Psychology (PSYC)

PSYC500 Orientation to Graduate Learning in Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course orients and prepares students for entry into advanced level study of psychology. It provides an overview of the field and guides students in the development, honing and application of critical thinking, research and writing skills necessary for successful completion of the Master of Arts in Psychology graduate degree. This course must be taken during the student’s first term.

PSYC501 Research and Statistical Methods (3 semester hours)
This course provides an overview of quantitative and qualitative methodology and design and examines ethical and legal considerations for research practices relevant to the field of psychology. Skills needed to evaluate published research reports are also emphasized.

PSYC502 Tests and Measurements (3 semester hours)
This course serves to introduce students to the topic of psychological testing. In addition to describing the various types of psychological testing, it will also provide information about test design and construction, administration and scoring, and reliability and validity.

PSYC503 Introduction to Scholarly and Technical Writing (3 semester hours)
This course provides an overview of the primary concepts, genres and mechanics of academic writing at the graduate and professional level. Students will develop writing and editing skills that will assist them in their success as graduate students and future professionals. Discussions, assignments, readings and editing will be utilized to successfully accomplish the goals of this course.

PSYC510 Lifespan Development (3 semester hours)
This course reviews social, emotional, cultural, cognitive, biological, and learning theories and research related to human development. Emphasis is on both healthy development and challenges experienced by individuals and groups across the human life cycle. Cultural differences and commonality noted in the developmental process are examined.

PSYC511 Learning and Cognition (3 semester hours)
This course guides students through advanced level, in-depth and detailed study of classic and contemporary models of human cognition and learning through the lenses of the principle schools of psychology. Specific theories addressed include: functionalistic, associationistic, and cognitive.

PSYC512 Introduction to Industrial/Organizational Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course provides an overview of the primary concepts and theory in industrial and organizational psychology. Focus will be on understanding human behavior in organizations and the workplace. Concepts such as motivation, leadership, employee training and recruitment, performance measurement, and work/life balance will be discussed.

PSYC513 Deployment Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course will explore the unique psychology associated with military deployment, both for the person being deployed and their family and loved ones. Military culture, common psychological difficulties such as depression and PTSD, as well as provider self-care and burnout will be discussed.

PSYC514 Disaster Psychology (3 semester hours)
Students will explore research and historical real world examples of natural and man-made disasters to consider best practices in managing effective emergency response. Specific focus will be on understanding and mitigating post-traumatic stress, as well as military related disasters and emergencies. Students will learn about emergency response, recovery, and follow-up for victims of disaster.

PSYC515 Social Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course is a graduate level study of cultural issues and social influences on human functioning. Classic foundations combine with new research, recent methodological and up-to-date theoretical innovations to form the basis of a study that integrates scholarship and applied social psychology for everyday living.

PSYC520 Personality and Counseling Theories (3 semester hours)
This course explores the processes of normal and abnormal personality development and models of counseling and psychotherapy including psychoanalytic, behavioral, cognitive, and existential approaches.

PSYC521 Organizational Behavior (3 semester hours)
In this course, students will learn about human behavior in a variety of organizational contexts. The influence of inter and intrapersonal behavior, motivation, group dynamics, leadership, organizational culture/structure, and ethics in organizational behavior will be explored through study of organizational behavioral theory, research, and case studies.

PSYC522 Leadership and Change (3 semester hours)
This course will provide students with instruction on the theory and application of leadership behaviors, particularly in the context of leading change. Concepts such as influence, motivation, decision-making, conflict/negotiation strategies and mentoring will be explored.

PSYC525 Physiological Psychology (3 semester hours)
This advanced level course focuses on the physiological processes underlying normal and pathological behavior. Neurological features of disorders such as schizophrenia and depression are examined.
PSYC526 Psychopathology (3 semester hours)
This course guides graduate level learners in in-depth study of classic and contemporary theories and treatment of abnormal human functioning. Students will undertake extensive investigation of cultural factors related to the expression and effective assessment of pathology. Pre-requisite: PSYC 525 Physiological Psychology.

PSYC550 Professional Ethics and Standards (3 semester hours)
This course is an advanced level study of the ethical, legal and professional issues relevant to the practice of professional psychology. Topics include APA ethical standards and codes related to confidentiality, competence, and duty to warn, ethical decision-making guidelines, as well as federal and state laws pertinent to psychology. Application of ethics to professional psychology activity is emphasized.

PSYC590 Contemporary Issues in Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course requires students to critically and creatively examine psychological topics that are currently relevant in the field of psychology within contemporary society. Some of the topics covered include: media influence and how the discipline of psychology is represented through media; the application of technology in treatment (e.g., online counseling), new issues in childhood/adolescence, the increasing incidence of specific disorders (i.e., autism spectrum disorders), and teen issues (e.g., eating disorders, pregnancy, self-injury), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and war and the emerging psychological needs of today’s military.

PSYC601 Qualitative Methods in Social Science Research (3 semester hours)
This course provides an overview of the cross-section of research methods that fall under the rubric of qualitative methodology. In examining these multiple approaches to qualitative methods, this course will discuss issues of research ethics, interviewing methods, conversation and discourse analyses, content analyses, and unobtrusive measures. The completion of this course will have applications in pure research, as well as in clinical assessments.

PSYC602 Quantitative Methods in Social Science Research (3 semester hours)
This research methods course provides an in-depth examination of quantitative research methods used in sociology and related social sciences. Students will practice designing quantitative research that collects observational, interview, survey, and other types of data.

PSYC610 Multicultural Issues in Human Behavior (3 semester hours)
This graduate level course covers the historical, research and theoretical underpinnings of multicultural psychology. It guides students in a comprehensive examination of diverse cultural groups and in-depth analysis of contemporary multicultural trends and issues related to ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, disability, age and religion. Students will research issues in cultural psychology through the development and design of their own empirical study.

PSYC620 Substance Abuse and Addiction (3 semester hours)
This course guides graduate learners in advanced level study of addictive disorders, including the historical and social context of the addictive process and the neurobiology of substance dependence. Course foci include the assessment of addiction, the substances of abuse, issues experienced by special populations, and available treatments for substance abuse and addiction.

PSYC630 Crisis and Emergency Intervention (3 semester hours)
This course offers an in-depth analysis of crisis and trauma events, survivor responses and needs, and competent strategic interventions. A theoretical approach draws on systems and developmental constructs to provide an assessment and intervention model that is both holistic and integrated within particular environments. Unique crisis events are addressed, including sexual assault, domestic violence, disasters (both natural and man-made), service provider stress, complicated bereavement, child abuse and neglect, and school crises.

PSYC640 Advanced Topics in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course provides an in-depth exploration of the industrial organizational theory and research. With a focus on application and problem solving in organizational and work contexts, students will evaluate theories and investigate research on motivation, leadership, employee training, performance management, and work/life balance. (Prerequisite: PSYC512)

PSYC699 Integrative Capstone Project in Psychology (3 semester hours)
This course is designed to guide students through a review of the content domains covered along the degree path of the Master of Arts in Psychology degree. It affords an opportunity to synthesize and articulate knowledge obtained during degree progression via the selection of multiple threads of inquiry and analysis of peer-reviewed, scholarly literature related to successfully completed coursework. The course requires informed library research and concise exposition. Students completing this phase of their degree will receive substantial guidance and support from their instructor and classmates throughout the course. NOTE: This course may not be taken until all other courses are COMPLETED and student has a 3.0 GPA.