

# Psychology

## Faculty/Staff

Cheryl The, Chair; Zaira Rico, Keila Santos-Crespo (Program Director)

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## Aims of the Program

The goals of the department are to serve those who are interested in majoring in psychology and those who wish to pursue advanced degrees in the areas of psychology and counseling. This degree is designed as a basis for graduate work that provides a basic understanding of Christian psychological principles and a background for a wide variety of careers that involve working with people.

# Psychology Degrees and Certificates

# B.S. Psychology

A degree in psychology provides graduates with many career options and preparation for graduate school. Some employment opportunities are available immediately after graduation, including jobs in social service. A graduate degree provides a path for many mental health careers including licensed professional counselor, play therapist, industrial psychologist, and clinical psychologist.

Due to the sensitive and confidential nature of the work, psychology students will be held to the highest standards of ethical and moral behavior. Behavior that fails to comply with these high standards will require the student to withdraw from the program. Students seeking admission must meet the following admission requirements.

Admission requirements to Southwestern Adventist University's Psychology program:

1. Completion of at least 30 credit hours including but not limited to PSYC 212 - General Psychology, PSYC 220 - Human Growth and Development, ENGL 121 - Freshman Composition, and ENGL 220- Research and Professional Writing.
2. Have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 or higher.
3. Have a C or higher in the following courses: ENGL 121 - Freshman Composition, ENGL 220 – Research and Professional Writing, PSYC 212 – General Psychology, and PSYC 220 – Human Growth and Development.
4. Attend a face-to-face interview with program faculty. Interviews will take place Spring semester of Sophomore year.
5. Provide a writing sample that shows reading comprehension, critical thinking, and understanding of APA style guidelines.

## Application Process

All applicants must complete the following:

1. Submit an essay of at least one page that describes reasons for wanting to pursue a career in mental health, your interests in the field, and how the student is qualified to be accepted into the program. In addition, students will submit a peer-reviewed academic article review related to their future population or field of interest within mental health.
2. Submit two letters of recommendation (no relatives or Education & Psychology faculty).
3. Interview with the department faculty.

All documents must be provided to the department secretary before students are eligible to interview.

[General Education Requirements for all Bachelor's Degrees](#)

[Quality Enhancement Plan \(QEP\) Requirement](#)

## Psychology B.S. Requirements

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>credits</b>
PSYC 212	General Psychology	3
PSYC 220	Human Growth & Development	3
PSYC 222	Ethics for Mental Health Professionals	3
PSYC 233	Social Psychology	3
PSYC 270	Physiological Psychology	3
PSYC 322	Child & Adolescent Psychology	3
PSYC 330	Life Transitions, Grief and Loss	3
PSYC 331	Multicultural Counseling	3
PSYC 338	Conflict Resolution	3
PSYC 340	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYC 344	Marriage, and Family Therapy	3
PSYC 360	Personality Theory & Development	3
PSYC 410	Group Therapy	3
PSYC 415	Crisis, Intervention, Assessment, and Treatment	3
PSYC 430	Addictive Behaviors	3
PSYC 445	Deviant Behavior	3
PSYC 460	Applied Social Research Methods	3
PSYC 470	Counseling Theory & Techniques	3

## B.S. Psychology Electives

Nine electives to be selected from the following courses.

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>credits</b>
PSYC 326	Learners With Exceptionalities	3
PSYC 351	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	3
PSYC 480	Psychology Internship	1-6

## Required Cognate

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>credits</b>
MATH 141	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	3
<b>Total credits:</b>		<b>66</b>

# B.S. Psychology emphasis in School Guidance

## Bachelor of Science in Psychology, emphasis in School Guidance

The School Guidance emphasis will prepare candidates in both psychology and elementary education, in preparation for work in an elementary school as a teacher and ultimately a school counselor.

The degree meets the education requirements for the Texas Education Agency education preparation programs and additionally provides a background in psychology.

Please note that the State of Texas requires candidates who desire a certificate in school counseling to have two years of successful teaching and be in possession of a valid teaching certificate issued by the State of Texas. A master's degree in School Guidance/School Counseling is also required to become a licensed school counselor.

The degree prepares candidates for the State of Texas teacher certification exams. Three exams are required for State of Texas certification, 1. Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities, 2. Core Subjects EC. - 6, and 3. Science of Teaching Reading.

The candidate is responsible for initiating the application process, all forms and additional information are available in the Education & Psychology Department.

Admission to the program includes:

- Application to the Educator Preparation Program (after completing 60 credit hours)
- Statement of purpose - one-page typed essay describing reasons for desiring a profession in the teaching field
- Two letters of recommendation from individuals other than relatives.
- All potential candidates will have an interview with the Education/Psychology Department before being fully accepted into the School Guidance emphasis. See Technical Standards in Pre-Service Teacher Candidate Handbook.
- Some candidates will need to take the THEA exam and meet a minimum score of 260 in reading, 230 in math, and 220 in writing. Passing standards are subject to change, as the State Board of Education changes minimum standards. Note: You are exempt from the THEA if you earn a score of 550 in both areas or better in the areas of Math and Verbal on your SAT or if your ACT score had a composite of 21 with at least a 19 in Math and Language.
- Candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Before acceptance, all students must submit to, pay for, and pass a criminal background check

## Degree Plan

After the candidate has been admitted to this program, they should develop a degree plan with their advisor.

## Retention in this Program

To be retained in this program, students must:

- Maintain a cumulative 3.00 grade point average in all coursework.
- Give evidence of satisfactory professional growth.
- Show promising development in field experiences.
- Demonstrate behavior that is ethically and morally responsible.

General Education Requirements for all Bachelor's degrees

Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Requirement

## Psychology Courses

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>credits</b>
PSYC 212	General Psychology	3
PSYC 220	Human Growth & Development	3
PSYC 222	Ethics for Mental Health Professionals	3
PSYC 344	Marriage, and Family Therapy	3
PSYC 322	Child & Adolescent Psychology	3
PSYC 326	Learners With Exceptionalities	3
PSYC 340	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYC 360	Personality Theory & Development	3
PSYC 445	Deviant Behavior	3
PSYC 460	Applied Social Research Methods	3
PSYC 470	Counseling Theory & Techniques	3

## Education Courses

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>credits</b>
EDUC 254	Introduction to the Teaching Profession	3
EDUC 310	Teaching English Language Learners	3
EDUC 312	Educational Psychology	3
EDUC 350	Digital Literacy Proficiency	3
EDUC 382	Reading and Language Arts in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 385	Philosophy of Christian Education	3
EDUC 386	Mathematics in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 414	Science and Health in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 418	Legal Foundations of Education	3
EDUC 419	Social Studies in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 424	Language Arts Essential Skills in the Elementary School	3
EDUC 434	Classroom Assessment	3
EDUC 436	Classroom Management	3
EDUC 475	Directed Teaching in Elementary School	6
EDUC 495	TEXES Prep #1 - Core Subjects EC-6	0
EDUC 496	TEXES Prep #2 - Pedagogy and Professionalism Responsibilities EC-12	0

## Required Cognates

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>credits</b>
POLS 211	National and Texas Constitutions	3
MATH 141	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	3
<b>Total credits:</b>		<b>84</b>

# Minor in Psychology

## Required Courses

Item #	Title	credits
PSYC 212	General Psychology	3
PSYC 220	Human Growth & Development	3
PSYC 360	Personality Theory & Development	3
PSYC 340	Abnormal Psychology	3

## Psychology Minor Upper Division Electives

Item #	Title	credits
PSYC 344	Marriage, and Family Therapy	3
PSYC 322	Child & Adolescent Psychology	3
PSYC 326	Learners With Exceptionalities	3
PSYC 338	Conflict Resolution	3
PSYC 351	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	3
PSYC 270	Physiological Psychology	3
PSYC 410	Group Therapy	3
PSYC 415	Crisis, Intervention, Assessment, and Treatment	3
PSYC 430	Addictive Behaviors	3
PSYC 445	Deviant Behavior	3
PSYC 460	Applied Social Research Methods	3
PSYC 470	Counseling Theory & Techniques	3
<b>Total credits:</b>		<b>21</b>

## Psychology Classes

### PSYC 212: General Psychology

A beginning course in the basic principles and concepts of psychology. Recommended as a preliminary to other courses in the field. Psychology majors need to earn a grade of C or higher.

**Credits:** 3

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

Spring

### PSYC 220: Human Growth & Development

A study of the basic principles of human growth and development across the life span. The environmental and psychological functions of human development are examined. Includes case studies. Psychology majors must earn a grade of C or higher.

**Credits:** 3

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

Spring

# PSYC 222: Ethics for Mental Health Professionals

An overview of ethical and legal issues related to human services professions. Topics include responsibility, competency, duty to warn, confidentiality, professional relationships, and professional licensing standards and procedures. As part of the course, students will have a major term paper that will be used to introduce the research skills used in the field of psychology. Students will learn to use primary and secondary sources as well as psychology journals, indexes, and databases as needed for psychology research papers. Psychology majors will begin the process of senior portfolio development. Recommended in the sophomore year to comply with portfolio requirements

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

# PSYC 233: Social Psychology

A study of the basic principles and concepts required in understanding group dynamics and social behavior, focusing on the different types of social setting and influencing factors on behavior. This course deals with social interactions, including their origins and their effects on the individual. A look at how it impacts government policy, group behavior and organizations.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

# PSYC 270: Physiological Psychology

This course introduces the biological bases of behavior. It explores the different scientific methods to research overall brain functioning and its link to behavior. In addition, students will learn how specific neurological systems might account to processes such as learning, memory, emotions, and psychological illnesses.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

# PSYC 298: Individual Study Topics

A study in an area of student interest under the direction of a staff member. This study may involve research, laboratory or library work. Content and method of study must be arranged prior to registration. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

**Credits:** 1-3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

Approval is required from the program director.

**Program:** Psychology



# PSYC 299: Directed Group Study Topics

Provides academic departments an opportunity to offer courses in specialized or experimental areas, either lower or upper division, not listed in the undergraduate *Bulletin*. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

**Credits:** 1-3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

Approval is required from the program director.

**Program:** Psychology

# PSYC 322: Child & Adolescent Psychology

An overview of the physical, mental, and emotional phases of human development during child and adolescence years. A study of the environmental and educational problems of the teenager. (Also taught as EDUC 322)

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

# PSYC 326: Learners With Exceptionalities

A study of the 13 disability categories outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2004. Emphasis on understanding the educational needs of students with disabilities. The study includes characteristics, causes, prevalence, and legislation regarding students with disabilities. Admission, review, and dismissal procedures for students requiring an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or other specialized program(s) are covered. The roles and responsibilities of the classroom teacher are integrated into the study of each specific disability category. (Also taught as EDUC 326)

**Credits:** 3

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

# PSYC 330: Life Transitions, Grief and Loss

A study of conceptual models and theories about death, dying, grief and loss. Cultivate and foster affective development and sensitivity to issues concerning death, dying, and grief.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

# PSYC 331: Multicultural Counseling

A study of racial and ethnic groups in american society featuring an examination of their history, cultural heritage, contribution, struggles, and hopes for the future. Emphasis will be placed on a strength-based analysis of diverse groups. Focus will also address working with families in a classroom and counseling setting to to be best serve a multicultural society. Course content will guide students to be better informed and proactive in a multicultural society .

**Credits:** 3

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

## PSYC 338: Conflict Resolution

A study of practical applications of conflict and dispute resolution. The course focuses on developing practical problem solving and decision making skills while exploring issues of self-awareness, identity, culture, power, race, gender, violence, and forgiveness. Workplace disputes are explored and addressed from a perspective emphasizing preventive models.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

## PSYC 340: Abnormal Psychology

A study of maladaptive and disorganized behavior patterns within a personal and social context, including their development, symptoms, and treatment. Focus on the various etiologies of mental illness and treatment modalities.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

## PSYC 344: Marriage, and Family Therapy

Emphasis on dating, engagement, marriage, and successful family lifestyles. Good communication and relationship skills are studied. Emphasis on therapeutic family models.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 222

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

## PSYC 351: Industrial and Organizational Psychology

This course will provide an introduction to Industrial and Organizational Psychology, a scientific discipline that studies human behavior in the workplace. Organizational psychologists help institutions hire, manage, develop, support employees, and align employee efforts with business needs. Their work contributes to outcomes such as better talent to achieve the strategic goals of an organization, reduced turnover, increased productivity, and improved employee engagement.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

# PSYC 360: Personality Theory & Development

This course is a study of major theories regarding the development of personality. Students will learn about a variety of personality theories, their history, and their applications. Students will consider theories that address personality development and implications for normal and abnormal development.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

# PSYC 410: Group Therapy

A study of the group dynamics, the stages of group development, group interventions, and the selection of group participants. Students will gain the essential knowledge and skills for understanding, organizing, and working with groups.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 222

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

# PSYC 415: Crisis, Intervention, Assessment, and Treatment

A study of current issues as they relate to crisis intervention. Students will apply crisis intervention theory and models of intervention to various crisis situations. Students will become familiar with assessment and treatment interventions for individuals, families, and groups of varying ages, multicultural backgrounds, and other special needs.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 222

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

# PSYC 420: Animal Behavior

This course covers the topic of animal behavior - how animals interact with each other, with other living beings, and with their environment. Both proximate causes of behavior and ultimate causes of behavior will be covered. Special emphasis will be given to developing experimental design, data collection techniques, and hypothesis testing. Topics to be covered include: natural selection and adaptive change; hypothesis testing; ecology of feeding and antipredatory strategies; habitat use and competition for resources; sexual selection and the ecology of mating and parenting strategies; the ecology of social behavior; evolution of cooperation and altruism; ecological constraints on communication; and sociobiology. 3 Theory 1 Lab. Lab fee. (Also taught as BIOL 420)

**Credits:** 4

**Lab Hours:** 3

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

BIOL 112

Recommended prerequisite or permission of the instructor

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall, even years

## PSYC 430: Addictive Behaviors

A study of addiction and addictive behaviors. This course provides a comprehensive overview of current theories about addictions, their prevention, and treatment. In addition, it will highlight controversies surrounding behavioral addictions, ways to link theory and practice, and motivational factors in personal change.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 222

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

## PSYC 445: Deviant Behavior

An examination of what deviant behavior is (including specific examples of behavior which is so labeled) and social explanations for its existence.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 340

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

## PSYC 460: Applied Social Research Methods

An introduction to applied research methods and their applications to the disciplines of Physical Education, and Psychology. Emphasis is on understanding basic terminology, the use of fundamental research tools, and the integration of research and practice. Students will gain experience with single subject designs, program evaluation methods, SPSS-driven data analysis, and case studies in data collection. This class meets the requirements for the Computer Competencies for General Education (Also taught as KINT 460.)

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

MATH 141

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Fall

## PSYC 470: Counseling Theory & Techniques

A study of various theories and techniques used in the counseling process. Study will also include techniques for interviews, administration, questionnaires, and records used in guidance work by teachers, ministers, counselors, and psychologists. Study will include the ethics and principles involved in the counseling process as they relate to the counselor, as well as the situation, and is the final portfolio checkpoint. This class meets the requirements for the Communication Competencies for General Education. Senior year only.

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 222

PSYC 415

Senior Status

**Program:** Psychology

**Semester Offered:** Spring

## PSYC 480: Psychology Internship

This course is designed to provide the student with the opportunity for training in practical work situations and areas of interest dealing in the area of psychology. There are 30 clock hours required for each credit hour. Admission is limited to students who have completed at least 24 hours in psychology. The Psychology Internship must be student-driven but will require departmental approval on a case-by-case basis. Students wanting to apply for a psychology internship:

1. Must have an approved **Graduation Contract**
2. Must be a student in good standing
3. Must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Applications must be received the semester prior to the internship and are available in the Education and Psychology departments. Internship requires faculty approval prior to placement.

Pass/fail course.

**Credits:** 1-6

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 212

PSYC 220

PSYC 222

PSYC 340

PSYC 415

Senior status, cumulative GPA 3.0, and approval of department director.

**Program:** Psychology

## PSYC 498: Individual Study Topics

A study in an area of student interest under the direction of a staff member. This study may involve research, laboratory or library work. Content and method of study must be arranged prior to registration. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

**Credits:** 1-3

**Prerequisites:**

Approval of the department director

**Program:** Psychology

## PSYC 499: Directed Group Study

A study in an area of student interest under the direction of a staff member. This study may involve research, laboratory, or library work. Content and method of study must be arranged prior to registration. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits.

**Credits:** 1-3

**Prerequisites:**

Approval of department chair

**Program:** Psychology