

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Faculty

Teresa West (1983). University Professor of Psychology and Department Chair. B.A., Union University; M.A., Ed.S., and Ed.D., University of Memphis.

Jinni Leigh Blalack (1991). Associate Professor of Psychology. B.S., Union University; M.A., Middle Tennessee State University; additional study, Tennessee State University.

Paul Deschenes (2000). Associate Professor of Psychology and Director of Counseling Services. B.A., University of Florida; Psy.D., Rosemead School of Psychology.

Joanne Stephenson (1988). Professor of Psychology. B.S. and M.S., University of Tennessee at Martin; Ed.D., University of Memphis.

David Vickery (1981). University Professor of Psychology. B.A., Wake Forest University; M.A., Appalachian State University; Ph.D., University of Georgia.

Staff

Susan Bolyard (2007) Secretary.

Mission Statement

Committed to academic excellence and development of the whole person, the Department of Psychology strives to challenge and support students in developing a better understanding of human relations and individual adjustment by applying concepts to their personal living. Within a Christian context, the psychology major gives students the preparation for graduate study and the foundation for effective interaction with others in a variety of career settings.

I. Major in Psychology—33 hours

A. PSY 213, 311, 317, 410, 412—15 hours

B. PSY Electives—18 hours

C. Only 2 of the 4 developmental courses (219, 313, 320, 324) may apply toward the major.

II. Minor in Psychology—21 hours

Psychology 213 and 410 are required of all minors.

Assessment of Majors

Psychology Majors are required to take PSY 410 during the Senior year as capstone to the major.

315. History of Psychology (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

The development of psychology from its early beginnings to the present with emphasis upon the various schools of psychology and contributions of outstanding individuals.

316. Behavioral and Cognitive Theories of Learning (3) F, S

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

Prominent theories of learning in the context in which they were originated, their influence upon contemporary psychological thought, and their present applications.

317. Abnormal Psychology (3) F, S

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

Causes and types of abnormal phenomena, mental hygiene, and therapeutic methods.

318. Psychological Foundations of Education (3) F, S

Prerequisite: PSY 213 and EDU 150.

Applying psychological principles to education. Learning, motivation, human growth and development are emphasized.

320. Adult Psychology (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

Late adolescence through late adulthood using the theoretical framework of the life-span with emphasis on physical, cognitive, social and emotional development.

323. Theories of Personality (3) F

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

An introduction to the various theoretical positions regarding the development of personality placed in a general context of psychological theory and related to the psychological adjustment of the individual.

324. Child Growth and Development (3) F, S

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

Physical, cognitive, social and emotional growth of children from prenatal through adolescence. Emphasis on major theories of development, their significance and issues for teachers and other professionals who work with children.

328. Physiological Psychology (3) S

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

The physiological bases of behavior with emphasis upon the neural substrates and biochemical bases of behavior, the sensory functioning and response capabilities of the organism and the genetic determinants of behavior.

330. Health Psychology (3) S

Stress, its effects and how to deal with it will be studied from a conceptual and application basis. Related topics include smoking, obesity, hypertension, headaches, insomnia, type A behavior, gastrointestinal disorders, cancer, and diabetes.

338. Issues in Psychology and Religion (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

Explores the relationship between psychology and religion. Topics include guilt, conscience, growth/maturity, the Church and mental health, and Christian counseling.

400. Positive Psychology (3) F

Prerequisites: PSY 213 plus 6 additional hours from PSY, SOC, SW.

Explores the theory of Positive Psychology and its principles of learned optimism and authentic mental health.

410. Advanced General Psychology (3) F, S

Prerequisite: 15 hours of PSY.

An extensive and in-depth study of the field emphasizing current research, issues, and methodology. In-depth coverage of the major areas of psychology.

412. Experimental Psychology (3) F, S

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

Theoretical and practical aspects of experimental psychology with emphasis on experimental designs and results, practical applications of theoretical concepts and principles of experimental designs and

