

Department of Psychology

Note: PSYC 1013 and 1023 Introduction to Psychology are normally prerequisites for all other psychology courses.

Minor in Psychology

Students who wish to obtain a Minor in psychology are required to complete PSYC 1013 & 1023 Introduction to Psychology, and 12 additional credit hours in psychology.

Major in Psychology

1. Specific requirements:
 1. A minimum of 36 credit hours in psychology is required for a major
 2. PSYC 1013 and 1023
 3. PSYC 2013 and 2023 - both must be taken in 2nd year
 4. at least two 3 credit-hour psychology courses at the 3000 level
 5. at least one 4000 level seminar course in Psychology

2. at least 6 credit hours from the following division:

FUNDAMENTALS Division:

- 2013 Introduction to Statistics
- 2023 Introduction to Research Methods
- 3053 Qualitative Research in Psychology
- 3933 Advanced Statistics
- 3943 Advanced Research
- 3953 Quantitative Methods
- 3963 History of Psychology
- 4963 Seminar in the History of Psychology

3. at least 3 credit hours from each of the following divisions:

BIOLOGICAL Division:

- 2113 Sensation
- 2123 Perception
- 2153 Biological Psychology
- 2163 Drugs and Behaviour
- 3113 Hearing
- 3123 Visual Perception
- 3153 Advanced Biological Bases of Psychology
- 3423 Motivation and Emotion

CLINICAL Division:

- 2253 Psychology of Personal Growth
- 2643 Abnormal Psychology (CRIM 2643; GERO 2643 Adult Psychopathology)
- 2653 Abnormal Child Psychology
- 2663 Dangerous Offenders: Assessment and Intervention (CRIM 2663)
- 3223 Health Psychology
- 3613 Models of Psychotherapy with Adults

- 3713 Madness and Medicine
- 3813 Psychological Testing and Assessment
- 4433 Seminar in Women and Mental Health (GEND 4433)
- 4453 Seminar in Stress and Health
- 4513 Seminar in Popular Psychology

DEVELOPMENTAL Division:

- 2613 Physical and Emotional Development
- 2623 Cognitive and Social Development
- 2673 Adult Development and Aging (GERO 2673)
- 3623 Adolescent Development
- 3633 Children, Adolescents, and the Media
- 3733 Developmental Psycholinguistics
- 4623 Seminar in Developmental Psychology

LEARNING & COGNITION Division:

- 2143 Introduction to Linguistics I (ROML 2013)
- 2213 Principles of Learning
- 2233 Introduction to Psychology and the Law
- 2243 Introduction to Linguistics II (ROML 2023)
- 2263 Cognitive Psychology
- 2683 Psychology of Music
- 3213 Behaviour Modification
- 3273 Human Memory
- 4213 Seminar in Behaviour Management
- 4223 Seminar in Psychology and the Law
- 4243 Seminar in Behaviour Psychology
- 4263 Seminar in Cognitive Psychology

SOCIAL & PERSONALITY Division:

- 2183 Human Sexuality
- 2313 Personality Psychology
- 2413 Social Psychology (CRIM 2413)
- 2443 Environmental Psychology
- 3183 Sexuality and Diversity (GEND)
- 3413 Advanced Social Psychology
- 3433 Psychology of Social Influence
- 3433 Psychology of Human-Nature Connection
- 3523 Psychology of Gender and Gender Relations
- 3533 Introduction to Industrial and Organizational Psychology
- 4183 Seminar in Sexuality (GEND)
- 4253 Seminar in Psychology, the Internet, and the Digital World
- 4313 Seminar in Personality
- 4323 Seminar in Romantic Relationships
- 4413 Seminar in Prejudice and Discrimination
- 4423 Seminar in Social Psychology
- 4443 Seminar in Environmental Psychology
- 4483 Seminar in the Psychology of Women
- 4493 Seminar in the Psychology of Men and Masculinity
- 4533 Seminar in Industrial and Organizational Psychology

- The remaining credits can be taken from any of the courses offered by the Department including the following list:
2823, 2833, 2843 Special Topics
3823, 3833, 3843 Special Topics
4823, 4833, 4843 Special Topics: Seminar
4883 Independent Study

Honours in Psychology

Students who are interested in pursuing graduate study in Psychology are advised to complete the Honours BA program. This program provides greater breadth and depth in the substantive and methodological areas of Psychology. Although not a requisite for advanced study in psychology, many universities strongly recommend the completion of an Honours degree and Honours thesis as an important part of preparation for graduate study in Psychology. In addition to meeting the general norms of the University for an Honours degree, students who wish to take the Honours B. A. program in Psychology must meet specific regulations of the Psychology Department.

The Department of Psychology offers courses leading to the BA (Honours) degree. Faculty can provide expertise in the substantive areas of cognition, neuropsychology, history of psychology, human development, child development, social psychology, social cognition, clinical psychology, personality, quantitative and qualitative methods, and psychometrics.

1. Admission to Honours

Students who wish to complete an Honours degree in Psychology normally apply to the Department Chair by January 31 of the academic year before one plans to begin the Honours program. At this time, students apply, in writing, describing their probable area of focus for the Honours thesis project. Usually, students accepted to the Psychology Honours program will have a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher for the last 60 credit hours (in all courses, including those taken in the Winter term in which they are applying). Given the workload of the Honours Program, students with a cumulative GPA lower than 3.7 are encouraged to seek the advice of the Department Chair before applying.

Successful applicants will normally meet the following criteria:

- completion of Psyc 1013 and Psyc 1023 (or their equivalents);
- completion of Psych 2013 and Psyc 2023 (or their equivalents), with a minimum grade of B and no grade lower than a C+ in any Psychology course;
- completion of Psyc 3933 and Psyc 3943 (or their equivalents), with a minimum grade of A- and no grade lower than a C+ in any Psychology course;
- indication of interest in pursuing a research-based graduate degree, or a career involving research skills, following graduation from St. Thomas University;
- indication that two or more full-time faculty members in the Psychology Department have expressed interest in supervising the student in a thesis project.

Important: Students planning to apply to the Honours Program must discuss a course plan that adequately prepares them for the Honours thesis, and subsequent career goals, as early as possible in their program, with either the Department Chair or some other full-time faculty member.

2. Sequence of Activities for Perspective Honours Students

- i. Initial interview with full-time faculty members (in the Fall term or in January).
- ii. Letter to the Chair of Psychology by January 31st of the academic year before one plans to begin the Honours program, expressing interest in the Honours program. This letter should include: a) a description of your reasons for pursuing an Honours degree and your general areas of interest, b) indication that two or more full-time faculty members in the Psychology Department have expressed interest in supervising you in a thesis project, and c) a summer contact address and telephone number.
- iii. Pre-registration in PSYC 4996 (at the end of the academic year in which you applied to the Honours Program).
- iv. Notification of acceptance into the Honours Program will occur in the late Spring or early Summer. This notification will include the name of your Thesis Supervisor. On receiving the notification, students should contact their supervisor as soon as possible.

Important note: It is recommended that students write the GRE (General Test) in April (registration deadline February) of their third or second-last academic year and the subject GRE (if necessary) in the Fall of their last academic year.

3. Thesis

Students admitted to the Honours program are required to complete an Honours Thesis. Honours Thesis is an independent research project undertaken in collaboration with a full-time Faculty Member who serves as Thesis Supervisor. Topic for Honours Thesis is developed in consultation with the Faculty Supervisor, and the research may employ quantitative and/or qualitative methods. Honours students are required to present orally their completed thesis in Thesis Departmental colloquium. Thesis colloquium is typically held in April (exact dates vary from year to year).

4. Program Requirements

A. Specific requirements:

- i. a minimum of 54 credit hours in Psychology
- ii. PSYC 1013 and PYSC 1023
- iii. PSYC 2013 and 2023 (must both be taken before PSYC 3933 and PSYC 3943 and it is strongly recommended to be taken in 2nd year)
- iv. PSYC 3933 (Advanced Statistics)
- v. PSYC 3943 (Advanced Research)
- vi. PSYC 3963 (History of Psychology)
- vii. PSYC 4996 (Honours Thesis)
- viii. at least one additional 3 credit hour Psychology course at the 3000 level
- ix. at least one additional 3 credit hour Psychology course at the 4000 level (in addition to the Honours Thesis)

B. At least 15 credit hours from the FUNDAMENTALS Division

C. At least 3 credit hours from each of the following divisions as outlined in the Major section:

BIOLOGICAL Division
CLINICAL Division
DEVELOPMENTAL Division
LEARNING & COGNITION Division
SOCIAL & PERSONALITY Division

Note: See the Major section for list of courses under each division

D. The remaining credits can be taken from any of the courses offered by the Department including the following list:

2823, 2833, 2843 Special Topics
3823, 3833, 3843 Special Topics
4823, 4833, 4843 Special Topics: Seminar
4883 Independent Study

5. Degree Requirements

To be awarded the Honours degree in Psychology upon graduation, students must meet the following requirements:

- i. The program must include 54 credit hours in Psychology, and normally not more than 60 credit hours, including those specific course requirements outlined above.
- ii. In addition to grade requirements for admission to the Honours Program (students usually have a GPA of 3.7 or higher), students must obtain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 (B) in all Psychology courses taken, normally with no grade lower than C+ in any Psychology course.

PSYC-1013. Introduction to Psychology I

This course will introduce a variety of topics within psychology. Topics to be covered include research methods, history of psychology, brain and behaviour, sensation and perception, learning, memory, and cognition.

PSYC-1023. Introduction to Psychology II

This course will introduce a variety of topics within psychology. Topics to be covered include research methods, developmental psychology, intelligence and creativity, personality, abnormal behaviour and therapy, social psychology, and applied topics.

PSYC-2013. Introduction to Statistics

This course focuses on statistics used by psychologists to describe and analyze research data. Course content will include a comprehensive coverage of descriptive statistics and an introduction to inferential statistics and hypothesis testing procedures. Students must take 2013 in their second year.

PSYC-2023. Introduction to Research Methods

This course focuses on methods used by psychologists to conduct research. Course content will include comprehensive coverage of the scientific method, the logic of experimental design, ethics, and report writing. In addition, students will be required to write research papers and may be asked to design and/or conduct their own research projects. Students must take 2023 in their second year.

PSYC-2113. Sensation

An introduction to the study of sensation. The emphasis will be on vision and hearing. The course will begin with an examination of the stimuli and the structure and function of the receptors. Other topics will include the psychophysical methods, sensory scaling, and a survey of data on several senses. These topics can be varied to suit the interests of the students.

PSYC-2123. Perception

An introduction to the study of human perception. Emphasis will be on vision but hearing will also be discussed. Topics will include the perception of form, pattern recognition, constancy, attention, and perceptual learning. Topics can be selected to meet the interests of the class.

PSYC-2143. Introduction to Linguistics I (ROML 2013)

Introduction to the scientific study of language and particularly to the terminology, theory and practice of linguistic analysis in phonetics (the study of the sounds of human language) and phonology (the study of sound patterns of human languages).

PSYC-2153. Biological Psychology

This course provides a general introduction to the physiological processes that underlie selected behaviours. Understanding of these biological processes is fundamental to many areas of psychology, including addictive behaviours and the relationship between stress and health.

PSYC-2163. Drugs and Behaviour

This course will examine the measurable effects of drugs on naturally occurring and experimentally-controlled behaviour. Drug action will be evaluated based on its effects on the nervous system and behaviour. Social issues of drug use, such as addiction and legalization, will be covered. The mechanisms involved in psychotherapeutic uses of drugs, including their immediate and long-term effects, will also be reviewed.

PSYC-2183. Human Sexuality

The course surveys topics in human sexuality that have attracted the attention of researchers and theorists from many different areas of psychology. Fundamental questions concerning the nature, development, and expression of human sexuality will be addressed along with specific issues of contemporary concern.

PSYC-2213. Principles of Learning

An introduction to the principles of respondent and operant conditioning. In addition to the basic learning paradigms, various conditioning phenomena such as reinforcement schedules, generalization, discrimination, stimulus control, positive reinforcement, and aversive control will be studied with reference to human and animal research.

PSYC-2223. Psychology of Religion (RELG 2223)

The examination of religious experience drawing from the classic approaches to psychology such as William James, Sigmund Freud, and Carl Jung, and their contemporary interpreters.

PSYC-2233. Introduction to Psychology and the Law

Psychology has a bearing on most aspects of the legal process. Increasingly, psychologists are being asked to share their knowledge with those in the judicial system. Topics may include: the reliability of eyewitness testimony, police interview techniques, the use of mug shots, and the use of line-up procedures.

PSYC-2243. Introduction to Linguistics II (ROML 2023)

Introduction to the scientific study of language and particularly to the terminology, theory and practice of linguistic analysis in morphology (the study of word structure), syntax (the study of phrase structure), and semantics (the study of meaning).

PSYC-2253. Psychology of Personal Growth

This course is concerned with the growth and development of a healthy person. Topics to be covered may include concepts of identity, authenticity, self-awareness, and happiness. Students will be encouraged to use psychological theory to develop a deeper understanding of themselves as healthy persons.

PSYC-2263. Cognitive Psychology

This course will introduce students to current theories of human mental processes and the methods used to study them. Topics may include attention, memory, language comprehension and production, concepts, imagery, judgment, decision-making, and problem solving.

PSYC-2313. Personality Psychology

Introduction to the nature, study, and conceptualization of personality. Historical and contemporary theoretical perspectives of personality will be critically examined, and applications will be discussed.

PSYC-2413. Social Psychology (CRIM 2413)

This course will review a variety of topics within social psychology including social cognition and social perception, attitudes and attitude change, understanding the self, interpersonal attraction, persuasion, conformity, prejudice, aggression, and altruism.

PSYC-2443. Environmental Psychology (ENVS)

This course will provide an introduction to the broad area of environmental psychology. In addition to covering the psychology of climate change, action, and sustainability, this course will survey such topics as the built and natural environments, environmental perception and cognition, personality and the environment, personal space and crowding, place attachment, as well as residential and urban environmental psychology.

PSYC-2613. Physical and Emotional Development

This course will cover various aspects of development including prenatal development, physical development from birth through puberty, motor development, emotional development, and the development of a sense of self and identity.

PSYC-2623. Cognitive and Social Development

This course will cover age-related changes in language and cognition as well as the development of gender roles and schemas, moral development, peer relations, and the influence of such factors as families and the media.

PSYC-2643. Abnormal Psychology (CRIM 2643 / GERO 2643 Adult Psychopathology)

This course examines issues in the diagnosis and treatment of the most common psychological disorders in adulthood. Students are introduced to the history of psychopathology, from primitive to modern times, which traces the development of biological, psychodynamic, behavioural, cognitive, and sociocultural models of abnormality. Possible topics include: anxiety disorders, mood disorders, schizophrenia, and personality disorders.

PSYC-2653. Abnormal Child Psychology

This course examines issues in the diagnosis and treatment of the most common psychological disorders of childhood and adolescence, with a primary focus on children. Following a consideration of different psychological approaches to etiology and treatment, the course examines a broad range of psychological problems. Topics may include mental retardation, pervasive developmental disorders, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, learning disorders, conduct problems, and child abuse and neglect.

PSYC-2663. Dangerous Offenders: Assessment and Intervention (CRIM 2663)

The course will examine the psychology of criminal behaviour. Topics covered include theories of criminal behaviour, assessment and classification of offenders, prediction of criminal behaviour, and rehabilitation and treatment of offenders.

PSYC-2673. Adult Development and Aging (GERO 2673)

The course provides an introduction to psychological aspects of aging faced by middle- and old-aged persons as they adapt to life events. Topics of study include: demographical studies, theories and models of aging, psychological assessment of elderly persons, personality in adulthood, changes in vision and audition, memory processing, learning, and intellectual functioning.

PSYC-2683. Psychology of Music

This course is an introduction to the study of music from the perspective of psychology. Emphasis will be on how people experience, understand, and create music. Possible topics include: meaning and emotion in music; music and the brain; music and language; listening to, performing, and learning music; musical exceptionalities. Prerequisites: PSYC 1013 and PSYC 1023.

PSYC-2823/2833/2843. Special Topics

The content of this course changes from year to year to reflect the special strengths of faculty and the particular needs of students.

PSYC-3053. Qualitative Research in Psychology

This course explores ways of generating knowledge in psychology through the interpretation of talk and text. Whereas much research in psychology is rooted in quantitative methods (e.g., involving statistics), this course explores ways of developing knowledge using qualitative methods (e.g., involving interviews or focus groups). Through this course, students will gain hands-on training in asking research questions, developing interview guides, conducting research interviews, and analysis according to three traditions: thematic analysis, grounded theory, and discourse analysis. Prerequisite: Psyc 2023 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3113. Hearing

This course will examine the many facets of hearing. The purpose is to expand upon some of the topics covered in PSYC 2113 (Sensation). Topics may include mapping the auditory cortical fields, the coding of sound, and plasticity, learning, and cognition. Prerequisites: PSYC 2023 & 2113, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3123. Visual Perception

This course will examine the many facets of visual perception. The purpose is to expand upon some of the topics covered in Sensation and Perception. Topics may include approaches to perception, perceptual organization and the computation of image and motion. Prerequisites: PSYCH 2023, 2113 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3153. Advanced Biological Bases of Psychology

This course continues the exploration of the biological basis of behaviour. The material covered in this course is relevant to many areas of psychology. The course content will build directly from PSYC 2153 and cover biological bases of language, and sensation and perception, learning and memory, psychological disorders, and sleep and consciousness. Prerequisite: PSYC 2153.

PSYC-3183. Sexuality and Diversity (GEND)

This course will encourage students to critically examine the diverse factors that contribute to how sexuality is conceptualised and represented. Multiple perspectives, including cultural, psychosocial, and biological, will be considered. Possible topics include sexual orientation, varieties in sexual development and expression, attraction, and psychological perspectives on sex as a commodity. Prerequisites: PSYC 2183

PSYC-3213. Behaviour Modification

A survey of the application of principles of respondent and operant conditioning derived from laboratory and clinical settings. Behavioural and cognitive-behavioural research on the use of these principles in various settings (e.g., home, schools, institutions) will be discussed. Prerequisite: PSYC 2213.

PSYC-3223. Health Psychology

This course will review a variety of topics within health psychology, including stress, coping and health, pain, chronic illness, the physician-patient relationship, and health care, as well as the impact of various behaviours such as smoking, drinking, and exercise on health status.

PSYC-3273. Human Memory

This course will examine theories of human memory and information processing with emphasis on contemporary research in the field. Topics to be covered include short-term memory and long-term memory, encoding and retrieval processes, forgetting, implicit memory, amnesia, autobiographical memory, and memory across the lifespan. Prerequisite: PSYC 2263 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3413. Advanced Social Psychology

This course provides exposure to major current issues in the study of social behaviour. Prerequisite: PSYC 2413

PSYC-3423. Motivation and Emotion

This course is intended as a general introduction to the properties and determinants of motivated behaviours and emotional states. Topics include physiology of motivational systems (e.g. hunger, thirst), the role of cognition in emotion, and the structure and mechanisms of emotion. Prerequisite: PSYC 2023.

PSYC-3433. Psychology of Social Influence

This course presents a review of psychological theory and research relating to the interplay between personal and social factors in the context of social influence. Fundamental theories and processes related to social influence, such as compliance, obedience, and the role of cognitive processes in social influence, will be covered. Specific topics, such as social norms, authority, media, cults, the role of moods in influence, and resisting social influence, may be considered. Prerequisite: PSYC 2413.

PSYC-3443. Psychology of Human-Nature Connection (ENVS)

This course focuses on examining human connection to nature. The course includes in-class and outdoor experiential learning components. Topics may include: the role of nature in relation to health and psychological well-being, social and community aspects of human-nature interaction, and a critical examination of nature-oriented therapeutic approaches. Prerequisites: PSYC 2023 (Intro to Research Methods)

PSYC-3523. Psychology of Gender and Gender Relations

An introduction to contemporary issues related to differences in the experience and behaviour of females and males. Prerequisite: PSYC 2023 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3533. Introduction to Industrial and Organizational Psychology (BUSI 3513)

Industrial and Organizational (I/O) Psychology is an area of psychology focused on acquiring and applying knowledge of human behaviour in work contexts. In this course students will be introduced to the theories, methods, findings, and applications of industrial and organizational psychology. A comprehensive list of I/O topics will be covered using lectures, readings, class activities and assignments. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013 and 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3613. Models of Psychotherapy with Adults

A survey of the principles and theories of counselling and psychotherapy, especially as methods of facilitating individual change. Major attention will be given to the various theories and the theoretical behaviour systems on which they are based. Attention will also be given to the goals, techniques, and the philosophy and concepts of each theory. Prerequisite: PSYC 2643.

PSYC-3623. Adolescent Development

A study of the developmental changes which mark human behaviour during the second decade of life. Physiological, intellectual, emotional, and social aspects of these changes will be explored from an ontogenic point of view. Factors affecting assumptions of sex roles will be considered. Prerequisites: PSYC 2613 and 2623, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3633. Children, Adolescents, and the Media

Canadian children and adolescents spend on average two to three hours per day in front of some kind of screen (including computers, video games, and televisions). This course critically examines how media use affects children and adolescents' mental health as well as their cognitive, emotional, and social development. Topics may include the media's effects on children and adolescents' violent behaviour, substance abuse, gender stereotyping, sexuality, body image, consumerism, and the potential benefits of the media. Prerequisites: PSYC 2613 and PSYC 2623.

PSYC-3673. Challenges to Adult Development and Aging (GERO 3673)

The course investigates both normal and abnormal influences that pose challenges to the individual and social functioning of middle-aged and older adults. Topics of study include such relatively common events and transitions as menopause, retirement, relocation, loss of spouse, caring for an ailing parent or spouse, as well as such pathological changes as depression, substance abuse, terminal illness, and dementia. Emphasis is placed on changes in response to these influences and on the individual's coping strategies. Prerequisite: PSYC 2673.

PSYC-3713. Madness and Medicine

This course examines the medicalization of madness and its social, scientific, and political significance. The basic tenets of the biomedical approach to abnormality will be reviewed along with the psychiatric classification system of mental disorders. In addition to considering the therapeutic efficacy and scientific merit of this approach, the course will also explore the sociopolitical dimensions of madness and psychiatry's links to the pharmaceutical and insurance industries. Prerequisite: PSYC 2643 Abnormal Psychology or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3733. Developmental Psycholinguistics

This course examines current theories and research on the development of language in children. Topics may include the nature of language, the biological basis of language development, the development of different components of language (phonology, semantics, syntax, pragmatics), language development in special populations, and childhood bilingualism. Prerequisites: PSYC 2613 and 2623, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3813. Psychological Testing and Assessment

This course is intended as a general introduction to psychological testing and assessment. The primary objective is to familiarize students with the main varieties of psychological tests together with the theoretical rationale behind their development. Special attention will be given to evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of assessment procedures. Consideration will be given to ethical questions involved in testing, as well as technical issues in test construction. Prerequisite: PSYC 2013 and 2023.

PSYC-3823/3833/3843. Special Topics

The content of this course changes from year to year to reflect the special strengths of faculty and the particular needs of students.

PSYC-3933. Advanced Statistics

This course focuses on advanced statistical procedures for analyzing psychological data. Topics covered include analysis of variance, post hoc multiple comparisons, correlation, and regression. Prerequisite: PSYC 2013 and 2023.

PSYC-3943. Advanced Research

This course is designed to prepare students for writing an Honours thesis and for overall participation in the Honours program. The course will focus primarily on the written and presentational aspects of a psychological research project, the peer review process, and on various ethical considerations when conducting a study. Discussion of various experimental and non-experimental methods will be embedded within the primary course content. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, PSYC 2023, and PSYC 3933.

PSYC-3953. Quantitative Methods

This course elaborates and extends the statistical procedures covered in PSYC 3933. Topics may include univariate and multivariate analyses of variance for different research designs, single and multiple correlations, as well as various regression procedures. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013 and 3933, or a full-credit course in statistics.

PSYC-3963. History of Psychology

This course is a general introduction to the history of psychology. We will explore some of the intellectual, social, and institutional reasons that psychology emerged when and where it did. Areas to be investigated include Wundt's contributions, functionalism, and behav-

iorism. Special attention will be given to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, because decisions were made then that affect us even today. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013 and 2023 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-3973. Introduction to Narrative and Narrative Analysis (SCWK)

Framed around three key approaches to narrative this course will provide students with the basis on which to develop their understanding of narrative and their skills in narrative analysis. The three approaches are: the narrative study of lives; the narrative analysis of texts; and, the analysis of narrative dynamics. Through these approaches students will be introduced to the work of key narrative thinkers. The course, in content and delivery, reflects the interdisciplinary nature of narrative.

PSYC-4183. Seminar in Sexuality (GEND)

This seminar focuses on advanced exploration of the area of human sexuality. The course will critically examine scholarly constructions and representations of sexuality via class discussions and presentations of research in the field of sexuality. Possible topics include sexual identities, sexual pleasure, constructions of sexuality knowledge, and media and sexuality. Prerequisites: PSYC 2023 and 2183, or permission of the instructor

PSYC-4213. Seminar in Behaviour Management

This course deals with the application of behavioural and cognitive-behavioural principles to areas of self-management and client management. The focus will be on applications of behavioural and cognitive-behavioural techniques to improve the quality of life and to manage behaviour. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, 2023, and 2213, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4223. Seminar in Psychology and the Law

Psychological science impacts on most aspects of the legal process and psychologists are increasingly being asked to participate by providing knowledge to this system. This seminar course examines the application of psychological science to the justice system. Topics may include reliability of eyewitness testimony, repressed memories and the courts, children as eyewitnesses, psychological disorders and their effects on witness reliability. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, 2023 and 2233, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4243. Seminar in Behaviour Psychology

A detailed examination of the assumptions, theory, and research in behavioural and cognitive-behavioural psychology. Prerequisite: PSYC 2013, 2023 and 2213, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4253. Psychology, the Internet, and the Digital World

This course examines the psychological interface between the individual and the Internet. This course may explore such issues as online relationship development and cybersex, self-presentation and impression formation, cyberbullying, Internet addiction, virtual reality and virtual societies, website design and effect, Big Data, health informatics, tele-health, and online technology in education. The emphasis will be on a broad understanding of how people understand, experience, and use the Internet while being affected by it. Pre-requisites: Psychology 2013, 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4263. Seminar in Cognitive Psychology

Advanced exploration of theoretical and empirical work in one or more areas of cognitive psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, 2023 and 2263, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4313. Seminar in Personality

Advanced exploration of theoretical and empirical work in one or more areas of personality psychology. Topics of discussion may include: personality across the lifespan, normal versus abnormal personality traits, biological approaches to the study of personality, prediction of stress, and the use of personality in the workplace. Prerequisite: PSYC 2313, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4323. Seminar in Romantic Relationships

This course focuses on the lifecycle of romantic relationships – from initial attraction and the development of an attachment, to growth and maintenance of the relationship, to conflict and even dissolution. A social psychology perspective will be adopted, with an emphasis on understanding the basic processes involved in interpersonal relations. Classes will be heavily oriented toward discussing, presenting, and evaluating research in the field. Prerequisites: PSYC 2023 and 2413, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4413. Seminar in Prejudice and Discrimination

A seminar course dealing with some of the dynamics of prejudice and discrimination. The topics include the development of prejudice, the prejudiced personality, and societal efforts to cope with the problems of prejudice. While the main focus will be on North America, some consideration will be given to material derived from other societies. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, 2023, 2413 and 2423, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4423. Seminar in Social Psychology

Exploration of theoretical and empirical work in one or more areas of social psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, 2023 and 2413, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4433. Seminar in Women and Mental Health (GEND 4433)

This course will review and critically examine the theory and research in the area of women's mental health. Developed from a feminist perspective, this course will explore women's and girls' experiences of mental health and distress, and the ways in which these experiences have been conceptualized in clinical psychology. Topics include gender and the social determinants of health, problems prevalent among women (e.g., depression, eating disorders, personality disorders), and feminist approaches to intervention. Prerequisite: PSYC 2643, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4443. Seminar in Environmental Psychology (ENVS)

Building upon PSYC 2443 Environmental Psychology, this seminar explores in greater detail the contributions psychology can make to the resolution of a broad range of environmental crises. The course will examine key values, attitudes, and behaviours that would support a sustainable future, and the contributions that psychology can make to the promotion of a sustainable future. Prerequisite: PSYC 2013 and 2023 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4453. Seminar in Stress and Health

This seminar focuses on an advanced understanding of stress and health. Students will be exposed to the theories, research methods, and findings related to stress, as well as the relationship of stress to health and health behaviour, and coping. Topics may include the measurement of stress and health, as well as academic, workplace, and relationship stress. Other topics may be explored. This course will focus on the biopsychosocial aspects of stress and health. Prerequisites: Psychology 2013, 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4483. Seminar in the Psychology of Women

This course is designed to examine women's experiences and the treatment of women in psychological research, theory, and applied practice from a feminist perspective. This will involve analyzing psychological concepts of women and gender, examining the impact of our culture on our understanding of womanhood and femininity, reflecting on our own experiences, developing critical thinking skills, and understanding the diversity of women. Topics may include feminist approaches to research, stereotypes, sexuality, childhood, violence against women, and women and health. Prerequisite: PSYC 2013 and 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4493. Seminar in the Psychology of Men and Masculinity

This course critically explores the contemporary male and masculine roles in 21st century society. The course is designed to acquaint students with current understandings of men from the psychological perspective and to help students better understand themselves or a male in their lives. Topics may include father-son relationships, mother-son relationships, fathering, relationships with men, relationships with women, husbanding, emotional expressiveness, aggression and war, sexuality, gender differences, work, solitude, sports, and rites of passage. No prerequisite.

PSYC-4513. Seminar in Popular Psychology

This course examines the development and contemporary significance of popular psychology. Topics may include the social origins of popular psychology; such 18th and 19th century psychological movements as mesmerism, phrenology, and spiritualism; and such contemporary forms of popular psychology as self-help books, talk shows, and support groups. Students will be encouraged to evaluate critically the current popularization of psychology and to explore the relationship between popular and academic psychology. Prerequisite: PSYC 3963 is recommended prior to taking this course.

PSYC-4533. Seminar in Industrial and Organizational Psychology

This course is intended for students who wish to engage in an advanced exploration of one or more issues in Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology. The focus of this course will be on exposing students to the research and applied practices of I/O Psychologists. The specific topics that will be covered in the course will be decided in consultation with the instructor. Prerequisite: 3533 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4623. Seminar in Developmental Psychology

A critical examination of methods used by psychology in its search for the laws which mark human development. A study of topics and issues being investigated in developmental psychology in the cognitive, affective, social, and linguistic domains. Examination of the current views on the construction of gender concepts and roles. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013, 2023, 2613, and 2623, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4823/4833/4843. Special Topics: Seminar

The content of this course changes from year to year to reflect the special strengths of faculty and the particular needs of students. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013 and 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4873. Identification and Remediation of Learning Disabilities

Attention will be given to familiarization with methods of assessment, theories of origin, and remedial programs for learning-disabled children. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013 and PSYC 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4883. Independent Study

A course of independent study under supervision of the Psychology Department which affords the student the opportunity to pursue an in-depth study of an area of interest through special reading or research projects. Arrangements may be made by agreements with members of the staff and approval of the Chair. 6 or 3 credit hours, depending upon the project. Prerequisites: PSYC 2013 and 2023, or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4963. Seminar in the History of Psychology

In this course we will explore in some depth specific problems in the history of psychology. After surveying key issues in doing and writing historical research, students will examine particular aspects of the history of the discipline. Possible topics include the development of investigative practices, professionalism, and boundary disputes with other disciplines. Prerequisite: PSYC 3963.

PSYC-4996. Honours Thesis

The student will conduct an individual research project with guidance from the Department. Some classes will be held to acquaint Honours candidates with problems in research design. PSYC 2013, 2023, 3933, and 3943 are prerequisites. A minimum grade of B is required in each of these courses.

NOTE: Not all courses listed are offered each year. Please consult with the Department Chair for more information about current and planned course offerings.

University of New Brunswick Courses

Courses offered at the University of New Brunswick are also open to students at St. Thomas University when permission of both Departments has been given. Students are cautioned that such permission is only given if (a) the course offered at UNB is not offered in a given year at St. Thomas, or (b) the students' schedules cannot be reorganized to allow them to take the course offered at St. Thomas. Students should be aware that some UNB courses (e.g. 2203 Child Development or 2403 Social Psychology) may cover topics in one 3 credit hour course that are covered in greater detail in two 3 credit hour courses at STU. Students should enroll in these UNB courses only if they will not be enrolled in any 2000, 3000, or 4000 level courses at STU on these topics.