

## **COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY CURRICULUM**

The College of Health Science at Great Lakes University offers a Bachelor of Health Science degree with a concentration in Counseling Psychology. Psychology is the science of the mind, behavior and experience. The Counseling Psychology Concentration assists students in developing a base and working knowledge of key ideas, works, persons, events, and issues in the discipline of counseling psychology. Counseling psychology students are provided a thorough background in the basic concepts, theories, experimental findings and the application of psychology through the classroom setting, research projects, and psychology related practicum experiences. More specifically, students are trained in scientific methods and different theoretical perspectives in a range of courses that include physiological psychology, cognition, learning, child and adult development, social psychology, personality theory, abnormal psychology and through selected psychology electives.

The faculty has chosen academic requirements for the undergraduate Psychology program that empower students who plan to pursue graduate training in psychology and students who are seeking a liberal arts degree entering a broad market. Students who choose to pursue graduate education are provided the necessary foundation for a career in clinical, experimental, developmental, or other specializations in the field of psychology.

Learning Goals for the Psychology Curriculum are:

### **Goal 1. Knowledge Base of Psychology**

Students will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- 1.1. Characterize the nature of psychology as a discipline.
- 1.2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected areas of psychology.
- 1.3 Use the concepts, language, and major theories of the discipline to account for psychological phenomena.
- 1.4 Explain major perspectives of psychology (e.g., behavioral, biological, cognitive, evolutionary, humanistic, psychodynamic, and sociocultural).

### **Goal 2. Research Methods in Psychology**

Students will understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- 2.1 Describe the basic characteristics of the science of psychology.
- 2.2 Explain different research methods used by psychologists.
- 2.3 Evaluate the appropriateness of conclusions derived from psychological research.
- 2.4 Design and conduct basic studies to address psychological questions using appropriate research methods.
- 2.5 Follow the APA Code of Ethics in the treatment of human and nonhuman participants in the design, data collection, interpretation, and reporting of psychological research.
- 2.6 Generalize research conclusions appropriately based on the parameters of particular research methods.

### **Goal 3. Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology**

Students will respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- 3.1 Use critical thinking effectively.
- 3.2 Engage in critical thinking.
- 3.3 Use reasoning to recognize, develop, defend, and criticize arguments and other persuasive appeal
- 3.4 Approach problems effectively.

### **Goal 4. Application of Psychology**

Students will understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- 4.1 Describe major applied areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, industrial/Organizational, school, health.)
- 4.2 Identify appropriate applications of psychology in problems solving
- 4.3 Articulate how psychological principles can be used to explain social issues and inform public policy.

- 4.4 Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings as these relate to everyday life.
- 4.5 Recognize that ethically complex situations can develop in the application of psychological principles.

**Goal 5. Values in Psychology**

Students will be able to weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a discipline.

Learning Outcomes:

- 5.1 Recognize the necessity for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology.
- 5.2 Demonstrate reasonable skepticism and intellectual curiosity by asking questions about causes of behavior.
- 5.3 Seek and evaluate scientific evidence for psychological claims.
- 5.4 Tolerate ambiguity and realize that psychological explanations are often complex and tentative.
- 5.5 Recognize and respect human diversity and understand that psychological explanations may vary across populations and contexts.
- 5.6 Assess and justify their engagement with respect to civic, social, and global responsibilities.
- 5.7 Understand the limitations of their psychological knowledge and skills.

Requirements:

- 1. 180 total credits to earn Bachelor of Science.
- 2. Meet all General Education Requirements
- 3. Meet Major Requirements as defined below.

Students must complete 90 credits to fulfill major requirements according to the following guidelines:

- 4. Complete the following required courses = 68 credits

PSY 104 Interpersonal Process and Group Behavior	4
PSY 105 Abnormal Psychology	4
PSY 130 History and Systems of Psychology	4
PSY 215 Cross-Cultural Psychology	4
PSY 225 Life-span Developmental Psychology	4
PSY 235 Social Psychology	4
PSY 260 Introduction to Counseling Psychology	4
PSY 270 Client Interviewing and Assessment	4
PSY 301 Theories of Personality	4
PSY 305 Counseling Theories and Techniques	4
PSY 318 Physiological Psychology	4
PSY 333 Cognition, Learning and Motivation	4
PSY 381 Tests and Measurement	4
PSY 400 Experimental Psychology	4
PSY 401 Counseling Practicum and Supervision	8
PSY 402 Senior Seminar in Psychology	4

- 5. Complete electives from the following courses = 22 credits

PSY 219 Industrial/Organizational Psychology	4
PSY 240 Psychology of Gender	4
PSY 321 Child Development	4
PSY 327 Psychology of the Family	4
PSY 328 Psychology of Death and Dying	4
PSY 385 Theories of Addiction & Chemical Dependency	4
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology	4

Approved Other: Other electives may be approved at the discretion of the department chair.