

Department of Psychological Science



The Department of Psychological Science offers courses that focus on all aspects of behavioral and mental processes. These range from courses in Developmental, Personality, and Abnormal Psychology to courses in Learning and Motivation, Neuroscience, and Biological Psychology.

Our students get a broad exposure to all the major areas of Psychology as well as the opportunity to take more courses in their particular area of interest. There are many opportunities to conduct research, both in the traditional classroom as well as working with faculty members on independent research teams. Each year we take some of our best students to state, regional, and national conferences to present their research. In addition, we have over 50 different internship opportunities at mental health facilities and counseling centers, probation and parole offices, public and private schools, and community service agencies. We also have placed UMW Psychology interns at the FBI and NCIS in Washington, DC, the New England Center for Children near Boston, and the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

Students from the Department of Psychological Science who go on to graduate school report being very well prepared for graduate study. Our majors who enter the workforce after receiving their Bachelor's degree are well prepared to work in a variety of settings, including business and industry, social services, government agencies, health care, and education. Throughout the year the Department holds graduate school information sessions and career nights to help our majors prepare for the world after graduation.

Psychological Science is one of the most popular majors on campus and we are proud of the close relationships between our faculty and our students. Our faculty have an "open door" policy; we welcome students to stop by any time we are in our offices. We have social functions for our faculty and majors throughout the year – our picnic, for example, is a great chance for our Psychology family to kick off the new fall semester. We look forward to you joining us!

Dr. Dave Kolar, Chair

Department of Psychological Science

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Students who enter UMW with no previous psychology credits should take **PSYC 100** as their first course in the discipline. Students who enter UMW with approved transfer credits for General Psychology, or with at least a 4 on the AP Psychology Examination, should consider taking some of the following courses: **PSYC 301**, Social Psychology; **PSYC 311**, Abnormal Psychology; **PSYC 315**, Clinical Psychology; **PSYC 331**, Developmental Psychology - Infant and Child; **PSYC 332**, Adolescent and Adult Development; **PSYC 333**, Aging; **PSYC 342**, Personality; **PSYC 349**, Psychology of Human Sexuality; **PSYC 373**, Cognitive Psychology; and **IDIS 301**, Sport Psychology.

Below please find some examples of first semester schedules for someone interested in Psychological Science as a major. There are many variations of a first semester schedule; the examples are just meant to help you see that there are many ways to reach the same goals.

Example 1:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. PSYC 100** - General Psychology (3)	Major, HES
2. STAT 180 - Intro Statistics (3)	QR
3. BIOL 121 - Biology Concepts I with Lab (4)	NS
4. LATN 101** - Elementary Latin (3)	Language
5. FSEM 100J - Global Panacea or Deal with the Devil (3)	FSEM

Example 2:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. PSYC 100** - General Psychology (3)	Major, HES
2. PHYS 101 - General Physics with Lab (4)	NS
3. FSEM 100BB - Critical Thinking and the Internet (3)	FSEM
4. ARTH 114A - History of Western Art I (3)	ALPA
5. PHYD 117 - Swimming for Non-Swimmers (1)	Elective

Example 3: Athletes for varsity sports must register for the 400-level course of the sport. Practice times for varsity sports can vary, but generally speaking, athletes should allow for enough time to get to and from practice on weekdays from 3 - 6 p.m. Please check with the individual coach for your sport to verify specific practice times each semester.

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. PSYC 100** - General Psychology (3)	Major, HES
2. SOCG 105 - The Social World (3)	HES
3. GEOG 101 - World Regional Geography (3)	GI

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| 4. ARAB 101** - Beginning Arabic (3) | Language |
| 5. PHYD 417 - Intercollegiate Rowing - Men (1) | Elective |
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***This particular course is in a discipline that allows students with demonstrated competence upon admission to UMW (such as AP/IB credit, dual enrollment, etc.) to begin courses at a higher level. Talk to your Student Success Coordinator if you believe you should start at a higher level.*