

PSYCHOLOGY and BRAIN, BEHAVIOR, AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES

These courses are intended for students who wish to gain knowledge and experience in an area of psychology that is not offered in a regular course. Students are responsible for contacting a faculty member with research or academic interests in the area they wish to explore. For questions please contact the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office (1343 East Hall) at psych.saa@umich.edu or (734) 764-2580.

* A good guideline to use to determine the number of credit hours to take is for each credit hour taken, you should spend at least 3 hours working each week (i.e. 3 credits = 9 hours a week and 4 credits = 12 hours a week working on the research project). For Spring or Summer half-terms, you will need to complete 6 hours of work per week for each credit hour.

Directed Research Courses

PSYCH 200 Independent Study in Psychological Issues (1-4 credits)

This course allows a student to focus on a Psychological Issue of personal interest, under the supervision of a Psychology faculty member. Completion of an introductory psychology course or a first year seminar is recommended. This course will not count toward elective credits for the Psychology or Brain, Behavior, and Cognitive Science Concentrations. This course cannot be used to fulfill the lab requirement for the Psychology and Brain, Behavior, and Cognitive Science Concentrations. This course may be taken for a maximum of 4 credits. Letter graded (A-E).

PSYCH 322 Field Practicum in Research Techniques for Psychology as a Natural Science (1-4 credits)

PSYCH 323 Field Practicum in Research Techniques for Psychology as a Social Science (1-4 credits)

These courses offer an opportunity to apply academic knowledge in natural (322) / social (323) science within the context of a psychological research setting. They are intended to be an introductory experience within a psychology research lab. Completion of an introductory psychology course and at least sophomore standing are recommended. The faculty member and the student develop an academic component (e.g. paper, reading list) that will pertain to the student's experience in the lab. For credit hour specifications, see the top of this page (*). May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Credit is granted for a combined total of six credits of Psych 322, 323, 326, 327. Students should contact a Psychology Advisor to determine if these courses will work in their concentration plan. LS&A Experiential. Graded Credit/No Credit.

PSYCH 326 Faculty Directed Early Research for Psychology as a Natural Science (1-4 credits)

PSYCH 327 Faculty Directed Early Research for Psychology as a Social Science (1-4 credits)

The student works with the instructor on various aspects of psychological research, completes readings, collects and analyzes data and produces a written report as directed by the instructor. An instructor must have a written description of the academic work on which students will be graded on file in the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office. The description might include information about readings, data collection and analysis, and writing requirements. It is not necessary to provide a separate description for each student. This form must be resubmitted after one year. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. A student may elect a combined maximum of 6 credits of PSYCH 322, 323, 326 and 327. Students should contact a Psychology Advisor to determine if these courses will work in their concentration plan. LS&A Independent. Letter graded (A-E).

PSYCH 422 Faculty Directed Advanced Research for Psychology as a Natural Science (1-4 credits)

PSYCH 423 Faculty Directed Advanced Research for Psychology as a Social Science (1-4 credits)

Arrangements may be made for adequately prepared students to undertake individual research of their own design under the direction of a faculty member. These courses are intended for students who have completed either PSYCH 322, 323, 326 or 327 and/or have the equivalent research experience (e.g. PSYCH 331/332), are of at least junior standing and have completed at least one psychology breadth course. Please note that the student must have a proposal approved by both the faculty member and then reviewed by the Undergraduate Chair and/or the Committee for Undergraduate Studies before registering for these courses. Application forms are in the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office or on the Psychology Departmental website. Requires a final project, a copy of which must be given to the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office before the student's grade is issued. For credit hour specifications, see the top of this page (*). A maximum of 6 credits may be earned. Only one section of these courses may be taken within the same semester. Students should contact a Psychology Advisor to determine if these courses will work in their concentration plan. LS&A Independent. Letter graded (A-E).

Both natural science and social science-based courses may count for the Psychology concentration. For courses to possibly count in either the Brain, Behavior and Cognitive Science (BBCS) or Neuroscience concentrations, they must be natural science-based. Students should always check with a Psychology Department Advisor to determine if their courses will count for concentration requirements.

Directed Reading Courses

PSYCH 420 Faculty Directed Advanced Tutorial Reading for Psychology as a Natural Science (1-4 credits)

PSYCH 421 Faculty Directed Advanced Tutorial Reading for Psychology as a Social Science (1-4 credits)

Arrangements may be made for adequately prepared students to further explore a topic of interest in psychology as a natural (420) / social (421) science under the direction of a faculty member. It is recommended that the student be of at least junior standing and have completed one psychology breadth course. Please note that the student must have a proposal approved by the faculty member and then reviewed by the Undergraduate Chair and/or the Committee for Undergraduate Studies before registering for these courses. Application forms are in the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office or on the Psychology Departmental website. Requires a final project, a copy of which must be given to the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office before the student's grade is issued. For credit hour specifications, see the top of page 1 (*). May be repeated for up to 6 credits total. Only one section of these courses may be taken within the same semester. Students should contact a Psychology Advisor to determine if these courses will work in their concentration plan. LS&A Independent. Letter graded (A-E).

Field Practicum Courses

PSYCH 404 Field Practicum (1-4 credits)

PSYCH 405 Field Practicum in a University Setting (1-4 credits)

Students may make arrangements to work in an agency where psychological principles may be observed and utilized. This is often an internship or volunteer opportunity. Students must arrange the placement and contact a faculty member with interests in that area to be an advisor. For credit hour specifications, see the top of page 1 (*). The faculty member and the student develop an academic component (e.g. paper, reading list) that will pertain to the student's placement. The faculty member and the student will have regular contact to monitor progress. It is recommended that the student have already completed at least one psychology breadth course. PSYCH 404 may be repeated for a total of 8 credits; PSYCH 405 may be repeated for a total of 4 credits. These courses may not count towards either the BBCS or Neuroscience concentrations. Students should contact a Psychology Advisor to determine if these courses will work in the Psychology concentration. LS&A Experiential. These courses are graded Credit/No Credit.

Senior Thesis Research Courses

PSYCH 428 Senior Thesis: Research in Psychology as a Natural Science (2-4 credits)

PSYCH 429 Senior Thesis: Research in Psychology as a Social Science (2-4 credits)

The primary focus of the Senior Thesis is the development of a research plan in collaboration with a sponsoring faculty member. This will include the writing of an extensive literature review on the topic, culminating in an acceptable research proposal that is approved by both the faculty member and then reviewed by the Undergraduate Chair and/or the Committee for Undergraduate Studies before registering for these courses. Students will be expected to participate in two semesters of academic course work (conducting and analyzing research), submit a final thesis, as well as present their findings at the Annual Research Forum (poster presentation). Application forms are in the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office or on the Psychology Departmental website. It is expected that the student have already completed STATS 350, PSYCH 322, 323, 326 or 327 AND PSYCH 422 or 423 and/or have extensive research experience. Students must indicate a second reader. Eligibility is limited to students who have a concentration GPA of 3.5 or better. Students are still expected to complete the Methods lab requirement in addition to their Senior Thesis work. These courses *may* count towards concentration credit but students will need to speak with a Psychology Department Advisor to make this assessment. LS&A Independent. Letter graded (A-E).

Honors Program Research Courses

PSYCH 424 Senior Honors Research I for Psychology as a Natural Science (2-4 credits)

PSYCH 425 Senior Honors Research I for Psychology as a Social Science (2-4 credits)

The primary focus of Senior Honors I is the development of a research plan in collaboration with the sponsoring faculty member. This will include the writing of an extensive literature review on the honors topic, culminating in an acceptable research proposal. Students must arrange for a faculty sponsor, meet with the honors advisor and be accepted into the Psychology Honors Program before registering for these courses. Students will be expected to participate in two semesters of academic course work (conducting and analyzing research), submit a final thesis, as well as present their findings at the Annual Research Forum (poster presentation). Application forms are in the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Office or on the Psychology Departmental website. It is recommended that the student have already completed STATS 350, PSYCH 322, 323, 326 or 327 AND PSYCH 422 or 423 and/or have extensive experience with research. Along with PSYCH 426 or 427 AND an additional methods based lab course, these courses may meet the lab requirement for the Psychology or Brain, Behavior and Cognitive Science concentrations. May not be repeated for credit. Letter graded (A-E).

PSYCH 426 Senior Honors Research II for Psychology as a Natural Science (2-4 credits)

PSYCH 427 Senior Honors Research II for Psychology as a Social Science (2-4 credits)

The primary focus in Senior Honors II is the implementation of a student's honors research design culminating in the final acceptable honors thesis and poster preparation for the year-end poster session. Students should meet with the honors advisor to ensure that they are meeting all the concentration requirements. Students must have completed PSYCH 424 or 425 and be in good standing with the Psychology Honors Program. Along with PSYCH 424 or 425 AND an additional methods based lab course, this course may meet the lab requirement for the Psychology or Brain, Behavior, and Cognitive Science concentrations. May not be repeated for credit. Letter graded (A-E).