

Psychology, AA

School of Art, Humanities, Social Sciences and Public Service

Program Description

The Psychology AA degree is designed primarily for those students who plan to transfer to a Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC) four-year institution and are interested in majoring in psychology.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Trace the history of psychology as a science and distinguish among contemporary specialty areas.
- Differentiate among research methods in studying human behavior.
- Identify brain structures and their corresponding functions.
- Evaluate the major theories of learning and personality.
- Summarize the stages of prenatal development and discuss specific teratogens that can impact a developing child.
- Explain biological changes and selected theories of cognitive and psychosocial development across the lifespan.
- Describe how social situations affect attitudes, including prejudice and discrimination.
- Discuss how social interactions affect understanding of self and personal development.

- Describe psychological assessment instruments and their usefulness in diagnosing mental illness.
- Identify categories and symptoms of mental disorders using DSM criteria.
- Explain causes of mental illness along with past and current treatment.
- Identify specific areas of neuroanatomy and corresponding functions in health and disease.
- Compare available neuroimaging techniques and their usefulness in diagnosing brain pathology.
- Critique the advantages and disadvantages of non-experimental research techniques.
- Outline the components of experimental design, including independent and dependent variables.
- Infer whether an observed effect is statistically significant when provided the results of an inferential test.
- Describe the content or major sections of a research report.
- Illustrate an understanding of the limits of sensory memory, short term and long-term memory with respect to content and duration.
- Compare single-memory system views and multiple-memory system views of the brain.
- Summarize the difference between localist and distributed theories of memory, shallow and deep encoding strategies, and recall and recognition strategies.

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr	Prereq/Coreq(Co)	Options Available
1st Fall	1	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1		
	2	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3		Page 28 Column VI
	3	ENG 161	College Writing	3	ENG 085 or Placement	
	4	MTH 157	College Algebra	3	MTH 100 or Placement	
	5	PSY 160	General Psychology	3		
	6	SPC 155	Effective Speech	3		
1st Spring	7	ENG 164	Advanced Composition	3	ENG 161	
	8	MTH 160	Introduction to Statistics	3	MTH 052 or Placement	
	9	PSY 161	Human Growth and Development	3	PSY 160	
	10	PHL 103	Ethics	3		
	11	Elective	PSY 163, PSY 260 or PSY 270	3	PSY 160	
2nd Fall	12	SOC 155	Principles of Sociology	3		
	13	BIO 155	General Biology I	4		
	14	PSY 250	Research Methods in Psychology	3	PSY 160; Co: MTH 160	
	15	Elective	General Elective	3		Page 28
	16	ENG 255	Introduction to Literature	3		Page 28 Column II
2nd Spring	17	Elective	General Elective	3		Page 28
	18	Elective	PSY Course (Except PSY 165)	3	PSY 160	Page 28 Column III
	19	Elective	Social Science Elective (Except PSY Courses)	3		Page 28 Column III
	20	Elective	PSY Course (Except PSY 165)	3	PSY 160	Page 28 Column III
	21	Elective	Natural Science Elective	4		Page 28 Column V

Minimum Program Credits

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PSY