Psychology

Dr. Kimberly Fairchild
Chair of the Department

The field of psychology involves a multidisciplinary commitment to the scientific understanding and improvement of human and animal functioning, and seeks to investigate behavioral, cognitive, and emotional processes associated with adaptive and maladaptive experience.

Manhattan College’s Department of Psychology cultivates future leaders and change-makers who are capable of using psychological concepts, principles, and sophisticated research strategies to positively impact human functioning. Through small class sizes and one-on-one advising and mentoring, our expert faculty inspire and nurture students to foster the critical thinking, deep social conscience, and analytical skills they need to pursue a wide array of exciting career and graduate school opportunities.

The Psychology Department offers a program that emphasizes both the humanistic and scientific aspects of psychology. The psychology major is designed for students:

1. Who desire to study and understand the human experience,
2. Who want to enter psychology as a profession, or
3. Who regard psychology as a liberal arts preparation for further training in the professions. In order to meet the diverse needs of students, the Psychology Department offers both a B.A. and a B.S. degree and an optional concentration in Industrial-Organizational Psychology. There is also a specific track for Education students concentrating in Psychology. These degrees and options are discussed in greater detail below.

The Psychology Department maintains five important goals, adapted from the guidelines of the American Psychological Association:

- **Goal 1: Knowledge Base.** Demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings to discuss how psychological principles apply to behavior and mental processes. This includes, but is not limited to, developing a working knowledge of psychology's content domains.

- **Goal 2: Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking.** Demonstrate scientific reasoning and problem solving, including effective research methods. This includes, but is not limited to, using scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena; interpreting, designing, and conducting basic psychological research; and demonstrating psychology information literacy.

- **Goal 3: Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World.** Adopt ethically and socially responsible behaviors for professional and personal settings in a landscape that involves increasing diversity. This includes, but is not limited to, applying ethical standards to evaluate and implement psychological science and practice.
• **Goal 4: Communication.** Demonstrate competence in writing and in oral and interpersonal communication skills through the use of discipline-specific language, critical thinking, and APA format.

• **Goal 5: Professional Development.** Apply psychology-specific content and skills, effective self-reflection, project-management skills, teamwork skills, and career preparation to develop a meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.

### Majors

Every student who wishes to declare a major in Psychology should consult with the Department Chair. Students must receive a minimum grade of C in a psychology course for the course to be credited to their major. Students who are considering graduate school should consult with faculty members during their junior year. All students interested in graduate study are advised to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). As part of the department's outcomes assessment initiative, all psychology majors may be required to complete a standardized psychology achievement exam and/or senior exit survey during their senior year, as well as surveys measuring department and instructor effectiveness.

### Requirements for a Major in Psychology

All students must complete 30 credits in Psychology for a B.A., or 33 credits in Psychology for a B.S. The B.S. also requires several additional credits in science, as described below. Specific requirements for each degree are as follows:

#### I. The Psychology Core

All psychology majors must complete the following four courses in this sequence, although they do not need to be completed in back-to-back semesters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 150</td>
<td>Roots: Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PSYC 153</td>
<td>Roots: Psychology - FYS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 214</td>
<td>Statistics and Research Methods I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 314</td>
<td>Statistics and Research Methods II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 414</td>
<td>Senior Capstone: Advanced Research Methods (senior year ONLY)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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Note: For psychology majors, PSYC 150, 153, or 203 is a prerequisite to all 300- and 400-level courses.

#### II. The Psychology Distribution

All Psychology majors must take one course from each of the following six areas:

Clinical Psychology/Personality Psychology 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 421</td>
<td>Psychopathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 347</td>
<td>Theories of Personality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Social Psychology/Applied Psychology 3

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 321</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 373</td>
<td>Industrial Psychology</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PSYC 374  Organizational Psychology
Cognitive Neuroscience: Group A
PSYC 332  Artificial Psychology
PSYC 333  Motivation and Emotion
PSYC 340  Cognition and Learning
Cognitive Neuroscience: Group B
PSYC 435  Physiological Psychology
PSYC 467  Sensation and Perception
Developmental Psychology
PSYC 334  Lifespan Development
PSYC 345  Psychology of Childhood
PSYC 346  Psychology of Adolescence
One Elective in Psychology
Students will choose one elective from all PSYC courses offered

Additional requirements for a 33-credit B.S. in Psychology

In addition to the requirement above, students seeking a B.S. in Psychology must complete the following requirements:

Permission of the Chairperson of Psychology to enter the B.S. program or a math SAT score of at least 600.

Take one additional course in either Cognitive Neuroscience group A or B, for a total of 9 credits in the cognitive neurosciences. The third course may be chosen from either of the two cognitive neuroscience groups.

The following science requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 111 &amp; BIOL 113</td>
<td>General Biology I and General Biology I Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 112 &amp; BIOL 114</td>
<td>General Biology II and General Biology II Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 207</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 208</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 101 &amp; CHEM 102</td>
<td>General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 107 &amp; PHYS 108</td>
<td>Introduction to Physics I and Introduction to Physics II</td>
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</table>

B.S. students are also encouraged, but not required, to take Genetics (BIOL 217 Genetics) and Neurobiology (BIOL 405 Neurobiology).

Requirements for Education students concentrating in Psychology

All Psychology/Education majors must complete the following courses:
The following eight courses are required (24 credits):

- PSYC 203 Introduction to Psychology (3 credits)
- PSYC 214 Statistics and Research Methods I (3 credits)
- PSYC 314 Statistics and Research Methods II (3 credits)
- PSYC 310 Psychology of Developmental Disorders and Delays (3 credits)
- PSYC 321 Social Psychology (3 credits)
- PSYC 333 Motivation and Emotion (3 credits)
- PSYC 340 Cognition and Learning (3 credits)
- PSYC 421 Psychopathology (3 credits)

Psychology/Education students must also successfully complete two of the following elective courses (6 credits):

- PSYC 302 Psychological Testing (3 credits)
- PSYC 343 Psychology of Women (3 credits)
- PSYC 347 Theories of Personality (3 credits)
- PSYC 348 Cultural Psychology (3 credits)
- PSYC 316 Issues Affecting Today's Youth (3 credits)

**Optional Concentration in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (for Psychology Majors only)**

In addition to the requirements for psychology majors described above, students who wish to specialize in industrial/organizational psychology may do so by completing the requirements listed below. This is fully optional.

- PSYC 373 Industrial Psychology (3 credits)
- PSYC 374 Organizational Psychology (3 credits)
- PSYC 302 Psychological Testing (3 credits)
- One of the following: (3 credits)
  - PSYC 333 Motivation and Emotion
  - PSYC 341 Health Psychology
- One of the following: (3 credits)
  - PSYC 429 Research in Psychology
  - PSYC 430 Research in Psychology
  - PSYC 375 Internship
  - PSYC 475 Internship

**Requirements for a Minor in Psychology**

15 approved credits, including PSYC 203 Introduction to Psychology, PSYC 153 Roots: Psychology First Year Seminar, or PSYC 150 Roots: Psychology, and any 12 additional PSYC credits. Students wishing to minor in Psychology must consult with the Chair of the Department and complete a minor declaration form.