBA) advanced degree can earn such a degree in conjunction with a BS in psychology. Students in the linked program must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 discrete credit hours for the graduate degree). Students should contact the department's Undergraduate Program Office MGB 246 for more details about this program and entrance requirements. Additional information can be found in the section on BS/MBA Linked Program at the beginning of the College of Sciences section of this Catalog and the Strome College of Business section in the Graduate Catalog.

**Honors Program in Psychology**

Qualified undergraduate psychology majors have the opportunity to participate in the Honors Program in Psychology (program chair: Dr. Mary Still). Students who complete the program and also meet the University's standards for graduation with honors (see description in this Catalog) may earn the designation of departmental honors on their diplomas. This program is a two- to three-course sequence that involves working on a research project under the supervision of a psychology faculty member.

Interested students should discuss their interests with a psychology faculty member who agrees to serve as the research supervisor for PSYC 497. In PSYC 497 (see prerequisites under course listing), the potential Honors student gains research experience and develops an Honors Project proposal. At the end of PSYC 497, the student submits the proposal and application for admission to the Honors Program in Psychology and, pending approval of the program chair, enrolls in PSYC 487.

In this course, the student finalizes the proposal, presents it to the Psychology Honors Program committee, secures research ethics approval, begins the thesis research, and, if the research and thesis paper are completed, may present to the Psychology Honors Program committee for approval.

Students whose projects require more than one semester to complete may enroll in PSYC 488.

Eligibility for the Honors Program in Psychology includes:

- Completion of PSYC 317 and PSYC 318W
- At least 23 hours earned in psychology
- A 3.50 GPA in the psychology major (with no grades of "Incomplete")
- A 3.25 cumulative GPA
- Completion of PSYC 497 with an Honors Project Proposal ready for submission to the Honors Program chair

Students can enroll in PSYC 487 when the submitted application and project proposal have been approved by the Honors Committee chair.

**Psychology Awards**

The Alan L. Chaikin Psychology Honors Thesis Award is given each year to a student in the Department of Psychology for the outstanding honors thesis.

The Elizabeth C. Guy Outstanding Psychology Service Award is given each year to the student selected by the faculty who has contributed significant service to the department or field of psychology. Service is primarily defined as participation in departmental, University, community, or professional organizations. However, other qualifications, such as research activity, may be considered. Eligible students must have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 and 18 credits in psychology at Old Dominion University.

The Elizabeth C. Guy Outstanding Psychology Academic Award is given each year to the graduating senior with the highest overall grade point average. To be eligible, a student will have completed a minimum of 60 hours at Old Dominion University by graduation. Further, the student will have completed a minimum of 18 psychology credits at Old Dominion University. In the case where two or more students meet the criteria and have identical GPAs, the student with the highest number of credit hours earned at Old Dominion University will receive the award.

The Michael Greenspan/ODU Psychology Study Abroad Award is given each year to a selected psychology major to study psychology at one of ODU’s partner institutions in the United Kingdom. Students interested in this opportunity should contact the ODU Office of Study Abroad.

**Advanced Placement**

The Department of Psychology offers course credit for PSYC 201S and PSYC 203S through testing procedures or a qualifying score on AP and IB subject examinations. See the equivalency charts on the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website at https://www.odu.edu/admission/undergraduate/credit. Students may also earn credit for some courses via prior learning assessment options. Interested students should visit the Undergraduate Program office MGB 246 for more information or refer to the section on Prior Learning Assessment Credit Options at the Undergraduate Level in this Catalog.

**PSYCHOLOGY Courses**

**PSYC 197. Undergraduate Research Experience in Psychology. 0 Credits.**

Student participation in a supervised, undergraduate research experience for which credit will not apply to the degree. Experience must be related to the student's major, minor or career area of interest. Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

**PSYC 201S. Introduction to Psychology. 3 Credits.**

Introduction to the scientific study of psychology, including the methods used to gather and interpret data. The student is introduced to fundamental terms, theories, and concepts dealing with the biological bases of behavior; learning; perception; cognition and intelligence; personality; psychological disorders; human development; and social processes. An emphasis is placed on application of concepts and critical thinking.

**PSYC 203S. Lifespan Development. 3 Credits.**

A broad contemporary view of the processes of development. The influences of biological and environmental factors in the development of personality and cognitive functioning are explored.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 226S</td>
<td>Honors: Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Open only to students in the Honors College. A special honors section of PSYC 201S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 227S</td>
<td>Honors: Lifespan Development</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Open only to students in the Honors College. A special honors section of PSYC 203S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 303</td>
<td>Industrial/Organizational Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>An application of psychological principles and research to human behavior in work settings. Among the topics covered are personnel selection, training, and evaluation; employee motivation and job satisfaction; and organizational leadership and theory. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 304</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The behavior of the individual as affected by other people and groups. Interpersonal attraction, attitude change, group dynamics, and the application of psychology to social problems are among the topics covered. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 306</td>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Course examines how psychological states (e.g., anxiety, stress) influence physical health. The course also examines how physical states (e.g., illness, pain, injury) influence psychological health. Topics include the impact of stress on health and proneness to illness; coping with illness, injury and trauma; and the role of health-enhancing behaviors in maintaining physical health. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher, or higher permission of the instructor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 307</td>
<td>Institutionalization of Human-Centered Computing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of human-computer interaction. Emphasis is placed on leadership knowledge needed to implement human-centered design practices into an organization's culture. Prerequisite: PSYC 201S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 308</td>
<td>Positive Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>This course examines and discusses psychological theories and research that focus on human strengths and potential. Factors that contribute to happiness and fulfilling life are emphasized. Lectures, self-assessments and experiential exercises are used to understand how to cultivate a meaningful life. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 311</td>
<td>Psychology of Criminal Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The study of crime from a psychological perspective. Topics include theories of criminal behavior, violent and non-violent crime, sexual offenses, insanity, addiction, white collar crime, and other criminal behaviors. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 316</td>
<td>Scientific Reasoning in Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>An introduction to critically thinking about psychological principles with an emphasis on quantitative and research methodology. Prerequisites: Completion of MATH 102M or higher with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 317</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>The application of inferential statistical principles to psychological research problems. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S, PSYC 316, and MATH 102M or higher, all with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 318W</td>
<td>Research Methods in Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>An examination of research principles and techniques in psychology. Experimental design and interpretation is stressed. Students learn to locate and read technical articles and to report on research projects in the style of the American Psychological Association. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisites: Completion of ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C and PSYC 316 and PSYC 317 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 321</td>
<td>Psychology of the Exceptional Child</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A study of the psychological development of the child with physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and educational disabilities. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S or PSYC 203S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 322</td>
<td>The Psychology of Adolescence</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A survey of the processes of development during adolescence. Covers topics such as the influences of biological, emotional, social, and cognitive factors on personality development and adjustment of the adolescent. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S or PSYC 203S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 324</td>
<td>Psychology of Gender</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Concepts and theories of sex and gender, including models of how gender roles are developed and maintained, will be examined. Major research findings regarding gender will be reviewed. Prerequisites: PSYC 201S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 325</td>
<td>Drugs and Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>An examination of the effects of psychoactive drugs on behavior and the factors involved in drug use. Current research literature is discussed. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 343</td>
<td>Personnel Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The application of psychological principles and research to the development and improvement of personnel subsystems in business and industry. Emphasis is placed on the assessment, selection and training of workers and manager. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 344</td>
<td>Human Factors</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>This course emphasizes the study of human behavior in organizations. Topics include leadership, motivation, group behavior, communications, power and politics, and organization change. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 351</td>
<td>Child Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The development of children within their diverse environments is examined. A focus is on the methods used to understand how children experience their world. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 203S or PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 353</td>
<td>The Psychology of Adulthood and Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The study of adults with emphasis on aging. Current theories and research as well as the characteristics, lifetyles, and activities of adulthood and aging will be discussed. Prerequisites: PSYC 201S or PSYC 203S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 363</td>
<td>Psychology of Sex</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A study of critical issues in human sexuality; gender and sexual identity, sexual arousal and erotic behavior, relationship development, and sexual dysfunction and deviation disorders. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher, or permission of the instructor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 368</td>
<td>General Internship in Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>For ODU psychology majors only. Students engage in academically relevant work-related activities in non-clinical settings. Available for pass/fail grading only. Students should work with the Instructor to identify their placement in the semester prior to enrollment. A maximum of 6 credits of PSYC 368 and/or PSYC 369 can be counted towards the major in Psychology. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 317 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher and permission of the instructor. Pre- or corequisites: PSYC 318W.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 369</td>
<td>Clinical Internship in Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>For ODU psychology majors only. Students engage in academically relevant work activities in clinical settings. Available for pass/fail grading only. Students should work with the Instructor to identify their placement in the semester prior to enrollment. Instructor approval is required prior to registration. A maximum of 6 credits of PSYC 368 and/or PSYC 369 can be counted towards the major in Psychology. Corequisite: PSYC 371. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 317 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher; at least 80 earned credits hours; at least 14 hours in Psychology at the 300/400 level; and permission of the instructor. Pre- or corequisite: PSYC 318W.</td>
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</table>
PSYC 371. Clinical Supervision in Psychology. 1 Credit.
Students doing clinical internships at designated clinical placements must also enroll in this course taught by a faculty member. This seminar addresses the special issues in the areas of safety, confidentiality, and professionalism that arise in clinical settings. Students doing general (non-clinical) internships may also enroll in the course with permission of the Instructor. A maximum of 2 credits of PSYC 371 can be counted towards the major in psychology. Corequisite: PSYC 369. Prerequisites: PSYC 317 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher and permission of the instructor. Pre- or corequisite: PSYC 318W with a grade of C or higher.

PSYC 395. Topics in Psychology. 1-3 Credits.
The department offers selected topics that may not be offered on a regular basis. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

PSYC 396. Topics in Psychology. 1-3 Credits.
The department offers selected topics that may not be offered on a regular basis. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

PSYC 400. Senior Seminar. 1 Credit.
Discussion of current research, theoretical, and professional topics in psychology. Prerequisites: senior standing and minimum GPA of 3.25.

PSYC 403. History of Psychology. 2,3 Credits.
A survey of the historical development of modern psychology. The major systems and their influences on contemporary American psychology are studied. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 405. Psychopathology. 3 Credits.
A study of psychopathology, covering various behavior disorders, their descriptions, characteristics, and causation. Methods of therapeutic technique are reviewed. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 408. Theories of Personality. 3 Credits.
A study of the structure of personality and the dimensions along which individuals differ. The contributions of major personality theorists and the implications of current research are considered. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 410. Human Cognition. 3 Credits.
An investigation of the ways in which people learn and think. Current models of human memory and cognition are considered in relation to the evidence on human thinking capabilities. The role of language in thought and knowledge acquisition is also explored. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 412. Psychological Tests. 3 Credits.
An examination of the history, theory and applications of psychological testing. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 413. Sensation and Perception. 3 Credits.
An analysis of the processes by which humans obtain information about the environment through the eyes, ears, and other sensory systems. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 414. Principles of Learning. 3 Credits.
Course focuses on basic learning principles and processes: classical conditioning, instrumental conditioning, discrimination, attention, appetitive and aversive conditioning. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 420. Cross-Cultural Psychology. 3 Credits.
A wide variety of psychological research and theory relevant to human behavior in different cultures is examined and the impact of culture on human behavior is discussed. The course examines cross-cultural research conducted by scholars around the world. In addition to factual knowledge, emphasis is placed on critical thinking and problem solving. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher and junior standing or permission of the instructor.

PSYC 424. Physiological Psychology. 3 Credits.
An investigation of the biological bases of behavior including mental illness, motivation, learning, memory and language. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.

PSYC 460. Psychology of African Americans. 3 Credits.
This course examines the issues and perspectives related to the psychological evolution of African Americans in the United States. Particular emphasis is placed on exploring the discipline of psychology from an Afrocentric focus. Prerequisites: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher or permission of the instructor.

PSYC 487. Honors Program in Psychology. 3 Credits.
For ODU psychology majors only. With psychology faculty supervision, student develops an honors thesis proposal for approval by the Psychology Honors Program committee. See section on Honors Program in Psychology in this Catalog. Prerequisites: PSYC 497; cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher and psychology GPA of 3.50 or higher; permission of the departmental Honors Program chair.

PSYC 488. Honors Program in Psychology. 3 Credits.
For ODU psychology majors only. With psychology faculty supervision, student conducts the supervised honors research and documents it in a thesis for approval by the Psychology Honors Program committee. Student also participates in a required seminar to discuss and present the research. See section on Honors Program in Psychology in this Catalog. Prerequisites: PSYC 497; cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher and psychology GPA of 3.50 or higher; permission of the departmental Honors Program chair.

PSYC 489. Readings in Psychology. 3 Credits.
The course may be taken only once. An individualized course in which the student does library research and writes a paper. Prerequisite: approval by supervisory faculty member and department.

PSYC 490. Readings in Psychology. 3 Credits.
The course may be taken only once. An individualized course in which the student does library research and writes a paper. Prerequisite: approval by supervisory faculty member and department.

PSYC 494. Entrepreneurship in Psychology. 3 Credits.
The entrepreneurship is a course designed to help students enhance their personal and professional development through innovation guided by faculty members and professionals. It offers students an opportunity to integrate disciplinary theory and knowledge through developing a nonprofit program, product, business, or other initiative. The real-world experiences that entrepreneurship provide will help students understand how academic knowledge leads to transformations, innovations, and solutions to different types of problems. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

PSYC 495. Topics in Psychology. 1-3 Credits.
The department offers selected topics that may not be offered regularly. These special topics will appear in the course listing each semester. Prerequisite: PSYC 201S or permission of the instructor.

PSYC 496. Topics. 1-3 Credits.
The department offers selected topics that may not be offered regularly. These special topics will appear in the course listing each semester. Prerequisite: Completion of PSYC 201S with a grade of C (2.0) or higher or permission of the instructor.

PSYC 497. Supervised Research. 3 Credits.
For ODU psychology majors only. Student and faculty supervisor develop and approve a contract of required research activities for the summer, such as attending research lab meetings, data collection, coding and/or analysis, library research, etc. Prerequisites: PSYC 316, GPA of 2.5, pre-approval by psychology faculty supervisor.

PSYC 498. Supervised Research. 3 Credits.
For ODU psychology majors only. Student and faculty supervisor develop and approve a contract of required research activities for the semester, such as attending research lab meetings, data collection, coding and/or analysis, library research, etc. Prerequisites: PSYC 316, GPA of 2.5, pre-approval by psychology faculty supervisor.