

Psychology

School

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (<http://www.stmarytx.edu/humanities/>)

School Dean

Nancy LaGreca, Ph.D. (nlagreca@stmarytx.edu)

Department

Psychology (<https://www.stmarytx.edu/academics/departments/psychology/>)

Department Chair

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Students who are interested in human and non-human behavior and who enjoy working with people often consider the psychology major. Psychology majors at St. Mary's University benefit from small classes, personal advising, and highly qualified faculty recognized for their teaching.

The Psychology Department educates students to think critically and logically across the many domains of psychology. The department is committed to mentoring students to promote a growth-oriented community grounded in faith and engaged in the pursuit of knowledge. All majors benefit from a broad core of psychology courses and have the opportunity to design research and present findings at a research conference. The program's emphasis on research and critical thinking assures that graduates are well-prepared for success today and in the future and are equipped with the skills demanded by graduate programs and employers.

Major in Psychology

- B.A. in Psychology (<https://catalog.stmarytx.edu/undergraduate/majors-programs/humanities-social-sciences/psychology/psychology-ba/>)

Minor in Psychology

- Psychology (<https://catalog.stmarytx.edu/undergraduate/majors-programs/humanities-social-sciences/psychology/psychology-minor/>)

Certificates in Psychology

- Certificate in Community-based Assessment and Evaluation (<https://catalog.stmarytx.edu/undergraduate/majors-programs/humanities-social-sciences/psychology/community-based-assessment-and-evaluation/>)

PS 1301. General Psychology. 3 Semester Hours.

Introductory study of the basic principles of the science of behavior and mental processes. (PSYC2301).

PS 2310. Race, Class, Gender: Intersections and Conflicts. 3 Semester Hours.

This course is a seminar that covers topics related to race, class, and gender and their intersections in contemporary US society. Special emphasis will be placed on student introspection, exposure to an array of theoretical orientations toward social justice, and examples of civic responsibility in action. The course will involve a range of instructional strategies, including lecture, class discussion, and multimedia presentations.

PS 2337. Human Sexuality. 3 Semester Hours.

Human Sexuality offers an overview of human sexual behavior from a biopsychosocial perspective, highlighting psychological research and theory on human sexuality whilst also considering the biological, evolutionary, social, and cultural factors that influence our sex lives.

PS 2353. Personality. 3 Semester Hours.

Nature, development, structure, and dynamics of personality. Prerequisite: PS1301 (PSYC2316).

PS 2355. Development. 3 Semester Hours.

Human development in terms of heredity, environment, maturation, learning, and other concepts. (formerly PS3355).

PS 2363. Political Psychology. 3 Semester Hours.

Although nations structure their governments in different ways, the same psychological tendencies tend to manifest in the citizenry. The stability of society largely depends upon the ability of the politically powerful to exploit these tendencies through demoralization, jingoism, or some other mechanism of control. In this course, you will learn about methods of generating consent and dissent that are often used by corporations, major political parties, and state and federal governments to advance group-level interests while maintaining stability.

PS 2399. Topics in Psychology. 3 Semester Hours.

Elective course only used for transfer work.

PS 3164. Sophomore Colloquium. 1 Semester Hour.

An exploration of psychology as a science and profession. Focuses on the career fields included within the discipline. Participation in sophomore retreat required. Writing Intensive class. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3265. Junior Colloquium. 2 Semester Hours.

An examination of the academic, ethical, legal, and practical issues associated with careers in psychology. Prepares majors for graduate study and careers in the discipline. Writing Intensive class. Prerequisite: PS 3164.

PS 3331. Abnormal Psychology I. 3 Semester Hours.

Introduction to historical and contemporary concepts and evidence concerning psychopathology. Prerequisite: PS 3341.

PS 3341. Physiological Psychology. 3 Semester Hours.

The biological events which underlie human behavior. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3343. Perception. 3 Semester Hours.

Sensory experience and basic cognitive organization. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3361. Industrial Psychology. 3 Semester Hours.

Psychological factors in personnel and organizational psychology. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3371. Motivation. 3 Semester Hours.

Biological and cultural factors in motivation. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3372. Undergraduate Field Placement. 3 Semester Hours.

On an individual basis students will be placed in community agencies or institutions which have recognized in-service training programs. Periodic conferences will be required. Prerequisite: PS 3383, departmental application, approval of department chair, and 3.0 or better G.P.A. If applying for clinical-related site, must have completed or be taking PS 3331.

PS 3373. Learning. 3 Semester Hours.

Fundamental principles and theories of learning as approached from the behavioral and cognitive perspective. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3381. Introductory Statistics. 3 Semester Hours.

An introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics designed for the student of Psychology. Prerequisite: completion of the university mathematics requirement with minimum grade of C and PS1301. Additional fee associated with this course. See fee schedule for details at <https://www.stmarytx.edu/admission/financial-aid/tuition/>.

PS 3383. Research Methods. 3 Semester Hours.

Introduction to the principles and methods of experimental psychology. Selected experiments in perception, cognition, and social psychology. Independent project required. Writing intensive course. Prerequisite: PS 1301, PS 3381. Concurrent enrollment in PS 3384 is required. Additional fee associated with this course. See fee schedule for details at <https://www.stmarytx.edu/admission/financial-aid/tuition/>.

PS 3384. Research Methods Lab. 3 Semester Hours.

Introduction to the principles and methods of experimental psychology. Selected experiments in perception, cognition, and social psychology. Independent project required. Prerequisite: PS 1301, PS 3381. Concurrent enrollment in PS 3383 is required.

PS 3385. Advanced Statistics. 3 Semester Hours.

The course builds upon the techniques and theories presented in PS 3381 Introductory Statistics. Topics include regression, path analysis, MANOVA, and introduction to latent modeling. Prerequisite PS 3381. Additional fee associated with this course. See fee schedule for details at <https://www.stmarytx.edu/admission/financial-aid/tuition/>.

PS 3386. Human Factors. 3 Semester Hours.

Human capabilities and limitations that affect the design of human-machine systems. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3390. Social Psychology: Theories & Applications. 3 Semester Hours.

A scientifically based study of the ways in which the presence of others influences individuals' affect, cognitions, and behaviors. The course includes an extensive investigation of common methodologies and recent research. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 3391. History and Systems. 3 Semester Hours.

A study of the historical, philosophical, and scientific ideas which are the basis of contemporary psychology. Prerequisite: PS1301.

PS 4163. Advanced Topics for Undergraduates. 1 Semester Hour.

Special studies designed for selected undergraduate students with permission of instructor. Maybe repeated for additional credit.

PS 4263. Advanced Topics for Undergraduates. 2 Semester Hours.

Special studies designed for selected undergraduate students with permission of instructor. Maybe repeated for additional credit.

PS 4300. Internship in Psychology. 3 Semester Hours.

A supervised activity which allows the student to apply educational experiences in an institutional/organizational setting.

PS 4363. Advanced Topics for Undergraduates. 3 Semester Hours.

Special studies designed for selected undergraduate students with permission of instructor. May be repeated for additional credit.

PS 4383. Advanced Psychological Research. 3 Semester Hours.

A continuation and expansion of the techniques mastered in PS3383 Research Methods. Students will complete a research project or make significant progress on a new or ongoing project during the course of the semester and receive training in advanced research methodologies and statistical analyses. Permission of the instructor is required to register.

PS 4387. Tests and Measurements. 3 Semester Hours.

Upon successful completion of this course the students will demonstrate theoretical and practical understanding of development and use of measurement instruments used to select and evaluate individuals in industrial, business, government, and academic environments and to assess the nature of the environments themselves.

PS 5388. Grant Writing. 3 Semester Hours.