

# COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## Psychology

**Professors:** William B. Flynn, Jr.

**Associate Professor:** Jennie R. Brown

**Assistant Professors:** Leslie Buddington, Brandi Klein

**A Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Science degree are offered in Psychology for traditional students.**

**Three minors are offered in Psychology: Experimental Psychology, Forensic Psychology, and Psychology.**

The mission of the Franklin Pierce University Psychology program is to prepare undergraduates for a wide range of careers in which the understanding of behavior and mental processes is beneficial, or for further study in graduate and professional schools. The program adheres to a scientist/practitioner model and is compliant with American Psychological Association (APA) guidelines for undergraduate education in psychology. The program's curriculum is designed to help students achieve mastery in each of the five goal areas delineated by those APA guidelines:

- knowledge base in psychology,
- scientific inquiry and critical thinking,
- ethical and social responsibility in a diverse world,
- communication, and
- professional development.

The program provides students the opportunity to engage in research and internship experiences. Students who intend to teach Psychology (Social Studies) in high school should refer to the School of Education for information on the Secondary Teacher Certification program. See Course List and Course Descriptions.

Note: For the B.A. degree in Psychology, it is highly recommended that students take one of the following sequences: BI101 and BI102, or BI101 and AN102, or CH101 and CH102.

Note: For the B.S. degree in Psychology, students are required to take one of the following sequences: BI101 and BI102, or BI101 and AN102, or CH101 and CH102, plus an additional semester of mathematics (MT151 or higher, excluding MT260).

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## Major Requirements

**In addition to all graduation requirements, the following courses must be completed successfully to fulfill the major requirements:**

PS101 Introduction to Psychology  
 PS230 Child and Adolescent Development or  
 PS231 Adult Development and Aging  
 PS260 Statistics for Behavioral Science  
 PS261 Research Methods in Psychology (laboratory)  
 PS303 Psychology of Learning (laboratory) or  
 PS306 Cognitive Psychology (laboratory)  
 PS304 Introduction to Neuroscience (laboratory) or  
 PS308 Evolutionary Psychology (laboratory)  
 PS322 Social Psychology or  
 PS320 Theories of Personality  
 PS489 Senior Thesis in Psychology (Literature Review) or  
 PS490 & 491 Senior Thesis in Psychology (Empirical Study) or  
 PS495 Senior Internship in Psychology  
 PS494 Psychology Senior Seminar: Systems and Theories in Psychology

Nine additional elective credit hours in Psychology or other Psychology-related courses approved by the major advisor.

## Required for Graduation

Please note that the Psychology major includes a required sequence of four courses: Statistics for Behavioral Science, Research Methods, and two additional 300-level laboratory courses. Because Statistics for Behavioral Science is a prerequisite for Research Methods, and Research Methods is a prerequisite for the two additional laboratory courses, this sequence requires a minimum of three semesters to complete. Failure to organize this sequence in a timely manner will delay graduation beyond the usual four years.

### **Recommended**

PS260 Statistics for Behavioral Science by end of Fall semester, sophomore year  
PS261 Research Methods in Psychology by end of Spring semester, sophomore year  
Two laboratory courses (PS303, 304, 306, or 308) within the junior year

### **Minor Requirements— Experimental Psychology**

Students may not be Psychology majors.

### **Requirements (24 credits)**

PS101 Introduction to Psychology: 3 credits  
PS260 Statistics for Behavioral Science: 4 credits  
PS261 Research Methods in Psychology (laboratory): 4 credits  
One of the following four laboratory courses:  
PS303 Psychology of Learning  
PS304 Introduction to Neuroscience  
PS306 Cognitive Psychology  
PS308 Evolutionary Psychology

Nine additional credit hours of Psychology electives

### **Minor Requirements— Forensic Psychology**

The mission of the Forensic Psychology minor is to allow students to explore the field and their interest in pursuing graduate programs that would prepare them to be scientist-practitioners of clinical and forensic psychology. This program prepares students to understand the many ways psychology plays a part of the American Justice System including criminals, victims, juries, witnesses and judges, assessment and profiling, family and workplace law, and the effectiveness of punishment and social advocacy. Students will develop skills in analysis, writing, critical thinking, research, and communication.

### **Program objectives include:**

- Apply psychological science to understand cognitive processing errors of victims, juries, witnesses and judges, assessment and profiling, family and workplace law, and the effectiveness of punishment, and criminal behavior.
- Apply critical thinking skills to forensic issues (from psychological, anthropological, and/or sociological perspectives).
- Develop skills in behavioral research and statistical analysis, and apply those skills to forensic issues.
- Critically evaluate research involving forensic issues and behavioral science.
- Understand the ethical issues that arise in forensic contexts.

Communicate effectively in a variety of formats (written communication, oral communication, and interpersonal communication).

### **Requirements**

PS101 Introduction to Psychology or CJ101 Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 credits  
PS235 Forensic Psychology 3 credits  
PS260 Statistics for Behavioral Science or MT260 Statistics 4 credits

### **Four of the following courses (12 credits):**

PO110 Political Violence 3 credits  
PO332 Disinformation and Propaganda 3 credits  
CJ345 Criminology 3 credits  
PS270 Psychology of Terrorism 3 credits  
PS319 Case Studies in Espionage 3 credits  
PS323 Seminar on Addiction 3 credits  
PS330 Child Abuse and Neglect 3 credits  
PS345 Crisis Intervention 3 credits  
PS405 Family and Intimate Partner Violence 3 credits

### **Minor Requirements— Psychology**

Students may not be Psychology majors.

**Requirements (21 credits)**

PS101 Introduction to Psychology 3 credits

Eighteen additional credit hours of Psychology electives, including at least two courses at the 300-level or higher.

**Recommended Curriculum Guide - Psychology**

<b>First Year</b>					
<i>Fall Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>
PS101	Introduction to Psychology	3	PS230 or PS231	Child and Adolescent Development or Adult Development and Aging	3
BI101 or AN102 or _____	Biology I (laboratory) or Human Origins++ or other GLE Lab Science	4	BI102 or _____	Biology II (laboratory)++ or other General Education Lab Science	4
GLE101	First-Year Inquiry	3	_____	GLE Elective	3
GLE110	First-Year Composition	3	_____	GLE Elective	3
_____	Elective	3	_____	Elective	3
	Total	16		Total	16
<b>Second Year</b>					
<i>Fall Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>
PS__	Psychology Elective	3	PS261	Research Methods in Psychology (laboratory)	4
PS260	Statistics for Behavior Science (laboratory)	4	PS__	Psychology Elective	3
PS__	Psychology Elective	3	GLE230	Second-Year Composition	3
_____	GLE Elective	3	_____	GLE Elective	3
_____	Elective	3			
	Total	16		Total	13
<b>Third Year</b>					
<i>Fall Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>
_____	Psychology Elective	3	PS320	Theories of Personality	3
PS__	Psychology Elective	3	PS__	Psychology Elective	3

PS___	300-level Psychology Lab Elective	4	PS___	300-level Psychology Lab Elective	4
_____	GLE Elective	3	_____	GLE Elective	3
_____	Elective**	3			
	Total	16		Total	13

**Fourth Year**

<i>Fall Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>
PS489 <u>or</u> 490 <u>or</u> PS495	Senior Thesis in Psychology (Literature Review)* <u>or</u> PS490 Senior Thesis in Psychology (Empirical Study)** <u>or</u> Senior Internship in Psychology	3	PS491	PS491 Senior Thesis in Psychology (Empirical Study)*	3
PS494	Psychology Senior Seminar: Systems and Theories in Psychology	3	PS___	Psychology Elective	3
PS___	Psychology Elective	3	_____	Elective	3
PS___	Psychology Elective	3	_____	Elective	3
_____	Elective**	3	_____	Elective	3
	Total	15		Total	15
				<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>

\*PS494 must be taken concurrently or subsequent to PS489, PS490 or PS495.

\*\*One or more additional electives may be needed to fulfill general education requirements. See [General and Liberal Education \(GLE\)](#).

\*\*\*PS490 and PS491 are both required to complete the empirical thesis option.

+ Mathematics elective at the MT151 level or higher (excluding MT260) required for those students pursuing the B.S. degree in Psychology.

**Accelerated 3 Year Recommended Curriculum Guide – Psychology**

<b>First Year</b>						
<i>Fall Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>		<i>Spring Semester</i>		<i>Credits</i>
PS101	Introduction to Psychology	3		PS260	Statistics for Behavioral Sciences (counts as MT GLE)	4

BI101 or AN 102 or ____	Biology I or Human Origins or Other GLE Lab Science	4		GLE ____	Humanities GLE	3
GLE101	First-Year Inquiry	3		_____	Social Science GLE	3
GLE110	First-Year Composition	3		BI102 or GLE__	Biology II or Other GLE Lab Science	4
_____	Humanities GLE	3		_____	Elective	3
	Total	16			Total	17
<b>Winter</b>		<b>Credits</b>		<b>Summer</b>		<b>Credits</b>
_____	Elective	3		_____	Elective	3
				_____	Elective	3
	Total	3			Total	6
<b>Second Year</b>						
<b>Fall Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>		<b>Spring Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>
PS261	Research Methods in Psychology	4		PS30X	300 Level Psychology Lab	4
PS23x	Child and Adolescent Development or Adult Development and Aging	3		_____	Art & Design GLE	3
_____	Humanities GLE	3		PS322/320	Social Psychology or Theories of Personality	3
_____	Elective	3		GLE230v	Second-Year Composition	3
PS__	Psychology Elective	3		_____	Elective	3
	Total	16			Total	16
<b>Winter</b>		<b>Credits</b>		<b>Summer</b>		<b>Credits</b>
_____	Elective	3		_____	Elective	3
_____	Elective	3		_____	Elective	3
	Total	6			Total	6
<b>Final Year</b>						
<b>Fall Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>		<b>Spring Semester</b>		<b>Credits</b>

PS30X	300 Level Psychology Lab	4		PS___	Psychology Elective	3
PS___	Senior Thesis in Psychology (Literature Review)* or PS490 Senior Thesis in Psychology (Empirical Study)*** or Senior Internship in Psychology	3		PS___	Psychology Elective	3
PS494	Senior Seminar in Psychology	3		_____	Elective	3
_____	Art & Design GLE	3		_____	Elective	3
_____	Elective	3		_____	Elective	3
	Total	16			Total	15
<b>Winter</b>		<b>Credits</b>				
_____	Elective	3				
	Total	3			<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>120</b>

\*PS494 must be taken concurrently or subsequent to PS489, PS490 or PS495.

\*\*One or more additional electives may be needed to fulfill general education requirements. See [General and Liberal Education \(GLE\)](#).

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