

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Faculty

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

Mollie Carter (2022). Assistant Professor. B.S., Union University; M.A., Oral Roberts University; Ph.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.

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.
- III. Bachelor of Art in Pre-Professional Art Therapy—73 hours (no minor required)
 - A. Art requirements—49 hours
 1. Major in BA in Art—31 hours
 2. Primary Emphasis Course: ART 216, 311, 323, 231—12 hours

3. Choose a Secondary Emphasis from the studio subset of BA—6 hours

- B. Psychology Requirements—24 hours
PSY 213, 219, 317, 323, 410, 412, 413, 425

Assessment of Majors

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

Student Organizations

The Psychology Club open to all students, provides information regarding graduate programs and job opportunities for PSY majors and minors, provides information about and encourages the reading of current writings in the field, encourages association among Psychology students, promotes scholastic achievement, and provides information to students who want to learn more about the major.

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology, founded 1929, to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship, and advance the science of psychology. Membership is open to majors who have completed 3 semesters with 9 PSY hours, a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 PSY GPA.

Student Award

The Dr. Bill Bouchillon Psychology Excellence is given to an outstanding graduating senior with a 3.5 GPA or greater in psychology as selected by the Psychology faculty.

Course Offerings in Psychology

313. Adolescent Psychology (3) S-Odd Years

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

A study of the individual during adolescent years with emphasis on the development of self-identity and the problems faced by the American adolescent.

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-Even Years

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.

320. Adult Psychology (3) S-Even Years

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) F-Odd Years

Prerequisite: PSY 213.

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490. Practicum (3) F, S, Su
 Prerequisites: PSY 213, 317, 12 additional PSY hours, and prior approval.
 Field experience in a community agency. A journal and research paper are required. Purchase of professional liability insurance is required.

179-279-379-479. External Domestic Study Programs (1-3) As Needed
 All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

179PF-279PF-379PF-479PF. External Domestic Study Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
 All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

180-280-380-480. Study Abroad Programs (1-4) As Needed
 All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

180PF-280PF-380PF-480PF. Study Abroad Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
 All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to travel.

195-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) On Demand
 295-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) On Demand
 Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

395-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) On Demand
 Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

495-6-7. Independent Study (1-4) On Demand
 Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member(s).

498-9. Seminar (1-3) F On Demand
 To be used at the discretion of the department for majors only.