

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the science of human behavior and mental processes, which use scientific methods to describe, predict, understand, and explain human behavior. Psychology is a versatile major. As a psychology major, you'll explore the human psyche and the connections between how we think, feel, and behave. This discipline encompasses all of the many different factors that affect human thoughts, feelings, behavior and development. It provides students with a strong foundation for postgraduate education in psychology and can serve as excellent background to prepare them for further training in such fields as law, education, government and public policy, business, and many of the health-related professions. Psychology has many practical applications, including identifying the most effective ways to learn and remember things, designing workplaces for employees that are healthy and productive, treating disorders like depression and anxiety. The breadth of coverage in this discipline provides you with the background to face many different challenges in the world today that require an understanding of human behavior. It also gives you a perspective on why you are who you are, and helps you discover who you want to become. You will learn how to promote emotional and mental health — both within ourselves and with others.

Course Scheme

(12 core + 3 elective = Credits: 60)

Semester 1	Individual and Collective		
Semester 2	Psychology in the Media		
	Core Courses	Minor	Credits
Semester 3	PSY 201: Systems of Psychology		4
	PSY 202: Introduction to Social Psychology		

	PSY 203: Research Methods & Statistics in Psychology		4
	PSY 204: Understanding Psychological Disorders		4
	PSY 205: Development Psychology		4
	PSY 206: Biological Basis of Behaviour		4
	PSY 207: Personality		4
	PSY 208: Experimental Psychology		4
Semester 5	PSY 301: Psychological Assessment		4
	PSY 302: Cognitive Neuroscience (B.Sc.)		4
	PSY 302: Evolution of Behaviour and Cognition (B.A)		4
	Elective 1		4
	Elective 2		4

Semester 6	PSY303: Culture and Cognition (B.A) PSY 303: Addiction and the Brain (BSc)		4
	PSY 304: Comparative Psychology		4
	Elective 3		4

List of Electives (BA)

1. Psychology of Happiness
2. Psychology of work
3. Gender Psychology
4. Health Psychology
5. Project

List of Electives (BSc)

1. Neuroscientific methods
2. Behaviour Genetics
3. Psychology of Ageing
4. Experimental Social Psychology
5. Project

Notes

1. The program is divided into 12+3 structure. This means 12 core courses and 3 electives. Furthermore, every course carries 4 credits.
2. 6 courses have been identified as minor courses making up a total of 24 credits.
3. From third year or 5th semester students are segregated into two groups; B.A & B.Sc.
4. Both the groups have different set of core courses in addition to a common core course. These courses are identified in the fifth and sixth semester only.
5. B. A and B.Sc. students have a different basket of electives to choose from. Semester 5 requires students to choose two electives whereas semester 6 requires to choose only one elective.
6. The component of the project requires students to conduct a mini research project. Results will be disseminated in the form of a presentation and report.

Semester 1
Individual & Collective

Semester 2
Psychology in the Media

Semester 3

PSY 201 Systems of Psychology

4 credits

This course is designed to provide psychology students an opportunity to reflect upon the field as a whole - specifically to understand the history of the profession and evolution of ideas over time. The course will review areas that currently define the study of psychology, and explore older ideas that are no longer current, those ideas that are still relevant, and areas that are likely to be important in the future. Students will examine major philosophical approaches that informed the questions and methods of psychologists, including the classical systems and schools of psychology, and will review some of the major empirical findings and theories that have influenced the directions of research. Students will be encouraged to critically examine the ways by which psychologists have written their own history and to consider how intellectual and cultural contexts may have shaped their interpretation of this history.

PSY 202 Introduction to Social Psychology

4 credits (3+1)

Why do people behave the way they do? This is the fundamental question that drives social psychology. Through reading, lecture, and interactive discussion, students have the opportunity to explore and think critically about a variety of exciting issues including: what causes us to like, love, help, or hurt others; the effects of social influence and persuasion on individual thoughts, emotion, and behaviour; and how the lessons of social psychology can be applied in contexts such as health, work, and relationships. The social forces studied in the class shape our behaviour, though their operation cannot be seen directly. A central idea of this class is that awareness of these forces allows us to make choices in light of them, offering us more agency and wisdom in our everyday lives

1 credit: Practical: Locus of Control, Measurement of Attitude, Sociometric status

PSY 203 Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology

4 Credits (3+1)

The aim of this course is to introduce students to quantitative and qualitative research approaches used in psychological research. It will outline and examine the components of research designs and methodologies, and explore the fundamental principles and techniques of statistical analysis. Statistical portion includes computing, and interpreting measures of central tendency, variability, and association. Estimation, confidence intervals, tests of hypotheses, t-tests, correlation, analysis of variance and chi-square tests.

1 credit: Tutorial: Students will be exposed to PC based tools such as R or SPSS to perform data analysis

PSY 204 Understanding Psychological Disorders

4 Credits

It is the study of different types of maladaptive behaviour, including symptoms, development, classification, and treatment. The course will cover a range of topics from Issues in defining Normality and Abnormality; diagnosis and classification; nature of clinical assessment, psychotic disorders, mood disorders, personality disorders, disorders of childhood to gender dysphoria.

Semester 4

PSY 205 Development Psychology

4 credits

The course aims to impart pupils an understanding of the various domains of human development and inculcate sensitivity to socio-cultural context of human development. Students will be exposed to topics such as theoretical perspectives of development, stages of development (prenatal to old age), Piaget and Vygotsky's cognitive development, Moral development by Kohlberg along with sociocultural context of development such as family, peers and media.

PSY 206 Biopsychology

4 Credits

This course will make students understand the biological bases of human behaviour, its nature and scope, developing critical thinking to use scientific techniques for biological psychology and developing an awareness of ethical issues accompanying them. At the end of the course students will have basic knowledge about the structures of the human brain, their functions and impact on human behaviour. Additionally, students will also realize the importance of hormones in behaviour, cognition and emotion. Sample topics include organization of the nervous system, neuroendocrine system and functions of the brain.

PSY 207 Personality

4 Credits

An introduction to the scientific study of personality development with emphasis on the normal. Examines the nature of personality theory, methods of assessment and research, and the major theories representative of the following orientations: type-trait, psychodynamic, phenomenological, cognitive, and learning.

PSY 208 Experimental Psychology

4 Credits (3+1)

The semester-long course sequence prepares students to critically evaluate empirical research in psychology and to design, conduct, and present original research projects. Course topics cover literature reviews, development of testable hypotheses, research design concepts, statistical procedures relevant to behavioural research, data collection techniques, interpretation and evaluation of research findings, and ethical issues in research. The research topics may be in diverse areas such as learning, cognitive processes, and social and organizational behaviour. The original research proposals are developed in this course. Course topics will be in diverse areas such as learning, cognitive processes, and social and organizational behaviour.

1 Credit: Practical: Muller Lyer Illusion, Serial Recall, Depth Perception, Tachistoscope, Maze Learning, Word Superiority

Semester 5

PSY 301 Psychological Assessment

4 Credits (3+1)

The aim of this course is to equip students with the foundation of knowledge and practical skills for analyzing and interpreting psychometric concepts and testing results. This course focuses on the following areas: 1. the paradigms in psychological testing and research and data convergence 2. The principles of reliability and validity, validation strategies, factor analyses and test fairness analyses; 3. The various forms of assessment; ability, personality, neuropsychological, medical, employment and forensic. Sample topics include Applications and Consequences of Testing, Ethical and Social Implications of Testing, Norms and Test Standardization, Concepts of Reliability, Concepts of Validity, Theories and Individual Tests of Intelligence and Achievement, Test Bias and Other Controversies and many more.

PSY 302: Cognitive Neuroscience (B.Sc.)

The unit will introduce students to advanced neuroanatomy and key concepts in the cognitive neuroscience of learning, memory, attention, language, emotion and executive function. The unit aims to introduce students to advanced concepts in cognitive neuroscience and develop analytical and critical thinking skills. Research and evaluation skills will be enhanced through practical lab sessions. Among the topics to be covered are psychopharmacology, psychobiological explanations of mental disorders, dementia, sexual development and behaviour, and methods of studying neuropsychological processes.

PSY 302: Evolution of Behaviour and Cognition (B.A)

Evolutionary Psychology is intended to provide a basic review of the physical, behavioural, and cognitive processes that may have evolved from naturally occurring biological forces, including social selection pressures, throughout human evolutionary history. The course focuses on research-based knowledge and application of evolutionary principles. Course topics include the form and function of human consciousness, interpersonal behaviours, and major bodily systems, including stress reactivity, emotionality, masculinity/femininity, culture, mate preferences, and social development

PSY 303 Elective 1

PSY 304 Elective 2

Semester 6

PSY 305 Culture and Cognition (B.A)

4 Credits

This course sets the stage for the student's exposure to Cultural Psychology with the prevalent, but often taken-for-granted debate on how culture is to be perceived. Having established the premises of this course's approach to culture, we will locate Cultural Psychology within the schema of the Psychological discipline. Classical psychological experiments will be re-introduced from the alternative perspective of Cultural Psychology. Extensions to the cultural psychological perspective will be supported by experiments that prove the significant mediation of culture on psychological processes. This course examines how the intangible and subjective dimension of emotions has been studied psychologically, and the extensions to this area of study by Cultural

Psychology. The final segment to be examined is Cultural Psychology's refinement of the study of Cognition and Perception.

PSY 305 Addiction and the Brain (BSc)

4 Credits

In this course you will explore the psychological theories that underpin our understanding of compulsive and addictive behaviours. You will also have an introduction to the effects of psychoactive substances and what makes them addictive. The link between substance misuse, mental illness, learning disability and criminal behaviour will be discussed. Finally, the pupil will gain a broad understanding of the behavioural and biological mechanisms underlying drug and behavioural addictions. Students will be introduced to popular drugs of abuse and identify common themes of addiction and the underlying mechanisms.

PSY 306 Comparative Psychology

4 Credits

Comparative psychology, a sub discipline of psychology, is the scientific study of the behaviour and cognition of human and non-human animals, with emphasis on how behaviour relates to phylogeny, ontogeny, and adaptation. Rooted in evolutionary principles, the field of comparative psychology seeks to answer a multitude of questions on a variety of species, with particular interest in how it relates to human behaviour. We will consider the contributions of evolutionary selection pressures, genetics, development, learning and culture on the expression of behaviour in a wide variety of species. We will explore topics such as adaptation, fitness, altruism, social behaviour, parental care, reproductive behaviour, mating systems and the evolutionary causations of behaviour in both humans and non-humans.

PSY 307: Elective 3

Course Coordinator: Dr. Santha Kumari (SHSS)/ Dr. Ipsita Chowdhury (TSLAS)

Psychology Minor

	Cognitive Science Major & Psychology Minor	Other Majors
Semester 3	Systems of Psychology	Systems of Psychology
	Understanding Psychological Disorders	Research Methods & Statistics
Semester 4	Personality	Personality
	Experimental Psychology	Biological Basis of Behaviour
Semester 5	Evolution of Behaviour and Cognition	Evolution of Behaviour and Cognition
Semester 6	Comparative Psychology	Comparative Psychology