

LIST OF B.A. PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC) COURSES

Level I

PSYC1003 Introduction to Psychology

This course provides a broad-based introduction to the study of adult human thinking and behaviour. You will be provided with an introduction to some of the major theoretical perspectives and key thinkers and findings in the various branches of psychology. By the end of the course, you should be able to summarise and criticise the key theoretical arguments in relation to each of these branches so that you have a sound basis for progression to courses in Psychology at Levels 2 and 3. [Note: Now a Social Sciences course effective 2008-2009].

PSYC1012 Introduction to Developmental Psychology

This course introduces students to developmental psychology, a scientific study of the physical and psychological changes that occur in human organism from conception till death. It focuses on the nature of development and scope of developmental psychology. Some of the major principles governing human development, research methods and western approaches to unravelling developmental issues will be studied. Emphasis will be on the theoretical basis underlying human development across the different cultures.

PSYC1013 Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology

This course will introduce Psychology students to basic research methods and statistical analyses. Students will receive hands-on experience of data collection and analysis. Students will learn to analyse data using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Students will conduct an empirical research project and will produce an APA-format report of the research.

PSYC1015 Historical Issues in Psychology

This course investigates the major paradigm shifts within psychology and attempts to provide students with the critical skills necessary to evaluate theories of psychology within their historical, disciplinary, social and political context. Hence, it seeks to enable students to understand how psychology has developed as a science and also to critically evaluate the assumptions, procedures, and issues which have concerned and still do concern psychology as a science.

Level II

PSYC2003 Physiological Psychology

The relationship between neuro-biological processes and psychological processes is examined. The course focuses on the organisation of the nervous system, the role of the neurobiological process in sensory experiences, sleep, attention, arousal, motivation, emotions, learning, memory and language. Both experimental and clinical data are considered.

PSYC2004 Personality Theory I

This course is designed to provide a thorough examination of the grand theories of personality (e.g., psychoanalytic, trait, behavioural,) that have played an important role in understanding the history of psychology. These theories provide central, frameworks for branches of applied psychology (e.g., Clinical, Forensic, Industrial & Organizational, Sports).

PSYC2008 Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

Prerequisites: PSYC1003

This course is designed to introduce the field of cognitive psychology, which is the study of the mental representations and processes involved in the acquisition, storage, retrieval, and use of knowledge. Several of those representations and processes, including attention, memory, concepts, and language will be reviewed.

PSYC2009 Learning Theory and Practice

Prerequisites: EDPS1001 or PSYC1003

This course is designed to present the main features of theories of human learning and to place them in their appropriate historical context. As the course progresses links between learning theory and educational practice will be examined.

PSYC2012 Developmental Psychology (this course should not also be taken if completing PSYC2022)

Prerequisite: PSYC1003 or PSYC1012

This is designed to help students understand the physical, social and psychological development of an individual from birth to the factors that shape behaviour from birth to old age. [N.B. This course is administered by the Faculty of Social Sciences]

PSYC2014 Statistics and Research Design II

Prerequisite: PSYC1013 or PSYC2010

This is a core course for students registered on the major route in Psychology and, in conjunction with PSYC2010: Statistical and Research Design I, provides a preparation for PSYC3011 Research Paper in Psychology. The course introduces students to advanced quantitative methods and statistical analyses, and also introduces basic qualitative approaches to research.

PSYC2022 Developmental Psychology II: From Conception to Adolescence

Prerequisite: PSYC1012 or PSYC1003

This course is designed to present the main features of human development; prenatal and postnatal development. The principles of hereditary transmission, the genetic and environmental factors that may affect the foetus and the human organism before and after birth will also be considered. Emphasis will be on the physical, psycho motor, cognitive, moral, social and emotional development of human organism from neonatal stage through infancy to childhood and adolescent stages.

Level III

PSYC3004 Experimental and Applied Psychology

Students acquire basic skills in psychological experimentation and an understanding of how psychological concepts can be applied towards solving human problems. Experimental work will emphasize theories and concepts obtained from psychology courses previously or concurrently taken, showing the value and implications of experimental work in psychology.

PSYC3006 Philosophical Psychology

Psychology attempts to explain such phenomena as perception, cognition emotion and language learning. The goal of the course is to find out how such tasks are accomplished by psychology, with an emphasis on its theoretical tenets and methodology. The objective is to enable students to sort out the various ways in which philosophical assumptions appear in, affect and illuminate psychology and conversely, how psychological insights impress on philosophical problems and positions.

PSYC3011 Research Paper in Psychology (for Psychology Majors only, Year-long (6 credits))

Prerequisites: PSYC2014

A project to develop students' capability in formulating research theme, data collection and analysis from a psychological perspective. Students will be required to investigate a current issue in Psychology and present same as a Research Report. The Report shall not exceed 10,000 words.

PSYC3013 Contemporary Issues in Social Psychology

This course emphasizes the linkages between social psychological theory and social issues. It illustrates how social psychological theories and/or principles (for example, equity theory, dissonance reduction, prejudice etc.) can be applied to help understand and solve problems. [This is a Faculty of Social Sciences course].

PSYC3014 Industrial and Organizational Psychology

This course explores the applications of psychological theories and concepts to problems encountered in work environments with special reference to the Caribbean.

PSYC3016 Research Project in Psychology (for Psychology Minors only)

Prerequisites: PSYC1013 or PSYC2014

A project to develop students' capability in formulating research themes, data collection and analysis from a psychological perspective. Students will be required to investigate a current issue in Psychology and present same as a research report. The Report should not exceed 5,000 words.

PSYC3017 Personality Theory II

Prerequisite: PSYC2004

This course explores contemporary theories of personality (e.g., existentialism, evolutionary perspective, positive psychology). There is a focus on the dynamics, structure, and measurement of personality and how such information is used to plan treatment, offer jobs, and increase self-knowledge.

PSYC3018 Forensic Psychology

Forensic Psychology is the study and practice of psychology in criminological and legal contexts. In this course, students will be introduced to the key areas of forensic psychology including detection and assessment of offenders, psychological processes in the courtroom, victimology, and cognitive failures in recall.

PSYC3028 Theory and Practice of Counselling Psychology

This course introduces students to the discipline of counselling and provides a foundation in fundamental counselling skills for students considering entering the helping professions. It also aims to encourage students' self-exploration and personal development. The impetus for this course arose as a result of teaching PSYC3019 Clinical & Counselling Psychology during the past four years. It has become evident that covering both disciplines in one course does not allow enough time to really engage students in self-exploration, practice of counselling skills and consideration of the lifespan developmental issues that are most often addressed in counselling psychology.

PSYC3030 Introduction to Clinical Psychology

Prerequisite: PSYC2004 and PSYC2002

This course is designed to introduce students to the major aspects of clinical psychology. The course reviews clinical psychology's historical background, the profession of clinical psychology; an overview of diagnosis, assessment and intervention models; some specialty areas of clinical psychology and ethical issues and current trends in clinical research and practice.

PSYC3032 Psychology of Ageing

Prerequisites: PSYC2022 or PSYC2012

This course introduces the student to changes that occur in behaviours in the adult years. Building upon the understanding of the developmental process gained in PSYC1012 and PSYC 2022, the Psychology of Ageing extends the scope across the life span. The developmental perspective explores the adult years in two broad contexts: the physical and biological changes that occur with age and the psychological adjustments that are evident in the adult years.