**Definition**

Psychology is a natural and a social science focusing on the study of human behavior. As such, it is a broad discipline which involves both scientific method and practical application of science to matters of everyday living. Most professional level positions require a graduate degree.

**Staff**

To access faculty and staff, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit extension.

Dean:
Dr. L. Tom O’Neil
ext. 6482

Administrative Assistant:
Christi Crosby
ext. 6482

Clerical Assistant III:
Bettie Negrete
ext. 6482

Department Chair:
Dr. Irit Gat
ext. 6493

Faculty:
Dr. Fredy Aviles
ext. 6009
Dr. Irit Gat
ext. 6493

Adjunct Faculty:
To access adjunct faculty voice mail, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit number.

Nicholas Betty
V.M.
2512

Vivian Davenport
2030

John Glover
2541

Rhasheda Henry
2261

Micheal Huff
2143

Laurel Johnson
2659

Dr. David Elwin Lewis
2083

Danielle McCabe
2680

Timea McLean
2092

Sean Mintz
2999

Luis Ramirez
2026

Danielle Reiner
2004

Kathleen Ringenbach
2433

Bruce Schreibfeder
2282

Dr. Harry Taylor
2215

**Program Description**

The Psychology program is designed to benefit both the student pursuing a career in psychology or related disciplines as well as the student desiring to acquire a personal understanding of psychology as it applies to everyday living. The program includes a variety of courses, and utilizes a number of teaching methods, including those which emphasize student participation through group and individual activity.

**Career Options**

Administrator
Community College Instructor
Community College Counselor

Drug Abuse Counselor
Employment Counselor
Human Factors Specialist
Marriage, Family, Child Counselor
Mental Health Worker
Outreach Worker
Personnel Analyst
Personnel Management Specialist
Probation Officer
Psychiatric Aide
Psychometrist
Research Director
Social Services Director
Survey Designer
Student Affairs Officer
Therapist
Training Officer

(Most of these careers require education beyond the two-year college level.)

**Program Learning Outcomes**

**Associate in Arts in Psychology for Transfer**

1. Write an APA style research report that synthesizes a body of research findings and tests hypotheses with the appropriate research methodology.

2. Critically evaluate the design, methodology, findings, and generalizability of research reports.

3. Evaluate the major theoretical perspectives, history, and research methodology commonly used in the field of psychology.

**Certificate Program**

Certificate not applicable.

**Associate Degree**

**Associate in Arts in Psychology for Transfer**

The Associate in Arts in Psychology for Transfer (AA-T in Psychology) offers students a fundamental knowledge of the field of Psychology and the various branches including scientific and research methods, counseling, biopsychology, psychological development across the lifespan, mental disorders and the relationship to sociology. Further students will gain the knowledge to apply psychological theories to their personal lives and current societal issues.

The Associate in Arts in Psychology for Transfer (AA-T in Psychology) degree meets the requirements of SB 1440 for Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT). These degrees are intended to make it easier for students to transfer to California State University campuses, but do not exclude admittance to other colleges or universities.

To earn an Associate in Arts in Psychology for Transfer (AA-T
in Psychology) degree a student must complete the following:
(1) Completion of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units that are eligible for transfer to the California State University, including both of the following:
(A) The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education – Breadth Requirements.
(B) A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in a major or area of emphasis, as determined by the community college district.
(2) Obtainment of a minimum grade point average of 2.0.
ADTs also require that students must earn a C or better in all courses required for the major or area of emphasis.

**Required Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 115, Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 101, General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 200, Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required Electives A**

Select 3 units from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 201, Intro. to Physiological Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required Electives B**

Select 3 units from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 236, Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 244, Introduction to Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required Electives C**

Select 3 units from the following or any course from List B not already used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 212, Human Sexuality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 230, Social Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 232, Theories of Personality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 233, Personal and Social Adjustment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 234, Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 235, Child Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Courses denoted with an asterisk will fulfill the completion requirements for both the major and general education.

Except in cases of prerequisite requirement, it is not required that courses be taken in exactly this sequence; they are recommended in this order to facilitate success.

**Recommended Plan of Study**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Semester</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 115, Statistics (CSU GE B4)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area A2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area C1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*CSU Transferable Electives: POLS 101 (CSU GE D &amp; AIR)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Semester</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 101, General Psychology (CSU GE D)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area A1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area A3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area C2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Third Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 200, Intro. to Research Methods in Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Electives B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Electives C</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 102, Human Biology (CSU GE B2 &amp; B3)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area C</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 15-16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fourth Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 201, Intro. to Physiological Psychology (List A)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area B1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSU GE requirement Area E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*CSU Transferable Electives: HIST 107, 108, 110, or 111 (CSU GE D &amp; AIR)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*CSU Transferable Electives</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 15-16</strong></td>
<td><strong>CSU GE or IGETC Pattern 37-39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CSU Transferable Elective Units to reach Degree Total 60**

*Electives should be taken from other courses within the major, foreign language or recommended course as noted.

**Transfer**

Students planning to continue studies at a four-year college or university after AVC should visit the Transfer Resource Center and consult with a counselor as soon as possible. Additional information on official transfer articulation agreements from AVC to many CSU/UC campuses can be found at the following Web site: [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

**Prerequisite Completion**

If a course is listed as a prerequisite for another course, that prerequisite course must be completed with a satisfactory grade in order to enroll in the next course. According to Title 5, Section 55200(d), a satisfactory grade is a grade of “A,” “B,” “C” or “P.” Classes in which the Pass/No Pass option is available are indicated with an asterisk (*) before the course title. See “Pass/No Pass Option” in the catalog for full explanation.

**Psychology Courses**

**PSY 101  *GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY***

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.

This course provides a scientific study of behavior through an exploration of major concepts, methods and research.
findings. Topics such as biological basis of behavior; cognitive processes; research methods; learning and motivation; life span development; individual differences; behavioral disorders and therapies; social behavior and applied psychology are included. Students will also develop critical thinking so they may read and write in a scientific manner. (C-ID: PSY 110) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 200 *INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101 and MATH 115.
**Advisory:** Eligibility for ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.
This course surveys the various psychological research methods with an emphasis on research design, experimental procedures, descriptive methods, instrumentation, and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data. Research design and methodology will be examined through a review of research in a variety of the subdisciplines of psychology. (C-ID: PSY 200) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 201 *INTRODUCTION TO PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101.
**Advisory:** Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.
This course explores the concept that both psychological experience and overt behavior are the result of nervous system function. Defining and identifying neuroanatomical and neurological terminology are integral parts of this class. Students will analyze and critique research methodology in physiological psychology. (C-ID: PSY 150) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 212 *HUMAN SEXUALITY***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101 and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.
**Advisory:** Completion of PHIL 105, and Eligibility for College Level Reading.
This course surveys biological, socio-logical, and psychological influences on current sexual attitudes and behavior. Special emphasis is placed on increasing general sexual knowledge, recognizing values, and becoming more comfortable with the subject matter. Critical thinking skills will be developed through examination and analysis of cultural values, the complex research problems, and a wide variety of sexual behaviors. Example topics include: sexual dysfunction, sexual health, sexually transmitted diseases and variations in sexual behavior. (C-ID: PSY 130) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 230 *SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101 or SOC 101.
**Advisory:** Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.
This course studies human interaction and emphasizes the influence of the social context on behavior and experience. Sample topics include social cognition, person perception, attitude formation and change, persuasion, conformity, group processes, aggression, prejudice, attraction and intimacy, gender, and social psychology in the clinic, workplace, and courtroom. Research methods and their ethics will also be addressed. (C-ID: PSY 170) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 232 *THEORIES OF PERSONALITY***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Advisory:** Completion of PSY 101, and Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.
This course examines both classical and contemporary theories of personality and the basic concepts, assumptions, principles, and implications that underlie them. The evidence that validates or supports their proposition will be evaluated. This course will further explore the applicability and relevance of the theories to everyday world events, situations and cross culturally. The origination of the theories and the theorist’s biographical data will be considered. (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 233 PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Prerequisite:** Completion of ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.
**Advisory:** Completion of PSY 101, and Eligibility for College Level Reading.
This course emphasizes personal and social adjustment through examination of the major theories and issues in the field of psychology. Specific focus is placed on self-awareness, personal growth, interpersonal relationships and communication. Students will also examine current topics in the area of personal and social adjustment in scientific journals. (C-ID: PSY 115) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 234 *ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY***

3 units
3 hours weekly
**Prerequisite:** Completion of ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL and PSY 101.
This course provides an introduction and broad overview to abnormal psychology. The course will begin by distinguishing between “normal” and “abnormal” behavior through a historical lens. Specifically, an introduction to the major psychological disorders listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders will be explored and topics covered will include: assessment, diagnosis, treatment, research and
prevention of mental disorders. Students will also be challenged to examine their own stereotypes about “abnormal” behavior.

(C-ID: PSY 120) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 235  CHILD PSYCHOLOGY**

3 units  
3 hours weekly  
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101.  
**Advisory:** Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.

Introduction to the psychological development of the person from prenatal period through adolescence. A survey of current psychological theories, such as cognitive, behavioral and social cognitive, and psychoanalytic will be examined regarding the emotional, physical, and social development of the child. (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 236  *DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY***

3 units  
3 hours weekly  
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101.  
**Advisory:** Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101/ENGL 101SL.

Introduction of the psychological development of the person from the prenatal period through old age. A survey of current theories of development including Psychoanalytic, Behavioral, Cognitive, Socio-cultural, and Epigenetic theory and examination of biosocial, cognitive, and psychosocial development will be included. (C-ID: PSY 180) (CSU, UC, AVC)

**PSY 244  INTRODUCTION TO COUNSELING**

3 units  
3 hours weekly  
**Prerequisite:** Completion of PSY 101.  
**Advisory:** Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 099.

This course provides an introduction and broad overview to the field of Counseling Psychology. Primary topics covered include counseling theories, a brief history of this specialty, skills, strategies and processes for working with individuals or groups. Additional topics include an introduction to various mental health professions, ethical guidelines, identifying the characteristics of effective helpers and examining the process of personal bias in the counseling relationship. (CSU, AVC)