

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.

Program Advisement:

Dr. L. Tom O'Neil, Dean ext. 6482

Administrative Assistant:

position vacant ext. 6482

Clerical Assistant:

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.

	V.M.
Nicholas Betty	2512
Vivian Davenport	2030
Dr. Glen Egbert	2013
John Glover	2541
Julie Howard	2549
Laurel Johnson	2659
Rebecca Kulzer	2132
Dr. David Elwin Lewis	2083
Danielle McCabe	2680
Timea McLean	2092
Sean Mintz	2999
Susan Pommerville	2622
James Previte	2189
Luis Ramirez	2026
Kathleen Ringenbach	2433
Dr. Harry Taylor	2215
Anne Taylor-Spitzer	2073

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	units
*MATH 115, Statistics	3
*PSY 101, General Psychology	3
PSY 200, Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology	3

Required Electives A	units
Select 3 units from the following:	
*PSY 201, Intro. to Physiological Psychology	3

Required Electives B	units
Select 3 units from the following:	
*PSY 236, Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 244, Introduction to Counseling	3

Required Electives C	units
Select 3 units from the following or any course from List B not already used:	
*PSY 212, Human Sexuality	3
PSY 230, Social Psychology	3
PSY 232, Theories of Personality	3
PSY 233, Personal and Social Adjustment	3
PSY 234, Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 235, Child Psychology	3

*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

First Semester	units
MATH 115, Statistics (CSU GE B4)	4
CSU GE requirement Area A2	3
CSU GE requirement Area C1	3
*CSU Transferable Electives: POLS 101 (CSU GE D & AIR)	3
	Total 13

Second Semester	units
PSY 101, General Psychology (CSU GE D)	3
CSU GE requirement Area A1	3
CSU GE requirement Area A3	3
CSU GE requirement Area C2	3
*CSU Transferable Electives	3
	Total 15

Third Semester	units
PSY 200, Intro. to Research Methods in Psychology	3
Required Electives B	3
Required Electives C	3
BIOL 102, Human Biology (CSU GE B2 & B3)	4
CSU GE requirement Area C	3
	Total 16

Fourth Semester	units
PSY 201, Intro. to Physiological Psychology (List A)	3
CSU GE requirement Area B1	3
CSU GE requirement Area E	3
*CSU Transferable Electives: HIST 107, 108, 110, or 111 (CSU GE D & AIR)	3
*CSU Transferable Electives	3-4
	Total 15-16

**CSU GE or IGETC Pattern 37-39
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

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. (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. (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. (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. (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. (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. (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. (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. (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)