



**Undergraduate Handbook  
Department of Psychology  
2009 - 2010**

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the undergraduate program in psychology at the University of Houston. Psychology is an academic and applied discipline involving the scientific study of human mental function and behavior. The undergraduate program at UH provides students an introduction to psychology and its subfields of study, and offers a strong foundation for a graduate degree in psychology or a related social science field. As you start your undergraduate career, it is important to review and familiarize yourself with the department's handbook.

The purpose of this handbook is to provide important information about the department, give an overview of the degree requirements, and highlight some of the college's policies and procedures. This handbook is not intended as a substitute for the University of Houston Undergraduate Course Catalog, [www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/](http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/) or material presented on the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (CLASS) web site, [www.class.uh.edu](http://www.class.uh.edu).

All students have the responsibility to become acquainted with the content of this handbook, as well as the UH course catalog. It is important to realize that some of the requirements listed within may be subject to change, thus students must remain informed and be in compliance with the academic requirements and university regulations.

The information provided in this handbook is pertinent to the psychology degree, thus, the college and departmental rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and degree requirements will not be the same for other majors. Conversely, the coursework and protocols for other majors do not necessarily apply in psychology.

Faculty, staff, and academic advisors are available to assist and guide students; however, it is the students' responsibility to know and abide by the department, college, and university's rules, regulations, deadlines, and requirements. If there are any policies/procedures that remain unclear, students should contact a departmental advisor.

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE UH CATALOG**

### Academic Regulations

All students have the responsibility to become acquainted with the content of the catalog. The university reserves the right to change the provisions of the catalog, including, but not limited to, degree requirements, course offerings, fees, and listings in the calendar as necessitated by university or legislative action.

### Student Responsibility

At the University of Houston, students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner, respect the opinions, rights, and personal property of others, and meet their financial obligations. Students are responsible for seeking help and guidance from all of the resources that the university makes available to them. They are expected to be proactive and remain informed about university dates and deadlines, and understand academic and disciplinary policies. They are responsible for communication with their professors, advisors, and university staff, and the commitment to being organized and prepared to learn. Above all, our students are expected to strive for honesty and academic integrity throughout their period of study at the University of Houston.

### Student Identification Number

All students at the University of Houston have been assigned a PeopleSoft ID number. For security purposes, students are required to use this university student ID number for all electronic and hard-copy forms/communication. The ID number can be found by going to My PeopleSoft.

### Identification Cards

Students are required to obtain and show proof of a valid university ID card and present it when requested to do so by a university official. Cougar1 Cards are available in room 279, University Center.

### Student E-mail Accounts

It is mandatory that students obtain and activate a University of Houston e-mail address. All students admitted to the university have been assigned an e-mail alias that points to the e-mail address first provided to UH when the student applied for admission. E-mail messages addressed to the alias are automatically forwarded to the student's preferred e-mail account. This alias will be used to send official university information regarding billing, emergency closings, and/or information from the student's college and department. All students must check their University of Houston e-mail account on a regular basis. Students are also responsible for keeping their UH e-mail alias updated and pointed to the e-mail address they are currently using. Students who do not have an e-mail account or alias should request one from the university either online, or by going to the Information Technology Support Center service counter is located in room 58 of the M.D. Anderson Library. For additional questions about the university e-mail account or alias, please contact the IT Support Center at 713-743-1411, or send e-mail to support@uh.edu.

### University Dates and Deadlines

Students are responsible for knowing and adhering to all university and college dates and deadlines. Such dates and deadlines include those for enrollment (registration), adding and dropping of courses, payment and refunds, and applying for graduation.

### Academic Advising

Students are expected to meet with an advisor on a regular basis, preferably, prior to each enrollment (registration) period. This will help to ensure that the appropriate courses have been taken in the proper sequence and that all prerequisites have been met. Advisors are available to provide guidance, answer questions, make recommendations, and assist students with academic decisions and career goals. It is the students' responsibility, however, to register for classes, submit/file any paperwork by the deadlines, and verify all degree requirements have been met.

### International Students

International students are responsible for maintaining continuous contact with the International Students and Scholars Services Office (ISSSO). This office provides students with current information concerning SEVIS regulations in order to maintain their legal status. F-1 and J-1 students must maintain their full-time student status at the university and are expected to comply with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of State requirements regarding their lawful presence in the United States, as well as all university policies. In addition, UH student studying abroad must adhere to the same rules and responsibilities as those students at the university's main campus.

### Academic Honesty and Disciplinary Policies

Specific policies regarding student life and academic honesty are available in the Dean of Students Office, located in the University Center. These policies are also published in the Student Handbook, available online and through the Dean of Students Office. Professors are responsible for the initial enforcement of academic honesty policies at UH, but the responsibility for enforcing student life policies rests with the Dean of Students, the campus police, and the University Hearing Board. Disciplinary records are confidential and are not released to anyone off campus without the student's written permission unless subpoenaed.

### Maintenance of Individual Records

Students are responsible for the submission and verification of their own official university paperwork. They are expected to retain copies of all documents of enrollment (registration) and course adjustments, as well as any other university transactions. This will ensure a smooth resolution if any problems should arise regarding tuition and financial aid, housing, academic records, enrollment, and/or graduation. In order to protect student rights and records, it is the student's responsibility to provide original written consent if they wish to have their records released as per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations.

## The Grading System

A	Excellent, superior achievement
A-	
B+	
B	Good, exceeding all requirements
B-	
C+	
C	Average, satisfactorily meeting all requirements
C-	
D+	
D	Poor, passing
D-	
F	Failing or withdrawal while doing failing work
I	Incomplete
NR	Not reported
S	Satisfactory
U	Unsatisfactory
W	Withdrawal

## Grade Point Average (GPA)

Grade points are awarded as follows for each semester hour in which students receive a grade.

A	4.00	B-	2.67	D+	1.33
A-	3.67	C+	2.33	D	1.00
B+	3.33	C	2.00	D-	0.67
B	3.00	C-	1.67	F	0.00

The grade point average (GPA) is the quotient obtained by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the number of semester hours in which students receive a letter grade. Grades of S, U, I, and W are not assigned grade point values and are not used in the computation of the grade point average.

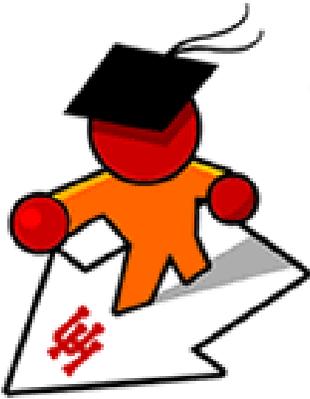
Decimals beyond two places are truncated, not rounded, in computing the grade point average. Thus, a cumulative GPA of 1.99 does NOT round up to 2.0.

The cumulative GPA is based upon all work taken at the University of Houston, and excludes all transfer credits (grades earned at other institutions will not affect the UH GPA). Test credits such as AP or CLEP do not factor in to the GPA.

When a course is repeated, only the most recent attempt will count toward satisfying degree requirements. This does not mean that the later course grade replaces earlier grades. All attempts will remain on the student's official transcript.

## Limitations & Restrictions

- ❖ Questions / concerns regarding grades received in CLASS courses should be addressed within 90 calendar days from the posting of the grade.
- ❖ “I” grades must be resolved within 12 months. Students who receive an “I” should NOT re-enroll in that course the following semester. Failure to complete the coursework within the time allotted will result in an automatic “F.”
- ❖ No more than a combined total of 8 semester hours from DAN 1106, 1107, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1115, 1211, 1213, and 1215, may be applied towards a PSYC degree.
- ❖ No more than a combined total of 8 semester hours from MUSI 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1110, 1120, 1121, and 1140, may be applied towards a PSYC degree.
- ❖ No more than a combined total of 8 semester hours from THEA 1111 and 1112 may be applied towards the degree.
- ❖ Unless obtaining a minor in Kinesiology, or a teacher certification with a second teaching field in Kinesiology, students may not apply more than 3 Hours of P.E.B. or KIN physical activity towards the degree, and ONLY specific courses in KIN may be applied towards the degree.
- ❖ Courses designated as remedial courses, such as ENGL 1300, MATH 1300, or READ 1300, shall not apply toward the hours required for the degree (120 hrs).
- ❖ TMTH & COSC may not be taken to satisfy the math reasoning requirements.
- ❖ Students shall not receive course credit by special examination in any field of study in CLASS if they have ever enrolled in course work in that field of study at the University of Houston or any other ac-credited college or university.
- ❖ Students who are on probation (GPA below 2.0) are not allowed to enroll in more than 12 hours during the fall/spring term and 6 hours in summer.
- ❖ All CLASS students must complete 9 hours of CLASS electives; the nine hours of electives must come from at least 3 different fields, outside of Psychology. CLASS courses taken to satisfy the core may not double count as a CLASS elective (i.e. POLS 1336 cannot count as TX core and CLASS elective)
- ❖ Repeated Courses may not apply towards the hours required for the degree.



## POLICIES THAT DESERVE EXTRA ATTENTION

### 66 -Hour Transfer Cap

The maximum number of lower level hours (1000/2000 level courses) you can transfer from ANY institution is 66 credit hours. Anything above 66 hrs will NOT be counted towards the 120-hour graduation requirement. Any courses taken at a community college will **ALWAYS** be considered lower level courses, regardless of what the community college labeled them. Additionally, the 66 hr cap **only** affects lower level courses, not upper level courses (3000/4000 classes) taken at other universities.

### 30 Hour Rule

The last 30 hours prior to graduation MUST be completed at the University of Houston (main campus) without exception. ALL the courses during your senior year must be completed at UH main campus no concurrent enrollment or new transfer credits. If you transfer a course during your senior year, you will break the residency. NO EXCEPTIONS! UHD, Victoria, Sugar Land, UHCL, & other satellite campuses are considered transfer credits. Dual enrollment is not allowed. The 30 hour residency starts the semester after you completed the courses (i.e. the 30 hr residency for a student who took a summer course starts in the fall; residency for a student who took a fall course starts in the spring). Please note that all winter mini-sessions are considered part of the Spring semester, thus the 30 hour residency would not start until the summer semester.

### The 6 “W” Policy (Withdrawals)

Students can only withdraw from a total of 6 classes during their college career. Any withdrawals thereafter will automatically be turned into “F”s by the registrar (without notification). No petitions for grade changes will be accepted at that point – the “F” is FINAL.

### Texas Undergraduate Tuition Hour Cap

All credits (classes) taken over and above the tuition cap will incur an out-of-state tuition fee. If you were first enrolled in a Texas public university or Jr. college anytime after Fall 2006 and complete 30 hours over the total number of required by your degree plan, you will be charged out-of-state tuition for any courses taken thereafter. If you were first enrolled prior to 2006, the tuition cap is in effect 45 hours over the total hrs required for degree. Any students first enrolled prior to Fall 1999 are exempt from the in-state tuition cap.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Catalog Term (Requirement Term)

The Undergraduate Studies Catalog provides information on all undergraduate degrees offered by the University of Houston. The requirement term refers to the catalog year; students are placed on the catalog term of the semester they declare their major. The catalog year determines which degree requirements, academic policies, and courses a student must complete in order to graduate. Students who are out of school for more than 12 months are automatically placed on the new catalog when they return.

### Course Numbers

- I. All courses are identified by instructional area prefix and a four-digit number. A three or a four letter prefix in all capitals identifies the department, instructional area, or program that offers the course.

Example:            ARTH is the department prefix for Art History  
                         PSYC is the dept prefix for Psychology  
                         ENGL is the dept prefix for English

- II. A four- digit number follows the prefix. The first digit represents the level of the course, and the second digit identifies the number of hours issued for that course.

Example:            1xxx is a freshman level course  
                         2xxx is a sophomore level course  
                         3xxx is a junior level course  
                         4xxx is a senior level course

1000 / 2000 level courses are considered lower level  
3000/4000 level are considered advanced (upper level) courses

Example:            Prefix XXXX – 2<sup>nd</sup> number indicates the number of hours  
                         BIOL 1431 – this is a 4 credit hour course  
                         GERM 1803 – this is an 8 credit hour course  
                         PSYC 2301 - this is a 3 credit hour course

**Always check the course pre-requisites before enrolling in a course.** Students who do not have the pre-requisites will be dropped without notification or refund. **Also check the course catalog to verify the course does not conflict with courses previously taken; there are several courses that cannot be taken for credit in the presence of another course (i.e. students may only receive credit for Math 1310 or Math 1311, but not both)**

### Classification

The number of credit hours you have determines your classification. Academic standing is typically updated once a semester.

0-29 hours → freshman  
30-59 hrs → sophomore

60-89 hours → junior  
90 + hours → senior

### Course Loads

A full-time course load for undergraduate students varies by the semester. Full-time status is important for insurance coverage, scholarship, and financial-aid purposes. Although remedial courses such as Math 1300 and Engl 1300 do not count towards the hours required for the degree, they do count towards the semester's course load.

All undergraduate students who enroll in at least 12 hours during the fall or spring or 7 hours during the summer 6 week session(s) are considered full-time students. Maximum course loads vary per department. The Department of Psychology maximum course loads for fall/spring are listed below:

Freshmen	12-15 hr max
Soph, Junior, Senior	18 hr max
Probation	< 12 hrs (or dean's discretion)

Students who wish to enroll for more hours than those listed above must submit a general petition to the Department of Psychology requesting a course overload. Petitions must note the reason for the request and list the proposed course schedule. Students must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in order to be considered for a course overload.

Petitions for course overloads must be processed BEFORE the beginning of the intended overload term. Students who do not have approved petitions will be dropped from classes.

### Course Equivalency Evaluations

Students who wish to request the acceptance of a transfer course as equivalent to a UH course must follow these steps:

1. Complete a transfer credit petition form available online at <http://www.uh.edu/academics/forms/transfer-credit-petition.pdf>.
2. Attach a copy of the following documents:
  - a. Transfer Credit Summary (from your People Soft account)
  - b. Course Syllabus (from institution you took the course at)
  - c. A course description (from the course catalog of the institution you received credit for the transfer course). Note that copies of other university catalogs are available on the web or in cases, at the UH Library, Current Journals, 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
  - d. Additional supplemental documentation, if applicable

3. Submit the completed petition form with attachments directly to the Department of Psychology (Room 124 Heyne Bldg) or primary major department.

### Scholastic Requirements

The University of Houston requires that students of all classifications maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 to remain in good academic standing. When a student's GPA falls below 2.00, one of the following academic standing categories will apply:

- ❖ Academic Notice: Freshmen with fewer than 15 hours attempted at UH at the end of the enrollment period will be placed on Academic Notice.
- ❖ Probation: UH places students on academic probation if their cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 at the close of a semester or summer session. Students on probation must earn at least a 2.00 each semester they are enrolled, may not enroll in more than 12 semester hours during fall/spring (6 hours during summer), and will need to meet with an academic advisor prior to enrolling for future semesters.
- ❖ Suspension: Regardless of classification, students on academic probation who fail to earn a 2.0 semester GPA are placed on suspension. During the first suspension, students are not allowed to return to campus for one semester. The second suspension is for a period of at least 12 months. Students who are suspended a third time are ineligible to return and earn a degree at UH main campus.

### Readmission from Suspension

Students who are suspended for academic or disciplinary reasons are ineligible to return during the designated period of suspension. After the specified time has elapsed, the student must schedule an appointment to meet with the department/major advisor to complete a Readmission form. Following the departmental advising session, the student must also schedule an appointment with a dean's advisor at the CLASS Academic Affairs Center to seek readmission into the college and sign a contract stipulating the conditions of the readmission. Readmissions are not automatic. Students who do not meet with CLASS academic affairs and/or follow the terms of their contract will be placed on suspension.

### Dean's List

The Dean's List is a tabulation of names of undergraduate honor students compiled each semester. To qualify for this recognition in the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, students must earn a minimum GPA of 3.5 on twelve or more semester hours completed during the semester. Students who earn a grade of "I" (except in a senior honors thesis course), D, F, or U during the semester are excluded from consideration for Dean's List. At least nine of the 12 semester hours must be letter grades; grade "S" is not considered at letter grade.

## Graduation Application

Degrees are not awarded automatically upon completion of the program requirements. Students must submit an application for graduation in order to be considered a candidate for the degree.

The University of Houston degrees students during the fall, spring, and summer terms. Students must apply for graduation at the beginning of the semester they plan to complete their degree requirements. Students must apply for graduation online, through People Soft, by the posted deadline. Graduation application deadlines are posted in the class schedule each semester. **Students who miss the application deadline will have to wait and apply for graduation the following semester. No late applications will be accepted!**

Students are not allowed to withdraw their application for graduation once submitted. Please verify your degree requirements are satisfied before applying for graduation. Further, students who apply and qualify for graduation but decide to not graduate that term will not have the option of retracting their application. Students who are disapproved for graduation will need to re-apply for graduation the following term. The university does not award degrees until all requirements have been satisfied; in other words, you cannot “graduate” in May but complete a pending course over the summer.

Students may only participate in the graduation commencement the semester during which they earn their degree. Students are not allowed to walk prior to completing their degree requirements. Spring graduates may participate in the May ceremony, and Summer/Fall graduates may participate in the December ceremony.

## Graduation with Honors

Undergraduates who complete a minimum of 66 hours at UH main campus and meet the following grade point averages will qualify for honors. Transfer students may not use more than 6 hours of CLEP/credit-by-exam to satisfy the 66 hour requirement for honors. Honors are calculated based on the last sixty-six hours of coursework.

Summa Cum Laude	3.75-4.00	with highest honors
Magna Cum Laude	3.50-3.74	with high honors
Cum Laude	3.25-3.49	with honors

## THE DEPT OF PSYCHOLOGY

### Degree Requirements

The State of Texas requires a minimum of 120 hours of undergraduate coursework, of which a minimum of 36 hours must be advanced (upper level courses in the 3000/4000 level). Students who meet the overall number of hours for the degree, 120, but do not meet the 36 advanced hour requirement will be required to take additional courses to make up the missing upper level credits, and vice versa.

Completion of the Texas Core Curriculum, the major, and the minor do not guarantee the 120 or 36 hour requirement will be met. Students should keep track of their coursework and visit an academic advisor for assistance.

The department requires that all students majoring in Psychology complete a minor, a double major, or a Senior Honor's Thesis. Students who complete a double major or a double degree are not required to have a minor. A minor is a secondary area of interest that usually compliments the major and/or career goal. A minor takes an average of 18 hours to complete (approximately 6 classes), but every minor is different. You should refer to that department's advisor or website for details about the coursework, hours, and requirements for the minor. Students may minor in any area of study.

Further, students are required to maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA and major GPA. Students who do not meet the cumulative and/or the major GPA requirements will need to take additional courses until the minimum GPA requirements are satisfied.

### Degree Options

The Department of Psychology offers two undergraduate degrees:

- ❖ Bachelor's of Art in Psychology (B.A.)
- ❖ Bachelor's of Science in Psychology (B.S.)

The B.A. and B.S. are comparable; they call for the same undergraduate coursework in the major, minor, and core. The only difference between the degree objectives is that the B.A. requires 6 hours of a sophomore level foreign language, while the B.S. requires 6 hours of math/math reasoning and 2 hours of natural science. The degree objective requirements (the math, science, and foreign language detailed above) are in addition to the state mandated core curriculum.

The decision to pursue a B.A. versus a B.S. is based on students' career goals and/or comfort level math, science, or foreign language. Although certain career paths may benefit from a specific degree objective, students are at liberty to choose. Additionally, degree objectives are not permanent, and students have the option of switching plans if the one they are pursuing is not appropriate for them.

## Coursework for the PSYC Major

The Psychology major calls for 33 hours, 21 hours of psychology courses specified by the department and 12 hours of psychology electives. The 21 hours of department required courses are known as the “psychology core classes.” All of the psychology core classes must be completed with a letter grade of “C” or better. Students receive 3 attempts to earn a “C” or better in those courses; failure to do so will result in ineligibility to graduate with a psychology major.

The Psychology Core Classes (Required by Department):

- ❖ PSYC 1300 Introduction to Psychology \*
- ❖ PSYC 2301 Intro to Research Methods + Lab \*
- ❖ PSYC 2380 Intro to Social Psychology
- ❖ PSYC 3301 Intro to Psychological Statistics \* (not the same as Math 2311)
- ❖ PSYC 3341 Intro to Physiological Psychology
- ❖ PSYC 3350 Intro to Cognitive Psychology
- ❖ PSYC 3325 Intro to Personality

An additional 12 hours of psychology electives is also required.

- ❖ 6 hours of ANY level psychology electives (2000, 3000, or 4000 level)
- ❖ 6 hours of ADV level psychology electives (must be 3000 or 4000 level)

## Typical Psychology Major Electives

- PSYC 2335 Introduction to Health Psychology
- PSYC 2344 Cultural Psychology (formerly PSYC 4344)
- PSYC 2350 Child Development (formerly PSYC 3360)
- PSYC 2351 Psychology of Adolescence (formerly PSYC 3361)
- PSYC 3310 Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- PSYC 3331 Psychology of Gender (formerly PSYC 2340)
- PSYC 3337 Psychology of Human Sexuality
- PSYC 3338 Psychology of Older Adults
- PSYC 3339 Introduction to Clinical Psychology
- PSYC 3351 Health Psychology Research
- PSYC 4320 Theories of Interventions
- PSYC 4321 Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 4347 Test and Measurements
- PSYC 4354 Brain and Behavior

\* Denotes PSYC major pre-requisite course

Note: Students may not double count any psychology major courses in the minor (i.e., PSYC 2344 cannot concurrently satisfy 3 hours of a PSYC elective, as well as 3 hrs of a minor elective)

## Senior Capstone

Capstone experiences are intended as integrative, intensive exercises in critical thinking and analysis of content. These are opportunities for student-focused initiative, creativity and productivity under the close mentorship of Department of Psychology faculty.

PSYCH 4306 Community Service Practica (6 credit hour maximum)

Open to students with: PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301, minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average, and junior or senior standing in psychology.

PSYCH 4307 Research Practica (6 credit hour maximum)

Open to students with: PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301, and a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average, and junior or senior standing in psychology.

PSYCH 4304 History and Systems in Psychology (3 credit hours):

This course approaches the major figures and schools to the abiding philosophical, theoretical, and conceptual issues in Psychology.

PSYCH 3399, 4399 Senior Honors Thesis (two semesters, 3 hrs per semester):

Open to students with a minimum 3.00 grade point average based on a minimum of 90 semester hours and a psychology grade point average of 3.25. Qualified students may select a faculty member to supervise the topic choice and writing of the thesis (see advising staff for information on the Honors Thesis Sequence).

## Admission and/or Change to PSYC Major

All new students who wish to major in psychology, and all current students who wish to switch to the Department of Psychology will need to meet with an advisor in the Academic Affairs Office of the Department of Psychology to review the program requirements and eligibility.

Any incoming freshman, college transfer student, international student, or current UH student with an overall GPA of 2.0 interested in majoring in psychology may apply as a psychology pre-major (aka Pre-PSYC) until pre-requisites for the majors are complete. Students who submit petitions to declare a PSYC major without meeting the GPA or PSYC pre-requisites will not be approved.

## PSYCH Major Pre-Requisites

Students MUST complete PSYC 1300 (Intro to Psychology), PSYC 2301 (Research Methods), and PSYC 3301 (Psychological Statistics) with a “C” or better before they can declare a major in Psychology. Students who transfer one or more of those pre-requisite courses are required to file any petitions for course equivalencies immediately upon transferring in order to be eligible to declare a major. The psychology pre-requisites should be completed by the end of the sophomore year. Students are NOT allowed to complete PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301, or PSYC 3301 during their senior year. Failure to complete those courses in a timely manner will result in graduation delay/ disapproval for graduation.

## The Importance of PSYC 1300, 2301, 3301

The Psychology pre-requisites are the foundation of the major. They provide information that will be helpful in upper level courses. Most importantly, without the psych pre-requisites, students will not be able to declare a major. Without a major, students will not be allowed to declare a minor, file a minor degree plan, or file a psychology degree plan (all of which are university requirements for graduation). Declaring a major, minor, and filing degree plans is a lengthy process, and students who post-pone the mandatory PSYC courses will only be delaying the completion of their degree requirements.

Students who complete all their coursework but lack one of the documents listed above (minor or major degree plan) will be automatically disapproved for graduation.

## The Psychology Major Residency

The University, as well as every department on campus has a residency requirement. The residency refers to the minimum number of courses required for a transfer student to complete in order to qualify for a degree.

The Department of Psychology requires that all transfer students complete a minimum of 15 hours of PSYC courses at UH main campus to qualify for a degree. Of the 15 hours, at least 12 hours must be ADV (3000/4000 level courses). All students must meet the residency, regardless of how many PSYC courses are transferred in. In other words, even if a student completes and transfers in all the courses listed above, he/she is still required to complete a minimum of 15 PSYC hours at UH main campus.

## Transferring PSYC Courses from Other Institutions

Students are encouraged to speak/visit a departmental advisor before completing PSYC courses elsewhere. With the exceptions of PSYC 1300, introduction to psychology, most psychology courses taken at other institutions will not transfer in as equivalent. Some courses may only transfer to UH main campus as electives. Courses that transfer in as electives must be petitioned for course equivalency, and course equivalency is not guaranteed. Do not assume a course you completed at a different institution will transfer in as equivalent and satisfy the same degree requirement at UH.

### General Deadline Reminders

- ❖ General Petitions – all general petitions to declare a major or minor are effective the semester AFTER the form is submitted. Thus, all petitions submitted during the Spring semester (anytime between the first and last day of class) have an effective date of Summer.
- ❖ Petitions for Course Equivalencies – these petitions can take anywhere from 6 weeks to 6 months to process. Students should complete ALL petitions for course equivalency no later than their Junior year.
- ❖ Degree Plans – degree plans can also take up to a semester to be processed. Do not wait to file degree plans until your Senior year as this will result in immediate disapproval for graduation.
- ❖ Applications for Graduation – students are responsible for applying for graduation online within the first few weeks of the semester they intend on graduating. The graduation application deadline changes every semester and is announced online, via e-mail, on the PSYC website, and department bulletin boards. It is the students’ responsibility to apply for graduation before the deadline.
- ❖ Transfer Credits – Students should make sure all transfer credits are posted no later than their Junior year. Further, students should NOT enroll in courses at any other institutions (including UH satellite campuses) during the end of their Junior year and Senior Year, as this will break the UH Residency (30 Hr Rule).
- ❖ Courses taken over a winter session (mini-semester) always count as Spring courses For example, courses completed during December 2009 (winter term) will post in the UH system as “Spring 2010” courses. This applies to UH courses, as well as courses taken at other colleges.

### Quick Reference of General Petition Submission Deadlines

<u>If General Petition is Submitted:</u>		<u>It will be effective:</u>
Fall Semester (mid Aug – end Dec)	→	Spring Semester
Spring Semester (Jan – May)	→	Summer Semester
Summer (June-early Aug)	→	Fall Semester

## PSYCHOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### PSYC 1300: Introduction to Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: credit for or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 1303 or equivalent. Principles and theories of psychology including methodology and brief analysis of major content areas ranging from development, perception, and learning to motivation/emotion, personality, and social processes.

### PSYC 2301: Introduction to Methods in Psychology

Cr. 3. (2-2). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Understanding the evaluation of research in psychology, including the conceptual basis of descriptive and inferential statistics and design techniques.

### PSYC 2335: Introduction to Health Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Interaction of psychosocial and physical factors in health and illness with emphasis on relevant research, health care delivery and health policy.

### PSYC 2344: Cultural Psychology (formerly PSYC 4344)

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Relationship between ethnicity, socialization, personality, behavior issues related to current race relations.

### PSYC 2350: Child Development (formerly PSYC 3360)

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Intellectual and social development in children and the factors that affect this process.

### PSYC 2351: Psychology of Adolescence (formerly PSYC 3361)

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Theory and research of normal adolescent behavior.

### PSYC 2380: Introduction to Social Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Issues and findings in social behavior, interpersonal influences, group membership, and the relations between persons and social systems.

### PSYC 3301: Introduction to Psychological Statistics

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: MATH 1310. Introduction to statistical principles and strategies for research on behavior.

### PSYC 3310: Industrial-Organization Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Applications of psychological theory and methodology to the problems of recruiting, selecting, training, and motivating individuals in organizational settings.

### PSYC 3325: Psychology of Personality (formerly PSYC 4325)

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and 3 additional hours in psychology. Required for all psychology majors. Theories of personality and their applications to current individual and societal psychological problems.

### PSYC 3331: Psychology of Gender (formerly PSYC 2340)

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and three additional hours in psychology. Empirically based gender differences as they impact individual and social behaviors, roles and public policy.

**PSYC 3334: Psychology and Law**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and junior standing. Presentation and critique of research of human behavior in, or regulated by, legal institutions. Includes a survey of criminal procedure and an analysis of the legal techniques for predicting dangerousness and inferring intent.

**PSYC 3337: Psychology of Human Sexuality**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and 3 additional hours in psychology. Empirical studies regarding adult sexual behaviors, the physiology of sexual behaviors and sexual disorders.

**PSYC 3338: Psychology of Older Adults**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and 3 additional hours in psychology. Lifespan, research-based perspective of the biopsychosocial stages of older adulthood, age 55 and over.

**PSYC 3339: Introduction to Clinical Psychology**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and 3 additional hours in psychology. Survey of the science and practice of clinical psychology and its specialty areas, including discussions or diagnoses and evaluations, empirically-validated interventions and prevention strategies for use with clinical populations.

**PSYC 3341: Physiological Psychology**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Structural, electrical, and chemical properties of the nervous systems as they relate to behavior, including consideration of current research methods and techniques.

**PSYC 3347: Problems of Normal Life**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: at least junior standing or consent of instructor. Examines psychological issues and decisions, stressing characteristics of modern living. Presents and discusses coping strategies used to manage these problems.

**PSYC 3350: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. An information-processing approach to human functioning introducing topics in memory, language, thought, judgment, and skilled performance.

**PSYC 3351: Health Psychology Research**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300 or consent of instructor. Assessment of the connection between social psychological theory and research based applications in health related settings; combines traditional lectures and readings with participation in actual field intervention projects.

**PSYC 3352: Psychology of Knowledge Acquisition**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and junior standing or consent of instructor. Psychological processes of knowledge acquisition and training in organizations. The study of knowledge by cognitive type and the design of in-service training for cognitive strategies, intellectual skills, information, motor skills and attitudes.

**PSYC 3399-4399: Senior Honors Thesis**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: approval of department chair. Open to students with a minimum 3.00 grade point average based on a minimum of 90 semester hours and a psychology grade point average of 3.20. Qualified student selects faculty member to supervise the topic choice and writing of the thesis.

PSYC 4198;4298;4398;4498;4598: Special Problems

Cr. 1-5 per semester, up to seven by concurrent enrollment. Prerequisites: PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301, and six additional semester hours in psychology; consent of instructor; and minimum 3.00 cumulative grade point average. Independent student projects supervised by a faculty member. Forty-five hours of work on the project are expected for each semester hour of credit. May be repeated, but no more than six semester hours may count toward psychology major 30-hour requirement.

PSYC 4301: Psychology and the Arts

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and six additional semester hours in PSYC. Explores the arts as source material for understanding those parts of the psyche which are unknown, and how they become known. This course is an open Honors course.

PSYC 4302: The Psychology of Humor

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300. Analysis of humor including what makes jokes funny, how they are constructed, and their typologies. Concentration on humor as social commentary, and the historical bases behind the social content.

PSYC 4304: History and Systems

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and nine additional semester hours in psychology. Approaches of major figures and schools to the abiding philosophical, theoretical, and conceptual issues in psychology.

PSYC 4305 Persuasion and Behavior

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Social psychological theory analysis and application to social communication, self concept, attitude and behavior change, and information processing.

PSYC 4306: Community Service Practica

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301, minimum of 3.0 cumulative grade point average and junior or senior standing in psychology. Direct experience in the application of psychological theory to a community service program. May be repeated once for credit.

PSYC 4307: Research Practica

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301, and a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average and junior or senior standing in psychology. Intensive experience on a research project which culminates in the production of a scholarly effort such as a professional article or presentation. May be repeated once for credit.

PSYC 4320: Theories of Interventions

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300, PSYC 2301 and 3 additional hours psychology. Empirically-validated treatment strategies for clinical populations, including psychopharmacological and psychotherapeutic approaches.

PSYC 4321: Abnormal Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and six additional semester hours in psychology. Behaviors considered deviant or pathological and the various approaches to understanding and treating them.

PSYC 4322: Behavior Modification

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 4342. Applied operant behavior theory; operant and respondent paradigms, case studies, and current issues in behavior therapy.

**PSYC 4343: Perception**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and at least junior standing or consent of instructor. Perception in vision and related senses; including sensory processes and organization, motion and space perception, pattern recognition, perceptual learning and development, and sensory-motor coordination.

**PSYC 4345: Emotion and Motivation**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300. Basic concepts of emotions and motivation in both their normal and abnormal mode, with emphasis on their psychological bases.

**PSYC 4347: Tests and Measurements**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and PSYC 2301 Assessment tests used in education, industry, psychology; determination and interpretation of reliability and validity; laboratory experience with several tests.

**PSYC 4350: Applied Cognitive Psychology**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 3350 or consent of instructor. Applications of cognitive psychology and cognitive science. Emphasis on cognitive approach to learning, thinking, instructional design and communication.

**PSYC 4352: Human Memory**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and either PSYC 2301, ECON 2370, SOC 2400, or POLS 3382; or PSYC 3350, or consent of instructor. Analysis of empirical evidence and theoretical issues regarding human memory. Topics include organization, coding, and levels of processing.

**PSYC 4354: Brain and Behavior**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300 and either PSYC 3341 or Biology equivalent. Relationship between the structure and function of the human central nervous system and the behavior of both normal and impaired individuals.

**PSYC 4360: Child Abuse: Interdisciplinary Perspectives**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300, six additional semester hours in psychology, junior standing, and an overall GPA of 3.0. Dynamics of child maltreatment, consequences of abuse for victims and society, and the impact and limitations of current interventions and public policy.

**PSYC 4361: Psychology of Parent-Child Relations**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 1300 or consent of instructor. Theory and research on parent-child relations from infancy through adolescence with emphasis on parental influence on children's social, emotional, and cognitive development.

**PSYC 4363: Abnormal Child Psychology**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and three additional semester hours in psychology. Introduction to childhood psychopathology, in the context of normal child development, with emphasis on psychological factors responsible for deviations.

**PSYC 4371: Organizational Psychology**

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 3310 or consent of instructor. Theory and research on work motivation, leadership, and related aspects of group behavior in organizations.

PSYC 4372: Interviewing (formerly PSYC 4472)

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and junior standing. Skill development in personnel interviewing; includes tape-recorded practice interviews and discussion of theoretical issues and research findings.

PSYC 4373: Personnel Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: PSYC 3310. Psychological knowledge and methods applied to personnel problems of selection and training, including job behavior description and evaluation, assessment strategies, employee development, and fair employment concerns.

PSYC 4375: Applied Organizational Development

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and at least junior standing, or consent of instructor. Focuses on the concepts and practice of changing real organizations. Includes study of change techniques and skill exercises for intervention and consultation.

PSYC 4376: Work Motivation

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite. PSYC 3310 or consent of instructor. Theories and paradigms of motivation in the work place. Research and applications of motivational theories used to describe employee behaviors.

PSYC 4380: Applied Social Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and either PSYC 2380 or SOC 3330. Application of social psychological theory and research to significant social issues.

PSYC 4383: Social Psychology of Communication

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300 and three additional semester hours in psychology. Theory and research related to analysis of propaganda vs. education, survey research methodology, mass media, persuasive communication strategies and models.

PSYC 4387: African American Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300. The psychological experience and contribution of African Americans in a multi-cultural world.

PSYC 4396: Selected Topics in Child Development

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 2301 and 3360, or consent of instructor. Review and evaluation of literature in areas of special interest in development psychology.

PSYC 4397: Selected Topics in Psychology

Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: PSYC 1300, junior or senior standing, consent of instructor, and a minimum 2.50 cumulative grade point average. May be repeated, but no more than six semester hours may count toward 30-hour psychology major requirement.