

Psychology

The Curriculum

Psychology courses at Irvine Valley College provide academic instruction in basic psychological concepts, theories, terminology, and research methods, and promote students' life skills, personal growth, and interpersonal effectiveness. All courses are fully accredited and transfer to the four-year college or university.

The Associate Degree Major

Students majoring in psychology at the lower-division level focus on understanding human personality and behavior and on researching psychological issues of current concern. The critical insight that psychology requires makes the major especially appropriate for those considering careers in any of the helping professions, in teaching, or in behavioral research; or for those seeking a widely applicable liberal arts background.

If you intend to transfer:

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree at Irvine Valley College may not be the same as those required for completing the major at a transfer institution offering a baccalaureate degree. If you plan to transfer to a four-year college or university, you should (1) refer to the transfer section of this catalog, (2) consult the catalog of your prospective transfer institution (see the IVC Transfer Center for assistance), and (3) schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before you begin your program. In addition, it may be helpful to meet with the appropriate department faculty at IVC.

If you plan to complete an associate degree:

You must complete the following set of courses to fulfill the major requirement and, in addition, meet the general education requirements listed on page 21 for the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree. Refer to page 16 for additional options for fulfilling the major requirement.

PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

(A.A. Degree)

		<i>Units</i>
BIO 11	Human Anatomy	(4)
<i>or</i>	<i>or</i>	
BIO 1/1L	Principles of Biology/Laboratory	(4)
MATH 10	Introduction to Statistics	(3)
<i>or</i>	<i>or</i>	
PSYC 10	Statistical Methods in the Behavioral Sciences	(3)
PSYC 1	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSYC 2	Research Methods in Psychology	3
PSYC 133	Psychology of Adjustment	3
SOC 1	Introduction to Sociology	3
	(Select 3 units from the recommended electives below.)	<u>3</u>
	Total units:	22

Recommended electives: ANTH 2; BIO 5, 12; CHEM 1A, CIS 30A; MATH 9; PHIL 1; PSYC 3, 5, 7, 8, 21, 30, 37.

Psychology Courses

PSYC 1 3 units

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Recom: Concurrent enrollment in SS 280. This course explores the basic psychological concepts of human and animal behavior in such areas as learning, motivation, perception, growth and development, personality, and social behavior. (CAN PSY 2) NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 2 3 units

RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Prereq: Psyc. 10 or Math 10. This course introduces students to psychological research methods and critical analysis techniques that may be applied to diverse research studies and issues. The course is recommended as the third course in the psychology major sequence following completion of the introductory course (Psychology 1) and the statistical methods in the behavioral sciences course (Psychology 10). NR
Lecture hours: 2.5 Lab hours: 1.5

PSYC 3 3 units

PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Recom: Psyc. 1. This course offers an introduction to the interaction of physiology and behavior. Students will undertake the study of human behavior, examining the roles that neuroanatomy, endocrinology, and pharmacology play in human behavior and cognition. The course is recommended for students majoring in psychology. NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 5 3 units

PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN SEXUALITY

Recom: Psyc. 1. This course studies the development and practice of sexuality in the human being. The course examines the historical, psychological, and psychosocial aspects of human sexuality from childhood to old age. The course will specifically examine human sexual anatomy, fulfillment differences between males and females, sexual dysfunction, and corrective therapy. NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 7 3 units

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY: CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE

Recom: Psyc. 1. This course is a study of human development. Course emphasis is on physical, mental, psychological, emotional, and social growth from birth through adolescence. The course is also listed as Human Development 7; credit will be given in either area, not both. UC credit provisions (see UC course list). NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 8 3 units

ADOLESCENCE: DEVELOPMENT, PROBLEMS, AND CHALLENGES

Recom: Psyc. 1. This course studies the adolescent's physical, cognitive, and social/emotional development. The course examines critical issues related to adolescence (e.g., sexuality, peer pressure, family conflict, self-esteem, loneliness, career identity, and drug abuse) and presents an analysis of the power struggle and conflict between the adolescent and the adult world. Practical ways to understand, communicate, and successfully interact with the adolescent are presented. UC credit provisions (see UC course list). NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 10 3 units

STATISTICAL METHODS IN THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Prereq: Math 253. This course presents the statistical concepts and methods most widely used in behavioral and social science research. Students study the principles of descriptive and inferential statistics, concentrating on the correct analysis of practical behavioral problems and the assumptions underlying statistical inferences. The course is recommended as the second course in the psychology major sequence following completion of the introductory course (Psychology 1) and is intended to build an adequate foundation for the study of research methods as presented in the third course (Psychology 2). UC credit provisions (see UC course list). NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 21 3 units

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN

This course is an introduction to the psychology of women. The course will explore gender distinctions and gender roles, discussing their psychological, biological, and social influences. Throughout, the course will focus on how psychologists have studied women and how scientific and cultural assumptions about the sexes are reflected in psychological research. NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 30 3 units

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Recom: Psyc. 1 or Soc. 1. This course presents a general survey of some of the major areas of interpersonal behavior. The course examines affiliation, aggression, social influence, attitudes, groups, social norms, and personality. Psychology 30 is also listed as Sociology 30; credit will be given in either area, not both. NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 37 3 units

ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR

Recom: Psyc. 1. This course provides an introduction to the major maladaptive patterns of human behavior; theory and research exploring the causes of maladaptive behavior; and research comparing the effectiveness of various treatment methods. NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 133 3 units

PSYCHOLOGY OF ADJUSTMENT

This introductory course in adjustment and relationships explores cognitive and behavioral approaches to the understanding of human functioning (e.g., personality development, interpersonal relationships, self-motivation). Students will apply course concepts to common problems they face and then use these principles in the management of their own behavior. NR
Lecture hours: 3

PSYC 160 1 unit

PSYCHOLOGY AS A MAJOR AND A PROFESSION

Recom: Psyc. 1. This course introduces students to the profession of psychology, focusing particularly on the types of psychologists and the activities performed by these individuals. The course is designed especially for students at the sophomore level or above who have completed the introductory psychology course and are seeking further information before deciding upon psychology as a potential major or career. NR
Lecture hours: 1

PSYC 289 0.5-3 units

SPECIAL TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY

The Special Topics course is a grouping of short seminars designed to provide students with the latest concepts in the field of psychology. The course content is thematic in nature, and each seminar within the course differs from other offerings in the same course. A total of four different topics may be taken. R-E
Lecture hours: 0.5-3