

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT 300-LEVEL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - Spring 2021

NEW Courses for Spring 2021:

PSYC (EDUC) 395. How Can I Help? Exploring Careers in Education, Human Services, and Health-Related Fields

This course explores various career pathways designed to “help people” in education, human services and health-related fields. Students will learn about the professions’ day to day realities as well as be introduced to theoretical frameworks, evidence-based practices, and themes of diversity and social justice that are salient to these professions. (4 credits, SS)

Prereq: Psyc 001

Time: TR 12:10-1:25 pm

Prof: Sawyer

Concentration: Clinical & Behavioral Health

PSYC (HMS) 397. Grief, Anxiety, & Resilience

Grief and anxiety are familiar experiences for many people, and for some they can become debilitating. How can we understand the role these experiences play in a person’s life? In this course, we will explore diverse perspectives on grief and anxiety. We will also explore the possibility of being resilient to these experiences, even becoming stronger in the face of adversity. As part of this exploration, we will spotlight the biographies of historical figures who have written about their experiences. (4 credits, SS)

**Prereq: Psyc 121 or Psyc/HMS 130 or Psyc 153
or HMS 160 or HMS 180**

Time: MW 10:45-12:00 pm

Prof: Burke

Concentration: Clinical & Behavioral Health

PSYC 398. Contemporary Topics in Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Industrial / Organizational Psychology is the application of psychological principles, tools, and theories to the workplace. This subdiscipline employs a scientist-practitioner model in the quest to optimize fit between persons, jobs, and the organizational environment. Optimization criteria include finding a balance between productivity and quality of work life for workers. Motivation, leadership, personality, stress, feedback, technology, diversity, and human potential are some of the themes explored amidst a changing landscape of challenges to the world of work. (4 credits, SS)

Prereq: Psyc 001 or Psyc 153

Time: MW 9:20-10:35 am

Prof: Brill

Concentration: Social & Personality

PSYC (AAS) 326. The Doing and Undoing of Racism

This course will provide students with a critical understanding of historical, legal, and social psychological factors that lead to prejudice, discrimination, and racism within our society. It will survey the US constitution, policy, and social psychological theories that explain the causes and maintenance of prejudice, discrimination, and racism in their many forms. Students will learn how laws and various theoretical perspectives apply to people’s psychological functioning and group behavior, and examine theoretically derived interventions to reduce prejudice, discrimination, and racism. (4 credits, SS)

Prereq: PSYC 121 or AAS 003

Time: TR 1:35-2:50 pm

Professor: Taylor

Concentration: Social & Personality

PSYC 332. Psychology of Morality

We begin with the Big Questions: Are human beings intrinsically good? How potent is our intrinsic capacity for goodness? What does it mean to be “good” or “moral”? How can we answer these questions? Next, we examine a variety of motives, capacities, and emotions that can promote our “good” behavior. Some examples include empathy, compassion (and other moral emotions), the justice motive, the norm enforcement motive, moral intuitions, social bonds, and perhaps even our general capacity for reason. (4 credits, SS)

Prereq: Psyc 121

Time: TR 3:00– 4:15 pm

Prof: Gill

Concentration: Social & Personality

PSYC (HMS) 348. Drugs & Behavior

Why are some people more vulnerable to substance use problems than others? How can we effectively address substance abuse in our society? This course explores theories and research on the complex psychological, social, and biological factors that contribute to substance use and disorders. Topics include theories of addiction, characteristics of illegal and legal drugs, risk and protective factors, and research on substance abuse prevention. (4 credits, SS).

Prereq: Psyc/HMS 130 or HMS 160 or HMS 180

Time: TR 10:45-12:00 pm

Prof: Napper (Kilp)

Concentration: Clinical & Behavioral Health

PSYC 351. Children's Thinking

This course examines the development of children's thinking from infancy through adolescence. We will discuss current research and theories on the content of children's knowledge and how mental abilities develop. We will also consider the implications of research on children's thinking for real-world questions about parenting, education, and policy-making. Topics include memory, concepts, social cognition, language, reading, mathematics, and individual and cultural differences. (4 credits, SS).

Prereq: Psyc 107 or Psyc/COGS 117 or COGS 007

Time: MW 3:00-4:15 pm

Prof: Brandone

Concentration: Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience; Developmental

PSYC 347. Cognitive Neuroscience of Memory

This seminar explores the brain systems and neural mechanisms involved in the formation and retrieval of memories. Topics include mechanisms of storage, retrieval and forgetting in normal and clinical populations, emotional memory systems, superior autobiographical memory, role of sleep, and effects of stress on memory. (4 credits, NS)

Prereq: Psyc/COGS 117 or Psyc/COGS 176

Time: TR 1:35-2:50 pm

Prof: Hupbach

Concentration: Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience

PSYC 376. Child Language & Social Inequality

What factors influence language development, both positively and negatively, for children growing up in socially and economically disadvantaged situations? Differences in children's mastery of language can have a major impact on their acquisition of literacy, long-term school success, and ability to achieve their full potential. Topics include parent-child interactions in different socio-economic and cultural contexts; effects of maternal education and SES; the significance of differences between the languages of home and school; and interventions to address language and knowledge gaps. (4 credits, SS)

Prereq: PSYC 107 or PSYC 109 or Psyc/COGS 117

Time: MW 12:10 -1:25 pm

Prof: Nicolopoulou

Concentration: Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience; Developmental; Clinical & Behavioral Health