

Psychology

**PSYCHOLOGY – PSYCH**

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 Social Sciences Division  
 Faculty Office Building, Room 136

**Possible career opportunities**

Psychology students will find classes related to helping them understand, predict, and deal with their own behavior and that of others. Careers include psychotherapist, school psychologist, college professor, researcher, counselor and administrator. Most career options require more than two years of college study.

**Associate in arts in psychology for transfer**  
 Students completing the program will be able to...

- A. identify the major theoretical orientations in psychology and demonstrate knowledge of basic psychological concepts regarding behavior and mental processes.
- B. demonstrate knowledge of research methods, ethical considerations in conducting research, and effective user of the American Psychological Association (APA) style in presenting information.
- C. utilize critical thinking skills to analyze, evaluate, and make decisions concerning complex contemporary issues in psychology.
- D. recognize the complexity of social, cultural, and international diversity.
- E. apply psychological principles to the development of interpersonal, occupational, and social skills, and life-long personal growth.
- F. demonstrate understanding of major theories, concepts, and research findings in selected content areas of psychology, such as lifespan development, personality and social psychology, neuroscience, and abnormal psychology.
- G. correctly apply statistical concepts to organize and understand data from psychological research.
- H. demonstrate an understanding of biological processes underlying behavior and experience.

The associate in arts in psychology for transfer major at Diablo Valley College (DVC) provides students with an introduction to psychology as the scientific study of thought, feeling, and behavior, and a helping profession dedicated to solving human problems. The associate degree curriculum meets lower division requirements for transfer to the CSU system baccalaureate degree programs in psychology and fulfills lower division general education requirements for transfer to the CSU system.

Psychology includes a variety of sub-fields, including clinical, counseling, developmental, forensic, social, cognitive, biological, and personality psychology. Most career options require more than two years of college study. The associate in arts in psychology for transfer degree provides preparation for transfer to psychology programs at baccalaureate-granting institutions. Transferring, completion of a bachelor’s degree, and graduate studies in psychology can lead to careers as psychotherapists, college professors, scientific researchers, administrators, and business consultants.

The associate in arts in psychology for transfer is intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor’s degree in a similar major at a CSU campus. Students completing this degree are guaranteed admission to the CSU system, but not to a particular campus or major.

In order to earn the degree, students must:

- Complete 60 CSU-transferable units.
- Complete the California State University-General Education pattern (CSU GE); or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) pattern, including the Area 1C requirement for Oral Communication.
- Complete a minimum of 18 units in the major.
- Attain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.
- Earn a grade of “C” or higher in all courses required for the major.

Students transferring to a CSU campus that accepts the degree will be required to complete no more than 60 units after transfer to earn a bachelor’s degree. This degree may not be the best option for students intending to transfer to a particular CSU campus or to a university or college that is not part of the CSU system, or those students who do not intend to transfer.

Some courses in the major satisfy both major and CSUGE/IGETC general education requirements; however, the units are only counted once toward the 60 unit requirement for an associate degree. Some variations in requirements may exist at certain four-year institutions; therefore, students who intend to transfer are advised to refer to the catalog of the prospective transfer institution and consult a counselor.

<i>major requirements:</i>	<i>units</i>
PSYCH-101 Introduction to Psychology .....	3
PSYCH-215 Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology .....	3

<i>at least 3 units from:</i>	
BUS-240 Business Statistics .....	3
MATH-142 Elementary Statistics with Probability .....	4
PSYCH-214 Introduction to Statistics for Psychology .....	4

<i>complete at least 3 units from:</i>	
BIOSC-102 Fundamentals of Biological Science with Laboratory .....	4
BIOSC-117 Human Biology with Laboratory .....	4
PSYCH-130 Introduction to Biological Psychology .....	3

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complete at least 3 units from:

PSYCH-145	Critical Thinking in Psychology.....	3
PSYCH-200	Life Span Development.....	3
PSYCH-225	Social Psychology.....	3

complete at least 3 units from:

PSYCH-122	Psychology in Modern Life.....	3
PSYCH-140	Psychology of African-Americans in a Multicultural Society .....	3
PSYCH-141	Psychology of Latinos/Chicanos in the U.S. ....	3
PSYCH-160	Psychology of Women .....	3
PSYCH-190	Psychology of Adolescence.....	3
PSYCH-195	Psychology of Adult Development and Aging..	3
PSYCH-220	Psychology of Personality: Personal, Social, Cultural Differences.....	3
PSYCH-230	Abnormal Psychology .....	3
PSYCH-240	Transpersonal Psychology.....	3

**total minimum units for the major 18**

**PSYCH-101 Introduction to Psychology**

3 units SC

- IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV
- 54 hours lecture per term
- Credit for prior learning available: Advanced Placement (AP). Transfer limitations may apply, see a counselor.
- Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.

This course is a study of the major theories, methods and concepts of modern psychology. The orientation of the course is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes, and covers such areas as: the history and systems of psychology, the biological foundations of behavior, perception, states of consciousness, learning, memory, motivation, emotion, human development, personality, stress and health, psychological disorders and therapeutic approaches, social psychology, research findings, and applied psychology. C-ID PSY 110, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-122 Psychology in Modern Life**

3 units SC

- IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D, E; DVC GE: IV
- 54 hours lecture per term
- Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.

This course examines the psychological, physiological, and cultural factors involved in personality development, and interpersonal relationships. The relevance of psychology to social processes is also examined. This course is designed with an applied focus for students interested in how psychology is used in everyday life and is related to other social sciences. The course surveys different psychological perspectives and theoretical foundations and how these are applied across a person's life taking into account the influence of factors such as culture, gender, ethnicity, historical cohort, and socio-economic status. C-ID PSY 115, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-130 Introduction to Biological Psychology**

3 units SC

- IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV
- 54 hours lecture per term
- Prerequisite: PSYCH-101 or equivalent
- Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.

This course explores the biological bases of behavior, emotions, and psychological processes. Brain-behavior relationships underlying psychological processes such as sensation, perception, learning, memory, emotions, and psychological disorders will be examined. Historical contributions, prominent theories and models, current research principles and ethical standards in research will be addressed. C-ID PSY 150, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-140 Psychology of African-Americans in Multicultural Society**

3 units SC

- IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D, E; DVC GE: IV
- 54 hours lecture per term
- Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.

This course is a study of the behavioral, physiological, and psychological experiences of African-Americans in the multicultural U.S. Topics chosen reflect the reciprocal impacts among majority European-American cultures and historical waves of immigration of various different minority groups, using African-Americans as a historical starting place, including assimilation, resistance, and acculturation. Particular attention will be paid to cultural, social, and historical contributions of African-Americans, and how they have been viewed in relation to Latino/as, Native Americans, and Asian-Pacific Americans over time. CSU, UC

**PSYCH-141 Psychology of Latinos/Chicanos in the U.S.**

3 units SC

- IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D, E; DVC GE: IV
- 54 hours lecture per term
- Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.

This course is a study of the behavioral, physiological, and psychological experiences of a variety of different groups within the Latino/Chicano cultural collective. Topics chosen reflect the reciprocal impacts among majority European American culture and historical waves of immigration of various different Latino groups, and other minority groups in the U.S., including assimilation, resistance, and acculturation. Particular attention will be paid to cultural, social, and historical contributions of groups within the Latino collective, and how Latino groups have been viewed in relation to African Americans, Native Americans, and Asian-Pacific Americans over time. CSU, UC

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**PSYCH-145 Critical Thinking in Psychology**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 1B; CSU GE: A3; DVC GE: IB*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Prerequisite: ENGL-122 or equivalent*

This course presents critical thinking and writing skills necessary to analyze, evaluate, and make decisions concerning complex contemporary issues in psychology. Topics include the principles of inductive and deductive reasoning, the philosophy of science, strengths and weaknesses of the scientific method, distinguishing knowledge from beliefs, and the examination of paradigms in psychology. The course integrates critical thinking and writing skills with effective written expression. C-ID ENGL 105, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-155 Topics in Psychology**

.3-4 units SC

- *Variable hours*

A supplemental course in psychology to provide a study of current concepts and problems in psychology and related subdivisions. Specific topics will be announced in the schedule of classes. CSU

**PSYCH-160 Psychology of Women**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D, E; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course is an examination of various factors in the development of gender identity, including personality, social processes, biology, and culture. Topics include interpersonal relations, communication styles, and psychological similarities and differences between people as a function of gender identity. CSU, UC

**PSYCH-190 Psychology of Adolescence**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course presents a survey of adolescent development and the psychological challenges faced by adolescents. Topics include adolescent values and attitudes; adolescent self-concept, self-esteem and identity; adolescent sex-role socialization; parent and family influence on adolescent socialization and peer group influence on adolescent development. CSU, UC

**PSYCH-195 Psychology of Adult Development and Aging**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D, E; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course examines the physical, psychological, cognitive, social, and emotional aspects of the aging process including the interactions between the elderly and society. Topics include an analysis of stereotypes, social connections, environmental influences, sexuality, physical health, cognitive changes, mental health, death, and bereavement, and self-reflection on life's meaning and purpose. CSU, UC

**PSYCH-200 Life Span Development**

3 units LR

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D, E; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course examines the developmental changes and sociocultural events that take place during an individual's life span from conception to death. Students are introduced to the psychological characteristics, personal or social developmental problems and opportunities for each of life's age periods. Students are also exposed to classic and contemporary theories and research (including the role of heredity and the environment) in the area of human development. Life stages will be viewed in terms of a variety of theoretical frameworks that address the following domains of human development: physical, cognitive, social and personality. C-ID PSY 180, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-214 Introduction to Statistics for Psychology**

4 units SC

- *IGETC: 2A; CSU GE: B4; DVC GE: IB, 1C*
- *72 hours lecture per term*
- *Prerequisite: Placement into MATH-121 or higher or MATH-119 or MATH-119SP or intermediate algebra or equivalent*

This course presents an introduction to the use of statistics and probability in the scientific study of people. Topics include descriptive statistics, linear regression, design of experiments, introductory probability, random variables, normal distribution and t-distribution, and statistical inference including confidence intervals and tests of significance. Emphasis will be given to the methods psychologists use to collect, describe, graph, and interpret patterns in data about people, and how psychologists report these results in research papers. Use of a computer for statistical analysis is required. CSU, UC (Credit limits may apply to UC - see counselor)

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**PSYCH-215 Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology**

3 units SC

- *CSU GE: D*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Prerequisite: PSYCH-101 and BUS-240 or MATH-142 or PSYCH-214 or equivalent*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course is an introduction to the methods psychologists use to understand human behavior. The course examines the scientific method, operationalization of variables, inductive and deductive reasoning, experimental and non-experimental designs (including descriptive methods), experimental instrumentation, group and single-subject designs, and research ethics. Research in a variety of subfields within psychology will be utilized to demonstrate research design and the collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of research data. Students will perform a literature review, design an original research study, and prepare research reports using American Psychological Association (APA) style report writing. C-ID PSY 200, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-220 Psychology of Personality: Personal, Social, Cultural Differences**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course examines the dynamics of personality development, adjustment, and growth. Particular emphasis is placed on contrasting the ideas and methodologies of various schools of psychology, including Western and non-Western views. CSU, UC

**PSYCH-225 Social Psychology**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

Social psychology is the scientific study of the way people think, feel, and behave in social situations. This course is an introduction to the perspectives, research methods, and empirical findings in social psychology. Topics include how people influence each other, interpersonal attraction, person perception, social cognition, aggression, the power of social situations, developing critical and integrative ways of thinking about theory and research, and the application of social psychological theories to everyday life experiences. C-ID PSY 170 CSU, UC

**PSYCH-230 Abnormal Psychology**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course introduces the scientific study of the symptoms, causes, treatments, and prevention of psychological disorders. Multiple theoretical perspectives are used to examine the biological, psychological, and sociocultural factors creating abnormality. The course examines the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) classification system, cultural and gender differences in abnormality, current research and ethical issues, and case illustrations of behavioral disorders. C-ID PSY 120, CSU, UC

**PSYCH-240 Transpersonal Psychology**

3 units SC

- *IGETC: 4; CSU GE: D; DVC GE: IV*
- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Advisory: College-level reading and writing are expected.*

This course examines the psychological study of consciousness, mind-body relationship, and the role of spiritual inquiry in human transformation. Students will learn about ultimate human capacities such as peak and transcendent experiences, inspired creativity, altruistic ideals, and peak performance. Transpersonal psychology suggests such capacities and experiences may be latent and can be developed. In exploring this theme, various approaches from ancient spiritual to modern scientific are critically examined. CSU, UC

**PSYCH-298 Independent Study**

.5-3 units SC

- *Variable hours*
- *Note: Submission of acceptable educational contract to department and Instruction Office is required.*

This course is designed for advanced students who wish to conduct additional research, a special project, or learning activities in a specific discipline/subject area and is not intended to replace an existing course. The student and instructor develop a written contract that includes objectives to be achieved, activities and procedures to accomplish the study project, and the means by which the supervising instructor may assess accomplishment. CSU

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**PSYCH-299 Student Instructional Assistant**

.5-3 units SC

- *Variable hours*
- *Note: Applications must be approved through the Instruction Office. Students must be supervised by a DVC instructor.*

Students work as instructional assistants, lab assistants and research assistants in this department. The instructional assistants function as group discussion leaders, meet and assist students with problems and projects, or help instructors by setting up laboratory or demonstration apparatus. Students may not assist in course sections in which they are currently enrolled. CSU