Spring 2020
UNC Department of Psychology
Undergraduate Courses

*For the complete list of undergraduate Psychology courses, please refer to the [Undergraduate Bulletin](#)*

**First-Year Seminars (FYS)**

**PSYC 054: Families and Children (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Shauna Cooper
The course will consider family from a life-course perspective and family influences on child development. Research and theory concerning divorced and step families, single parents, gay and lesbian parents, and family processes that shape children’s development will be examined.

**NSCI 061: Drug Addiction (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Kathryn Reissner
Illicit and legal drugs make the user feel good but also promote the development of dependence and long-lasting changes in brain physiology. In this neuroscience seminar, we will take a multi-disciplinary approach to learn about the neurobiology of drug addiction with a focus on the following questions: How do we define addiction? What are the beneficial and harmful effects of abused drugs? What has scientific research revealed about the neurobiology of the “brain on drugs”? Do most users become addicts? How is drug addiction treated? We will tackle these and other questions through a blend of lectures, classroom discussions/debates, videos, reading and writing assignments, and optional tours of a residential substance abuse recovery program and addiction research laboratory. In this communication-intensive seminar, critical data analysis and discussion will be utilized to learn about the neurobiology of drugs and addiction.

**PSYC 068: Psychology of Emotion (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Kristen Lindquist
This first year seminar is designed for students interested in exploring the psychological study of emotion. Topics will include theoretical models of emotion process and structure, as well as a review of research questions about emotional expressions, autonomic physiology, affective neuroscience, emotion and reasoning, emotion and health.

**PSYC 089: First-Year Seminar: Talking about Numbers: Communicating Research Results to Others (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Viji Sathy
This course introduces the many ways that research results are disseminated to the public in our everyday lives--through advertising and mass media, Internet, and research-based policy statements.

**Lower-Level Undergraduate Courses (PSYC 100-399)**

**PSYC 101: General Psychology (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Jeannie Loeb (001), Dr. David Penn (002)
A survey of major principles of psychology and an introduction to scientific modes of thought about behavior. Students participate in ongoing psychological research in the department. PSYC 101 is a prerequisite for all psychology courses.
NSCI 175: Introduction to Neuroscience (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Sabrina Robertson (001), Dr. Rachel Penton (002)  
Neuroscience is a field that seeks to understand the structure and function of the nervous system and brain. This course provides a broad overview of the field. Topics include current methods used in neuroscience, the function of nerve cells, neuroanatomy of the mammalian brain, neuroplasticity, and diseases of the brain.

PSYC 210: Statistical Principles of Psychological Research (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Viji Sathy (001), Dr. Patrick Harrison (002), Chris Strauss (003)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Consideration of the methodological principles underlying psychological research, descriptive and inferential techniques, and the manner by which they may be employed to design psychological experiments and analyze behavioral data. Three lecture hours and one laboratory hour a week.

PSYC 220: Biopsychology (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Stephens (001)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Introductory course which surveys the biological bases of behavior. This course would be an appropriate foundational course for Introduction to Neuroscience (PSYC 175) and/or Advanced Biopsychology (PSYC 402)

NSCI 222: Learning (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Vicki Chanon (001), Emily Witt (002)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Topics in Pavlovian and operant (instrumental) conditioning, learning theory, higher order cognitive learning, and application of those principles to mental-health related situations.

NSCI 222H: Learning (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Todd Thiele (001)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Topics in conditioning, verbal learning, memory, and problem solving.

NSCI 225: Sensation and Perception (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Vicki Chanon (001), Zachary Buchin (002)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Topics in vision, audition, and the lower senses. Receptor mechanisms, psychophysical methods, and selected perceptual phenomena will be discussed.

PSYC 230: Cognitive Psychology (3)  
Instructor: Dr. Vicki Chanon (001), Kathryn Weatherford (002), Shaina Roth (003)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Topics in attention; memory; visual, auditory, and other forms of information processing; decision making; and thinking.

PSYC 242: Introduction to Clinical Psychology* (3)  
Instructor: Jacquee Genzlinger (001)  
Prerequisite: PSYC 101  
Overview of clinical psychology: history, scientific basis, and major activities and concerns including assessment, psychotherapy, and other psychological interventions, community psychology, ethics, and professional practice.
*This course will replace the older PSYC 505 (Introduction to Child Psychology) and will NOT count toward the Psychology major if a student has previously taken PSYC 505 for credit.*

**PSYC 245: Abnormal Psychology (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Desiree Griffin (001), Yun Chen (002), Alexandra Wojda (003)
Prerequisite: PSYC 101
Major forms of behavior disorders in children and adults, with an emphasis on description, causation, and treatment.

**PSYC 245H: Abnormal Psychology (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Don Baucom (001)
Prerequisite: PSYC 101

**PSYC 250: Child Development (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Beth Jordan (001), Lindsay Gomes (002), Marketa Burnett (003)
Prerequisite: PSYC 101
Study of the development of social and intellectual behavior in normal children and the processes that underlie this development. Emphasis is typically on theory and research.

**PSYC 260: Social Psychology (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Steve Buzinski (001), Jennifer MacCormack (002)
Prerequisite: PSYC 101
Introductory survey of experimental social psychology covering attitudes, interpersonal processes, and small groups.

**PSYC 270: Laboratory Research in Psychology (4)**
Instructor: Dr. Patrick Harrison (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101, and 210 or 215
This course will give students the opportunity to engage in psychological research by conducting a team-based research project. Students will also develop the skills required to critically evaluate research findings.

**NSCI 278: Molecular Imaging of the Brain (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Sabrina Robertson (001 & 002)
Prerequisite: NSCI 175
This course will expose students to lab-based techniques used in the interdisciplinary field of neuroscience.

**NSCI 320: Neuropsychopharmacology (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Rachel Penton (001)
Pre-requisites: NSCI 175, or both PSYC 101 and PSYC 220
This course provides an introduction to the scientific study of psychopharmacology, with emphasis on drugs of abuse and psychotherapeutic drugs. Previously offered as PSYC 320.

**PSYC 330 Introduction to Cognitive Science (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Peter Gordon (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101
An introduction to the interdisciplinary study of the mind, intelligent behavior, information processing, and communication in living organisms and computers.
Upper-Level Undergraduate Courses (PSYC 400-699)

NSCI 405: Advanced Molecular Neuropharmacology (3)
Instructor: Dr. Rachel Penton
Prerequisites: NSCI 175 and NSCI 320, or a combination of PSYC 101, PSYC 220, and NSCI 320
This course provides a detailed study of the mechanisms of drug action at the molecular level by examining primary literature in depth. The focus will be on ligand-receptor interactions and modulation of receptor number, structure, and function by drugs. Detailed examples will examine the molecular details of both ligand gated-ion channels and G-protein coupled receptors. The course will use primary literature to delve into research where central themes will include developing critical thinking and communication skills.

NSCI 420: Functional Neuroanatomy (3)
Instructor: Dr. Charlotte Boettiger (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 220 or NSCI 175; or graduate standing. Recommended courses BIOL 251, BIOL 252, BIOL 253, EXSS 175, or EXSS 276
For advanced undergraduate and graduate students. An introduction to human neuroanatomy, covering function of the neuroanatomy of each major system and relation to neurobehavioral disorders associated with damage to the neuroanatomy of the system.

NSCI 422: Genetics of Brain Diseases (3)
Instructor: Dr. William Snider
Prerequisites: An introductory course in neuroscience, PSYC 220 or NSCI 175
This course will explore the manifestations and causes of important neurological and psychiatric diseases. A major focus will be the impact of advances in genetics and genomics on our understanding of brain disorders. Diseases having a major impact on society including autism, schizophrenia and Alzheimer’s Disease will be studied in detail. The course will provide excellent preparation for further study of brain disorders in the setting of psychology, medicine, public health, or public policy. Course credits count towards a major in Psychology and a minor or major in Neuroscience.

PSYC 430: Human Memory (3)
Instructor: Dr. Neil Mulligan
Prerequisites: PSYC 101, and NSCI 222 or PSYC 230
This course explores classic and current issues in the study of human memory. Topics include working memory, encoding and retrieval processes, implicit memory, reconstructive processes in memory, eyewitness memory, developmental changes in memory, neuropsychology and neuroscience of memory and memory disorders, memory improvement, and the repressed/recovered memory controversy.

NSCI 434 Cognitive Neuroscience (3)
Instructor: Joseph Hopfinger (001)
Prerequisites: NSCI 175 and PSYC 230; or a combination of PSYC 101, 220, and 230
Introduction to cognitive neuroscience. Higher mental processes including attention, memory, language, and consciousness will be covered, with an emphasis on the neural mechanisms that form the substrates of human cognition.

PSYC 500: Developmental Psychopathology (3)
Instructor: Dr. Eric Youngstrom (001 & 002)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101, 245, and 250
A survey of theories bearing on atypical development and disordered behavior, and an examination of major child and adolescent behavior problems and clinical syndromes.
PSYC 501: Theoretical, Empirical Perspectives on Personality (3)
Instructor: Dr. Charlie Wiss (001)
Prerequisite: PSYC 101
An in-depth coverage of the traditional clinically based personality theories of the early 20th century contrasted with more recent empirically based perspectives.

PSYC 514: Mania and Depression (3)
Instructor: Dr. Desiree Griffin (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and 245
The social, developmental, and biological contributions to mania and depression are examined, as well as the impact of these moods on the brain, creativity, relationships, quality of life, and health.

PSYC 531: Tests and Measurement (3)
Instructor: Dr. David Thissen (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and 210
Basic psychometric theory underlying test construction and utilization. Detailed study of issues and instruments used in assessing intellectual functioning, educational progress, personality, and personnel selection.

PSYC 533H: The General Linear Model in Psychology (3)
Instructor: Dr. Kathleen Gates (001)
Prerequisites: ECON 400 or PSYC 210 or 215 or SOCI 252 or STOR 155
Honors version. Consideration of multiple regression and the general linear model in psychological research, including hypothesis testing, model formulations, and the analysis of observational and experimental data.

PSYC 565: Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination (3)
Instructor: Dr. Keith Payne (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101, 260, and 210 or 215; PSYC 270 recommended
Examines the determinants, functions, processes, and consequences of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. Prospects for change are considered. Class presentations and participation required.

PSYC 566: Attitude Change (3)
Instructor: Dr. Steven Buzinski (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and 260, and 210 or 215.
A detailed consideration of the theoretical issues in attitude and belief change.

PSYC 570: The Social Psychology of Self-Regulation (3)
Instructor: Dr. Paschal Sheeran (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101, PSYC 210, PSYC 260. PSYC 270 recommended
Surveys cutting-edge research across the field of social psychology and how it matters for everyday life. Topics include morality, mind perception, judgment and decision making, happiness, affective forecasting, emotion, relationships, negotiation, personality, free will, stress/health, and religion. Clear communication of research also emphasized through figures, presentations, and papers.
**NSCI 571: Social Neuroscience (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Keely Muscatell (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and PSYC 260
How does the brain process social information, and how do our social experiences influence the brain? In this seminar we'll examine how the brain responds to social pains and pleasures, the brain systems supporting our ability to understand other peoples' thoughts and feelings, the neural bases of prejudice and discrimination, and other current topics in the exciting new field of social neuroscience.

**PSYC 601: Psychology and Law (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Neil Mulligan (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and 210 or 215
Examines the legal system from the perspective of psychology methods and research, with a focus on criminal law. Discusses dilemmas within the law and between the legal system and psychology.

**PSYC 602: Evolutionary Psychology (3)**
Instructor: Dr. Charlie Wiss (001)
Prerequisites: PSYC 101
Major topics of general psychology are examined from an evolutionary perspective with an emphasis on empirical studies asking why much current human behavior and experience would have been adaptive for our early ancestors.