

Psychology

Degree Offered

- Associate of Arts

Nature of Program

The psychology curriculum prepares students to transfer as psychology majors to the baccalaureate program at West Virginia University, and can be adapted to the needs of those planning to transfer to other institutions. In addition, courses in psychology are part of the liberal arts education. They convey principles and methods that are necessary for a better understanding of behavior and personality. Courses in psychology are often of interest and value to students in other social and life sciences, such as sociology, social work, political science, education, nursing, or medicine.

Career Opportunities

A bachelor's degree in psychology qualifies a person to assist professionals in community mental health centers, vocational rehabilitation offices, and correctional programs; to work as research or administrative assistants; and to take jobs as trainees in government or business. Persons with a master's degree in psychology can administer tests as psychological assistants, and, under supervision, can conduct research, perform psychological evaluations, or counsel clients. Psychologists with a doctoral degree qualify for a wide range of teaching, research, clinical, and counseling positions in universities, elementary and secondary schools, private industry, and government.

FACULTY

INSTRUCTOR

- Keri Whitacre - M.A. (West Virginia University)
Psychology

Admission Requirements

Entering freshmen are admitted directly into the major.

Benchmark Expectations

Students should have completed PSYC 101, with a C- or better, and MATH 126 by the end of the second semester in the program. PSYC 202, or PSYC 203 and PSYC 204, with a C- in PSYC 203 by the end of the 4th semester. Students must maintain a GPA of at least 2.0 in the major and overall for graduation. All majors must meet with their advisor every semester. Students who fail to meet these benchmarks may be removed from their major.

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

General Education Foundations

F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Skills		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

Curriculum Requirements

Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA in all PSYC courses.

GEF Elective Requirements (2, 5, and 8)		10
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research (GEF 1)	6
MATH 124	Algebra with Applications (GEF 3)	3
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology (GEF 4 - minimum grade of C-)	3
PSYC 203	Research Methods & Analysis 1	3
PSYC 204	Research Methods & Analysis 2	3
PSYC 232 or PSYC 251	Sex Roles and Behavior Introduction to Social Psychology	3
PSYC 241	Introduction to Human Development	3
PSYC 281	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	3
WVUE 191	First Year Seminar	1
ECAS Fine Arts Requirement (GEF 6)		3
ECAS International Requirement (GEF 7)		3
Foreign Language		12
Elective		4
Total Hours		60

Suggested Plan of Study

First Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3 PSYC 241	3
PSYC 101 (GEF 4)	3 ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3
MATH 124 (GEF 3)	3 Foreign Language	3
Foreign Language	3 PSYC 203	3
WVUE 191	1 GEF 5 Elective: Human Inquiry & the Past	3
Elective	1	
	14	15

Second Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
PSYC 232 or 251	3 PSYC 204	3
Foreign Language	3 PSYC 281	3
GEF 8 Elective	3 ECAS Fine Arts Requirement (GEF 6)	3
GEF 2B Elective: Science and Technology	4 ECAS International Requirement (GEF 7)	3
Elective	3 Foreign Language	3
	16	15

Total credit hours: 60

Major Learning Outcomes

PSYCHOLOGY

Upon successful completion of the A.A. degree, **Psychology** majors will be able to:

1. Describe the central principles, facts, concepts, and theories of major areas of psychology (i.e., Gender, Social, Clinical, Developmental) including: Theory, Content, and Research Methods.
2. Apply scientific principles of psychology to analyze basic and applied problems.
3. Create, evaluate, and revise text (oral, written) that effectively communicates information using APA format.

4. Demonstrate critical thinking, information and technology literacy, and communication skills, areas specifically identified by the American Psychological Association.