



Bachelor of Science (BSc) Psychology

The Psychology Program offers an exciting program of courses in psychology, covering major content areas. A special emphasis of the Psychology Program is on research and on applied areas such as mental health counseling and forensic psychology, consistent with student interests and current trends in the field. Psychology students leave the program prepared for the expanding job marketing and graduate training in an APA accredited program.

The Psychology major provides excellent preparation for a number of careers in such areas social services, health care, government, business and teaching (in conjunction with the education major or an advanced degree). In addition, students wishing to continue their education at the graduate or professional level in the behavioral sciences will find that the Psychology major provides a solid foundation for both.

Internship opportunities are included in the major and offer real life experiences in preparation for future careers. Upon successful completion of this program, students completing the Psychology major will:

- Apply psychological theory and concepts to everyday world,
- Demonstrate psychological information literacy
- Use proper APA-style in written format
- Effectively deliver and structure an oral presentation
- Adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels.

DURATION (FULL-TIME)

Minimum Duration: 4 Years (8 Semesters)

Maximum Duration: 7 Years



PROGRAMME MAP

YEAR 1								
SEMESTER 1				Semester Break	SEMESTER 2			
COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type		COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type
WS100	Wesleyan Seminar (SL)	1	Non-Core		ENG110	College Research (WI)	3	Non-Core
ENG109	College composition1	3	Non-Core		DMD109	Survey of Visual Communication	3	Non-Core
COMM147	Introduction to Public Speaking	3	Core		CHEM175	Principles of Chemistry I	4	Core
MATH162	College Algebra and Trigonometry	4	Non-Core		MATH171	Elementary Statistics	4	Non-Core
PSYC101	Careers in Psychology	1	Core		PSYC251	Developmental Psychology	3	Core
PSYC131	General Psychology	3	Core					
Total		15		Total		17		

YEAR 2								
SEMESTER 1				Semester Break	SEMESTER 2			
COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type		COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type
PSYC377	History and Systems of Psychology	3	Core		PSYC271	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	3	Core
MATH355	Introduction to Sets and Logic	3	Non-Core		PSYC326	Introduction to Counseling	3	Core
SOC310	Race and Ethnicity	3	Core		SOC205	The Family	3	Core
PSYC209	Social Psychology	3	Core		PSYC365	Psychology of Addiction	3	Core
PSYC240	Theories of Personality	3	Core		REL265	War and Peace	3	Non-Core
Total		15			Total		15	

YEAR 3								
SEMESTER 1				Semester Break	SEMESTER 2			
COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type		COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type
PSYC374	Psychology of Gender	3	Core		PSYC372	Positive Psychology	3	Core
PSYC336	Motivation and Emotion	3	Core		PSYC376	Cognitive Psychology	3	Core
PSYC347	Research Methods in Psychology	3	Core		PSYC382	Biopsychology	3	Core
PSYC361	Abnormal Psychology	3	Core		PSYC310	Introduction to Forensic Psychology	3	Core
HUM499	Senior Capstone in Humanities	3	Non-Core		SOC100	Introduction to Sociology	3	Non-Core
Total		15			Total		15	



YEAR 4								
SEMESTER 1				Semester Break	SEMESTER 2			
COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type		COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	Cr	Type
EDUC296	Educational Psychology	3	Core		PSYC498	Internship	6	Core
PHIL215	Ethics for Life and Career	3	Core		PSYC499	Psychology Senior Seminar	2	Core
SOC243	Social Problems	3	Core		PSYC497	Independent Study in Psychology	3	Core
PSYC324	Child Psychopathology	3	Core		WS315	Social Justice and Service	3	Non-Core
WS357	Human Relations with Global Perspective	3	Non-Core					
Total		15		Total		14		

Total Graduation Credits		
TYPE	CREDITS	%
Core	85	70.25%
Non-Core	36	29.75%
Total	121	100%



SUMMARY OF MODULES

YEAR 1 – SEMESTER 1

WS 100 Wesleyan Seminar - 1cr

This course offers instruction in accessing University resources, developing social and academic strategies for success, and participating effectively within the IW community. The course includes completion of an academic-service project as an integrative learning experience that promotes the ability to understand and apply the Life Skills, understand service as an aspect of IW's mission, and undertake critical reflection

ENG 109 College Composition (WI) - 3cr

In this course, students will be introduced to college-level writing. Assignments will move from first-person essay to more traditional academic writing such as rhetorical analysis and persuasive essays. The course also examines visual texts and focuses on revision and reflective writing. The course promotes as learning outcomes an understanding of rhetorical foundations such as audience, voice, and genre; development of effective writing process that includes scaffolding and peer review; demonstration of research skills and accurate citation of sources; and participation in academic conversations that produce polished, final writings in a portfolio.

COMM 147 Introduction to Public Speaking - 3cr

This course teaches effective presentational skills through the performance of speeches and literary interpretations. Students develop key public speaking skills such as audience analysis, exigency analysis, critical and interpretive analysis of content, organization of content in appropriate presentational formats, and the effective use of voice, diction, pacing, and emphasis.

MATH 162 College Algebra and Trigonometry - 4cr

Students satisfactorily completing this course will understand algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. This course serves as a preparation for calculus. Not open to students who have successfully completed high school mathematics through advanced math or calculus except by consent of the instructor. Prerequisites: A working knowledge of algebra.

PSYC 101 Careers in Psychology – 1 cr

This course will introduce you to the field of Psychology and to the department of Psychology at Iowa Wesleyan College. This course will primarily discuss the many areas of psychology, career paths for psychology students (including graduate school) and opportunities for increasing the likelihood of success after graduation. Students will also learn the skills and experiences needed to achieve these career goals.



PSYC 131 General Psychology - 3cr

This course provides a broad overview of the science of psychology including its main sub-disciplines, such as abnormal psychology, motivation, personality, memory, learning, emotions, therapy and biopsychology. By completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate an increased understanding of themselves and others, show appreciation for the nature and range of the science of psychology, identify the career possibilities that are available in the field of psychology and show themselves proficient in the scientific methods employed in psychological research.



YEAR 1 – SEMESTER 2

ENG 110 College Research (WI) - 3cr

In this course, students will be introduced to college-level research. Assignments will focus on researching and creating knowledge about one's field or major through reflective writing, professional and scholarly resources, interviews with members of one's field. Essays will move from an initial sketch of the student's interests in the field to a report on the current job market to a research-driven essay examining a problem in the field and eventual revision and expansion with more scholarly sources. The course promotes as learning outcomes an understanding of discourse communities and professional networking; demonstration of thorough research techniques, knowledge gathering, implementation, and accurate citation of sources; and participation in professional conversations that produce work approaching those of incoming experts in the field.

DMD 109 Survey of Multimedia - 3cr

This course is an introduction to the broad field of multimedia. Students will learn problem-solving skills and design principles using the tools and resources implemented in this field. This class gives hands-on experience in five media: graphic design, image processing, sound design, video production and Web design. This an active-learning course focusing on creative assignments and online publishing. At the conclusion of this course, students will display their work on a personal Website designed by each student.

CHEM 175 Principles of Chemistry I - 4cr

A mathematically based introductory course in chemistry. Topics include atomic and molecular structure, chemical relationships, quantitative relationships, and gas theories. Laboratory will emphasize concepts covered in lecture. Upon successful completion, students will be able to solve qualitative and quantitative problems involving stoichiometric relationships, will have an understanding of kinetic molecular theory and how it applies to the behavior of gases, and will possess the basic conceptual vocabulary necessary to understand chemical information. Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment Math 162 or higher, or consent of instructor

MATH 171 Elementary Statistics - 4cr

An introduction to probability and statistics. Students satisfactorily completing this course will demonstrate skills in assignment of probability using permutations and combinations, distributions of random variables and statistics, and large sample theory, introduction to estimation and tests of significance. Includes Excel lab.

PSYC 251 Developmental Psychology – 3cr

This course considers the development of an individual from conception through adolescence. By completing this course, students should be able to describe their own childhood and explain the influence it has had on shaping their adult personality, identify the main content areas in the study of human development and describe and critique the impact of governmental policies on children so as to become informed participants in shaping public policy.



YEAR 2 – SEMESTER 1

PSYC 377 History and Systems of Psychology – 3cr

This course serves as the capstone course for the major. In it, students study the historical development of the discipline of psychology as well as contemporary systems and issues. By completing this course, students should be able to explain how the historical development of the field of psychology has led to its current state and the probable future directions of the field. The student will also be able to identify current issues in the field of psychology and key philosophical questions, such as free will versus determinism; materialism versus supernaturalism; the descriptive versus prescriptive approach; the relationship between subjectivity and objectivity; and the nature of the self/consciousness. Prerequisites: PSYC 131 and Junior or Senior-level standing.

MATH355 – Introduction to Sets and Logic - 3cr

Students satisfactorily completing this course will be able to read, write and reason mathematically. Topics include elementary logic, sets and their properties, relations, functions, Boolean algebra, and finite and infinite sets.

SOC 310 Race and Ethnicity – 3cr

This course will discuss the concepts of race, ethnicity, dominant group vs. the minority group status, human diversity as well as the concepts of discrimination, racism, attitudes, prejudice and stereotyping in this concept. It will also discuss various racial, ethnic, religious, nationality, linguistic, and cultural groups in the U.S. in particular, and the human diversity all over the world in general.

PSYC 209 Social Psychology - 3cr

The purpose of this course is to introduce the field of social psychology. There are three major sub-goals: (1) To introduce the ways in which social psychologists think about and approach the world. One of the recurring themes will be that social psychology relies on experimental studies of the social processes that surround us in everyday life. The results of such experiments sometimes do, and sometimes do not, support intuitions that people might have about social behavior. (2) To introduce the body of knowledge and underlying principles that currently exist in the field. (3) To encourage thought about the implications of social-psychological research for daily life. Prerequisites: SOC 100 or PSYC 131.

PSYC 240 Theories of Personality - 3cr

This course focuses on the principles and theories of normal personality development and adjustment, with emphasis on stress, coping skills and communication. By completing this course, students should be able to explain how to cope with common problems encountered at each stage of the adult life-cycle, demonstrate an awareness of how to derive greater fulfillment from his/her relationships with others, show improved communication skills by learning the basic ways people communicate, and identify his/her own needs and motives, and analyze how these impact on our relationships by discussing the role of childhood experiences,



physical constitution, and the environment in forming our needs and motives. Prerequisites:
PSYC 131



YEAR 2 – SEMESTER 2

PSYC 271 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences - 3cr

Students will be introduced to statistical techniques used to conduct behavioral science research. Methods are presented which make possible inferences about a population from knowledge of small samples. Methods of measurement and techniques available to summarize sets of data will be discussed. The course will stress an understanding of conceptual issues involved in the selection of statistical methods rather than memorization of formulas.

PSYC 326 Introduction to Counseling – 3cr

This course covers the basic principles and techniques of counseling. By completing this course, students will be able to articulate the major approaches to counseling (e.g., action oriented therapies, experiential/emotive-oriented therapies, cognitive-behavioral therapies, group approaches, and systems approaches), demonstrate specific skills commonly used in counseling, understand common issues typically faced by counselors, appreciate the mechanics of the healing process, and understand career possibilities in the field of counseling. Prerequisites: PSYC 324 or PSYC 361 (or permission of instructor)

SOC 205 The Family

This course examines the basic dynamics of family relationships from both psychological and sociological perspectives. By completing this course, students should be able to explain the major family structures and the family life cycle, identify typical patterns that develop within families, show proficiency in the practical skills for handling family conflict and describe the reciprocal influence of family life, culture and society.

PSYC 365 Psychology of Addiction – 3cr

This is a multidimensional course that focuses on the psychological, biological, social and family system variables found within addiction. By completing this course, students should be able to describe and discuss the facts and concepts of addiction, identify the functions, meanings, models and at-risk factors of addiction, recognize and describe the effects of family dynamics in the arena of dependency, and describe interactions within interventions and treatments of addiction.

REL 265 War and Peace - 3cr

This course examines philosophical questions of war and peace, including the role of religions in making war and peace. It will consider the potential for both violence and peacemaking within several religious traditions, as well as secular and philosophical ideologies. Students will be able to reflect on the question of just and unjust wars, evaluate the ideas of pacifism and its alternatives, and consider how religion might be a resource for peacemaking.



SOC 243 Social Problems - 3cr

This course is designed to present an enlightened analytical review, understanding, and interpretation of contemporary social problems within the context of broad social and structural forces that make America what it is today. Emphasis is on the links between specific modern social problems and broader structural issues of inequality and the economic priorities in the United States today. Strategies for dealing with or solving social problems will be explored. Those who successfully complete the course will be able to identify and analyze the elements of most of the major social problems, especially in the United States.

BIO 302 Plant Morphology - 4cr

A lecture and laboratory course designed to acquaint the student with morphological and ecological relationships of representative members of the plant kingdom. Morphogenesis and evolutionary trends are emphasized. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to describe in depth the morphology and evolution of plants. Prerequisites: BIO 201

BIO 260 Ecology and Conservation - 4cr

A lecture, laboratory, and field study of ecological principles as they apply to plant and animal interrelationships in their environment. Natural systems analysis and natural resource conservation are studied. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate a knowledge of the basic concepts and applications of conservation.

BIO 380 – Topics in Biology – 4cr

This will be an intensive study of a selected topic and may include laboratory and/ or field work. The specific topics will be selected with regard for student needs and interests of the faculty. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to collect information on a specific topic in biology, compose a document to demonstrate scientific writings skills, and demonstrate the knowledge related to the topic studied. May be repeated for different topics.

PE 107 Dance and Movement - 3cr

Survey of dance and dance history with emphasis on the relationship of dance and dance forms to the societies in which they developed. Development of knowledge and skill in folk and square dances, American country dances and ballroom dancing, cultural influences of folk arts. Participation in a variety of dances for school and adult recreation and lecture.



YEAR 3 – SEMESTER 1

PSYC 374 Psychology of Gender – 3cr

This course introduces students to psychological theories and research exploring issues relevant to gender, including gender development and construction, gender stereotypes, gender discrimination, sexuality, and relationships. This course provides an overview of gender similarities and differences across a range of important life domains. Students learn to recognize the impact of gender in everyday life, as well as its role in society. Students are challenged to explore the complexity of gender.

PSYC 336 Motivation and Emotion – 3cr

The purpose of this course is to help students learn ways of thinking usefully and critically (i.e., carefully) about human behavior, through understanding motivation and emotion. Understanding motivation and emotion can aid one in thinking usefully and critically about human behavior - something useful not only in psychology and human services professions, but in many areas of human life. Students will be able to describe, discuss, implement, and appraise the major theories of motivation. In addition, students will be able to identify the major causal indicators known to affect emotion/mood. Prerequisites: PSYC 131.

PSYC 347 Research Methods - 3cr

This course teaches the basic principles and practices of the scientific method as applied to the behavioral sciences. By completing this course, students will be able to conduct a research project through all of its stages, including research design, implementation, analysis of results, and draft of a research paper. Students should also demonstrate proficiency in the broad research skills necessary for creating and testing hypotheses and in the evaluation of research in business, economics, psychology, sociology, criminal justice, education and biology.

PSYC 361 Abnormal Psychology - 3cr

This course surveys a range of major pathological behavioral patterns identified by the DSM-IV-TR and discusses the theories and diagnoses of these patterns. By completing this course, students will be able to differentiate the major models of abnormal behavior and their implied methods of intervention, identify the basic types of mental disorders, and explain the major issues confronted in abnormal psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 131 or PSYC 251.

HUM 499 Senior Capstone in Humanities – 3cr

A senior capstone project supervised by a member of the Humanities division in the emphasis area of the major or minor. In addition to completing the capstone project, students will meet regularly with other humanities students completing capstone projects to share, explore, respond to, and critique each other's projects. Students will keep a journal about the capstone semester, including responses to the capstone projects of other humanities majors and reflections on the experience, including a new engagement with the fundamental questions and issues introduced in Humanities 101. The course will culminate in a public presentation of the capstone projects to be attended by all humanities faculty as well as students taking majors and minors in the humanities.



YEAR 3 – SEMESTER 2

PSYC 372 Positive Psychology - 3cr

This course explores how and why people thrive and experience well-being. Positive psychology is the scientific approach to understanding people's strengths and promoting positive functioning. Students will be able to describe, discuss, implement, and appraise the major theories of the factors related to psychological well-being. In addition, students will gain an understanding of the influence of biological, personal, cultural, and social contexts on human well-being.

PSYC 376 Cognitive Psychology - 3cr

This course provides an in-depth exploration of human cognition, focusing on both classic and current issues. The study of cognition relies heavily on experimental research designed to test models and theories of cognitive processes, and students will explore both behavioral and neuropsychological approaches to data and theory. Topics will include attention, perception, multiple memory systems, encoding and retrieval processes, the role of knowledge, language, and reasoning. Prerequisites: PSYC 131.

PSYC 382 Biopsychology – 3cr

Study of the development, structure, and functioning of the central nervous system in the context of its relations to principles and theories of human behavior. By completing this course, students will be able to identify the major centers of the brain and basic mechanics of brain functioning, explain the complexity of the memory process and how the mind and body affect each other, and summarize the dominant biological processes that interact with the mind to influence perception, emotion, and behavior. Prerequisites: PSYC 131; also recommended prerequisite: BIO 211 or BIO 241 or CHEM 175.

PSYC 310 Introduction to Forensic Psychology – 3cr

This course is a critical examination of the relationships between psychological research, practice, and theory and the law and legal system. Topics that may be considered include standards and assessments of legal competencies, mental state defenses, civil commitment, violence risk assessments, eyewitness identifications, (false) confessions, deception detection, jury behavior, child custody disputes, the roles of psychologists in the courtroom, and ethical issues in psychology and the law. By completing this course, the student will be able to demonstrate the understanding of how psychology and law combine and answer psycho-legal questions as well as apply the appropriate ethical code and guidelines within forensic psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 131.

SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology - 3cr

An introduction to the basic concepts, principles, and theories of sociology. Special attention will be given to examination of individuals and groups in society; social class and conflict; social institutions such as family, education, religion, political organization; and social change. Students who successfully complete the course will be able to explain the above-mentioned social topics and to analyze the dynamics of various social situations.



YEAR 4 – SEMESTER 1

EDUC 296 Educational Psychology – 3cr

Students examine the principles and theories of psychology as they relate to human learning and assessment in education. Students acquire background information about multiple theories of human development; different approaches to cognition and educational research; and various teaching strategies and assessment for traditional and exceptional, handicapped, and gifted and talented students. Students design and score a variety of test formats including multiple choice, essay and portfolio assessment. Students comprehend the processes of instructional design, motivation, classroom management, discipline, measurement and evaluation and understand strategies to meet the unique needs of the “at risk” and special needs student. Prerequisites: A general psychology course is recommended.

PHIL 215 Ethics for Life and Career - 3cr

This course explores the ethical dimensions of human experience, especially with respect to work, professions, careers, and vocations. What is demanded of us as we enter into various careers? What would excellence in these fields require? Are there basic rules governing each profession, and if so, what broader goals do these rules serve? Are there basic rules or principles guiding human life in general? In all of these spheres of life, what does it mean to be good? Prerequisite: ENG 109 and ENG 110

SOC 243 Social Problems - 3cr

This course is designed to present an enlightened analytical review, understanding, and interpretation of contemporary social problems within the context of broad social and structural forces that make America what it is today. Emphasis is on the links between specific modern social problems and broader structural issues of inequality and the economic priorities in the United States today. Strategies for dealing with or solving social problems will be explored. Those who successfully complete the course will be able to identify and analyze the elements of most of the major social problems, especially in the United States.

PSYC 324 Child Psychopathology - 3cr

The purpose of this course is to help students understand the continuum of normal and abnormal human development. The course approaches the topic by combining developmental and abnormal psychology perspectives. Students will be able to describe, discuss, implement, and appraise the major theories of the causes and treatment of developmental psychopathology. They will gain knowledge of the process of evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of childhood disorders. In addition, students will gain an understanding of the influence of biological, cultural, and familial contexts on human development. Prerequisites: PSYC 131 or PSYC 251.

WS 357 Human Relations with a Global Perspective - 3cr

This course will help students understand human relations and develop cultural competency. Students will demonstrate the acquisition of knowledge about and skill in interpersonal and



intergroup relations that contribute to the development of sensitivity to and understanding of the values, beliefs, lifestyles, and attitudes of individuals and the diverse groups found in a pluralistic society. Using a range of learning activities, this class will provide students with a variety of perspectives on global events and issues, allowing students to understand the impact of their actions or inaction as global citizens. Students will begin to translate knowledge of human relations into attitudes, skills, and techniques which will result in favorable learning experiences for students.



YEAR 4 – SEMESTER 2

PSYC 498 Internship in Psychology - 6cr

The internship allows for practical work experience in psychology. Upon successful completion of this internship, students will be able to describe their work experience, connect their work experience to their psychology coursework and articulate orally and in writing what they learned in their field placement. Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing.

PSYC 499 Psychology Senior Seminar - 2cr

This course is designed as a capstone experience, which means that its purpose is to both unify and provide a broader context for knowledge about the field of psychology gained throughout the undergraduate years. Part of this process is exploring connections between both (1) oneself and the field of psychology and (2) the rest of the world and psychology. Students will achieve these goals by completing a senior research thesis, and connecting prior course work with their Internship through discussion with their peers. Prerequisites: Senior standing and PSYC 271 and SSCI 347.

PSYC 497 Independent Study in Psychology – 3cr

This course enables students who are self-motivated to explore in depth a specific and otherwise uncovered topic of interest to them. Students will participate in periodic conferences and submit reports and papers. Successful completers will be able to demonstrate proficiency in their chosen topic of study. Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing, Consent of instructor Required.

WS 315 Social Justice and Service - 3cr

Social Justice and Service will examine important issues of social justice and engage students in critical reflection on their role in being a social change agent. This is an experiential course that immerses students in face-to-face encounters with social justice issues by serving marginalized people groups in an urban or other setting and serving alongside other social justice advocates. Through this course students will be able to identify how social identities impact view of others, gain an understanding of the complex issues that contribute to oppression of marginalized people, including prejudice, and develop skills to create strategies and environments that advocate for the prosperity of others.