



PSYCHOLOGY (2021-2022)

Division of Teacher Education & Behavioral Sciences

Julia S. Omarzu, Ph.D., Chair

Student Learning Outcomes – Psychology	
1.	Demonstrate a knowledge of psychological concepts & theories
2.	Exercise critical thinking skills applied to scientific methods relevant to psychology.
3.	Apply ethical standards to evaluate science/practice
4.	Demonstrate scientific writing, using APA style.
5.	Deliver effective presentations of information.
6.	Apply psychology to career goals

Requirements for the major in Psychology (B.A.):

To be eligible for admission to the psychology major students must receive a grade of C- or better in both L.PSY-101 and a foundational QR mathematics course. A 2.000 GPA in psychology courses completed at Loras College is required for a major. To maintain adequate progress toward a psychology major, we strongly recommend that psychology majors do the following: Take L.PSY-101 and L.PSY-121 during the first year; L.PSY-201, L.PSY-211, L.PSY-212 and L.PSY-231 in the second year and no later than the junior year; L.PSY-301 and PSY-344 during the junior year; and L.PSY-490 during the senior year.

Students seeking to add psychology as a second major to an existing major may substitute the statistics and research methods sequence from their first major for L.PSY-211 and L.PSY-212. Students need permission of the Chair of the Division of Teacher Education and Behavioral Sciences to take L.PSY-211, 212, or 490 at another institution. Majors pursuing a semester away from Loras College (e.g. study abroad) may schedule this semester any time from the second semester of the sophomore year to the second semester of the senior year; these students should consult with a psychology advisor to adjust their schedules accordingly. Career plans for psychology majors may include graduate school, business and industry (a business minor is strongly recommended), medical school, law school, teaching, or semiprofessional positions in a psychological setting or closely related fields.

Req	Course	Cr's
1	L.PSY-101: Introductory Psychology	3
2	L.PSY-121: Lifespan Development	3
3	L.PSY-201: Brain and Behavior	3
4	L.PSY-211: Research Methods & Statistics I	3
5	L.PSY-212: Research Methods & Statistics II	3
6	L.PSY-231: Abnormal Psychology	3
7	L.PSY-301: Cognitive Psychology	3
8	L.PSY-344: Personality and Social Psychology	3

9	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
10	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
11	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
12	L.PSY-490: Senior Seminar-IN	3
36 total required credits		

Requirements for the minor in Psychology:

Students are recommended to take L.PSY-101 before taking any other psychology courses.

Req	Course	Cr's
1	L.PSY-101: Introductory Psychology	3
2	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
3	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
4	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
5	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
6	Elective: Additional L.PSY elective	3
18 total required credits		

2021-2022 PSYCHOLOGY COURSES:

L.PSY-101: Introductory Psychology

An introduction to the science and practice of psychology as a discipline within the liberal arts. All sections will include an overview and brief history of psychology, basic research methods and statistics, physiological psychology, and human development. Each section will also include three or more of the following topics: learning and/or cognition, social psychology and/or motivation-emotion, abnormal psychology and/or clinical-counseling psychology. 3 credits.

L.PSY-121: Lifespan Development

A study of human development across the lifespan, with emphasis on the factors influencing physical, cognitive, and emotional development. 3 credits.

L.PSY-131: Psychology of Stress

This course will introduce students to theories and principles related to the sources and effects of stress. Students will learn about different sources of stress and anxiety and how physiological systems are affected by stress. As part of the course, all students will spend one weekend off campus on a two-day silent retreat and will attend presentations outside of the regularly scheduled class times. There will be an additional course fee to cover costs of the retreat and special instructors. 3 credits.

L.PSY-190: The Working Poor

Through a hands-on simulation, readings, class discussions, guest speakers, and media presentations, students will gain a foundational knowledge of the history of the working poor in the U.S., the theories regarding causation and reduction, and the grassroots efforts for change as they relate to the social class referred to as the working poor. Students will build on this foundation by developing a specific knowledge of the working poor in the Dubuque community. 3 credits. January term.

L.PSY-201: Brain and Behavior

The goal of this course is to give students a comprehensive overview and understanding of the anatomy, physiology and function of the brain. After understanding the basics of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology students will apply that understanding to psychological topics including motivation, emotion, learning, memory movement, sleep, and sensory processes. Prerequisites: L.PSY-101 or L.PSY-121. 3 credits.

L.PSY-211: Research Methods & Statistics I

An introduction to the use of research strategies and tools of measurement in psychology. The SPSS computer program will be used to introduce basic data handling, descriptive and correlational statistics. Students will be expected to participate in elementary research studies, produce APA-style research papers, and evaluate research literature. Prerequisite: Grade of C- or better in the foundational QR mathematics requirement, L.PSY-101 or equivalent. 3 credits.

L.PSY-212: Research Methods & Statistics II

This course continues instruction in psychological research by reviewing the basics of the scientific method, ethics, and APA style. Experimental research will then be introduced, along with more advanced inferential statistics. More complex designs, such as meta-analysis and factor analysis will be discussed. Students will again be expected to participate in elementary research studies, produce APA-style research papers, and evaluate research literature. Prerequisites: L.PSY-101 or equivalent and L.PSY-211 (with C- or better). 3 credits.

L.PSY-215: Human Sexuality-EI

This course is an introduction to the biological, psychological and social aspects of human sexuality. The course includes the study of sexuality in relation to the life cycle. It will examine the reciprocal impact of society and culture on individual identity, and of individuals on society and culture. Emphasis is placed on analyzing society and culture as they shape human behavior; evaluating how social variables (e.g., sexual orientation, gender, etc.) influence human interaction; and interpreting the nature of human identity. Students in this course will weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a discipline.

L.PSY-227: Culture & Psychopathology

The course material considers mental illness categories in light of the influence of culture on the diagnosis, course and prognosis. Foundational concepts include a consideration of mind/body dualism, the concepts of self and the phenomenon of resilience. The foundational concepts provide a cultural lens for understanding the broader culture of "mental illness" as it occurs around the world. Prerequisites: L.PSY-101. 3 credits.

L.PSY-231: Abnormal Psychology

An examination of mental disorder in terms of etiology and therapy. Prerequisites: L.PSY101 or 121; and sophomore standing. 3 credits.

L.PSY-233: Human Motivation-EI

This course is designed to introduce students to theories of human motivation and help them learn to apply those theories to their own behavior. An emphasis will be placed on interdisciplinary applications of motivational principles. 3 credits.

L.PSY-242: Industrial-Organizational Behavior

A survey of how psychology principles may be applied to the behavior of people at work. Topics covered include job analysis, selection, performance appraisal, training, work motivation, work teams, leadership and organizational development. Prerequisite: L.PSY101. Recommended: L.PSY-211 or L.BUS-250. 3 credits.

L.PSY-252: Positive Psychology

Students will examine a variety of human strengths such as love, empathy, and happiness and will explore the factors that influence each strength's development and expression in their lives. Prerequisites: L.PSY-101 or L.PSY-121. 3 credits.

L.PSY-267: Psychology & the Arts-EC

In this course, students will be applying psychology to the arts by exploring how visual art is perceived, created, and used. While the main focus will be on visual art, there will be a few readings and activities related to music. Students will study perception, cultural differences, personality and creativity, and art as therapy. There will be activities designed to enhance creativity. Artistic experience is not required. 3 credits.

L.PSY-285: Drugs & Human Behavior-ES

The goal of this course is to explore the interdisciplinary field of neuroscience from a variety of perspectives while actively engaging in scientific discourse and inquiry. Many disciplines have contributed to other research questions and methods and techniques used to address these questions. Our emphases will be to obtain a sound understanding of the scientific study of the brain in order to better inform our understanding about the impact that developments in this field have on our society. 4 credits.

L.PSY-301: Cognitive Psychology

This course will examine the theories, principles, and concepts related to the mental processes of learning, memory, and cognition. Primary topics will include historical foundations of cognitive psychology, basic processes of attention, perception and brain functioning, the complexities of memory, and higher-level thinking processes involved in problem-solving, judgment, and decision making. Students will study how these processes are enabled by the functioning of the brain, how individual differences, emotion, and motivational factors affect them, and how the cognition research can be applied to improve one's own cognitive processes.

Prerequisites: L.PSY-101, L.PSY-201, L.PSY-211. Requirements: Junior or senior standing; Psychology major. 3 credits.

L.PSY-311: Advanced Research Methods

Supervised research in selected topics in psychology. Students are trained as members of a research team in this course that builds on methods introduced in L.PSY-211 and 212. Ongoing research projects offer opportunities for the application of research design, statistical analysis, library research, report writing, and presentations at conferences. Admission by instructor only. 1 credit

L.PSY-315: Interpersonal Relationships

Psychological study of relationships. Topics include social attraction, intimacy, and interpersonal communication. Special attention will be given to the psychological characteristics of successful relationships. Several theoretical perspectives will be studied, including psychology, sociology, communication, and gender studies. Prerequisite: L.PSY-101 or L.PSY-121 and junior standing. 3 credits.

L.PSY-321: Developmental Psychology

In this developmental seminar, both classic and contemporary research will be used to examine the transactional process of development across physical, cognitive, social, and emotional domains. Students will specifically examine and apply these processes across a diverse set of demographic variables, including socioeconomic status, race and ethnicity, gender, (dis)ability, etc., through the use of a simulation and/or case studies. Prerequisite: L.PSY-101 or L.PSY-121. Requirements: Junior or senior standing. 3 credits.

L.PSY-323: Psychology of Adulthood & Aging

A survey of modern knowledge about the processes of becoming old (aging) and old age itself. Emphasis is placed on cognitive processes, personality, and mental health. Prerequisites: L.PSY-101 or L.PSY-121. Junior or Senior standing only. 3 credits.

L.PSY-331: Clinical Psychology

An overview of topics in Clinical Psychology including stigma, differential diagnosis, theories of psychotherapy, ethics, and addressing ethical dilemmas. Prerequisite: L.PSY-101, L.PSY-231. Requirements: Junior or senior standing. 3 credits.

L.PSY-341: Cross-Cultural Psychology

This course will utilize theories and concepts from cross-cultural psychology and intercultural communication to take an in-depth look at culture in general and at a variety of micro-cultures, including gender, social class and popular culture. Students will read an assortment of writings focused on cultural diversity and current issues regarding specific cultural groups. Prerequisite: L.PSY-101 or L.PSY-121 and junior standing. 3 credits.

L.PSY-344: Personality and Social Psychology

This course is designed to be an introduction to the scientific study of social and personality psychology for psychology majors. Students will survey major theories in personality and social psychology. They will critically evaluate the results, conclusions, and methods of social psychological research. Topics may include: social cognition, social influence, prejudice, aggression, altruism, and group dynamics. Prerequisite: L.PSY-101, L.PSY-201, L.PSY-211. Requirements: Junior or Senior standing; Psychology major. 3 credits.

L.PSY-394: Internship

Supervised field work in the area of applied psychology. Students should arrange for a field setting the semester before they register. Admission by written permission of instructor only. See internship coordinator for more information. Can be taken as L.EXP-394. 1 to 3 credits.

L.PSY-490: Senior Seminar-IN

This seminar course is designed to enhance the professional skills of candidates for the Bachelor of Arts in psychology, skills in idea generation, library research, critical reading, ethical decision-making, and oral/written communication. Students will develop these skills by reading and discussing the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct and by researching, presenting talks, writing papers, and discussing current issues and controversies in psychology. Requirement: psychology majors, senior standing. 3 credits.