



Bachelor of Arts in Psychology – Substance Use Disorders Track Undergraduate Day Program

The rising number of drug-related deaths in the United States makes clear the need for more behavioral health care workers in the field of Substance Use Disorders (SUD). With a strong background in theory, research, and current perspectives on prevention and treatment, the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology with a track in SUD is designed to address the challenges associated with these disorders and educate students preparing for careers in counseling, recovery services, advocacy, and public health.

Program graduates will be workforce ready and well-positioned for success in the competitive job market and for graduate study at the master's and doctoral levels. This program is designed to meet the educational requirements necessary for Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) licensure. After the completion of the B.A. degree, licensure generally requires passing an exam, completing a case study, and documenting 4,000 hours of post-baccalaureate supervised counseling in the area of SUD. LADC licensing requirements vary by state.

Professional positions associated with SUD counseling and advocacy are growing and offer many career opportunities.

General Education Requirements (minimum 42 credits)

Major Requirements - 40 credits for Psychology with SUD track

Psychology Core (16 credits)

- PSY101 – General Psychology Credits: 3
- PSY205 – Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences Credits:3
- PSY205L – Statistics Lab Credits:1
- PSY205 – Experimental Psychology Credits: 3
- PSY404- Sensation and Perception Credits: 3
- Or
- PSY407 – Introduction to Neuroscience Credits: 3
- PSY 408 - Coordinating Seminar Credits: 3

The Substance Use Disorders Track (Credits: 24)

- PSY200 – One Elective Credits: 3
- PSY250 – Psychological Disorders Credits:3
- PSY 301 –Drugs and Behavior Credits: 3
- PSY309- - Health and Psychology Credits:3
- PSY402 – Counseling Theory and Practice Credits: 3
- PSY450 – Substance Use Disorder Rehabilitation Credits: 3
- PSY 451 – Ethics in Substance Use Disorder Treatment Credits 3
- SW 315 – Human Behavior in the Social Environment Credits: 3

General Electives (39 credits)

Degree Requirements (minimum 120 credits)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PSY 101 - General Psychology

This course is an introduction to the aims and methods of modern psychology and a survey of the central areas of psychological investigation. Topics include but are not limited to: research methods, biological foundations of behavior, sensation and perception, emotion, learning, memory, human development, personality theory, psychological disorders, social psychology influence and interaction. Credits: 3

PSY 205 - Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences

This course is an introduction to basic concepts of measurement and statistical analysis with special emphasis on applications in behavioral and social science research. Topics include: scales of measurement, tables and graphs, descriptive statistics, probability and inferential statistics, including estimation and hypothesis testing, various t-tests, univariate ANOVA, correlation and regression, chi-square, nonparametric methods, and selection of the appropriate statistical test. Psychology majors must take this course in the fall of their sophomore year. **Prerequisites & Notes:** PSY 101 or permission of instructor. This course requires a one-credit weekly SPSS Statistics lab component. A prior course in college algebra is strongly recommended. Credits: 3

PSY 205L –Statistics Lab

Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of how to utilize the statistical software package, SPSS, to create tables and graphs, find measures of central tendency and variability, and perform univariate statistical analyses, including t tests, ANOVA, correlation and regression. Credit: 1

PSY 206 - Experimental Psychology

This course is an investigation of the scientific method, with special emphasis on descriptive, experimental, and applied research. Topics include: research ethics, direct observation, surveys and questionnaires, independent and within subjects' experimental designs, program evaluation, and how to write scientific research reports and literature reviews in APA style format. This course may be writing assisted. **Prerequisites & Notes:** PSY 101 and PSY 205 or permission of instructor. Psychology majors are strongly advised to take PSY 205 in the fall semester prior to taking PSY 206 in the spring semester. Credits: 3

PSY 250 –Psychological Disorders

This course provides an introduction to the various psychological disorders, as well as an overview of the research methods and treatment of mental illness. Issues of etiology and theories of psychopathology will be examined as well as cultural differences and ethical concerns. Credits: 3

PSY 301 - Drugs and Behavior

This course is an exploration of the ways psychoactive drugs affect individuals, family and society. Topics include classification of drugs; biological mechanisms via which drugs produce effects on mind and behavior; drug side effects; tolerance, addiction and withdrawal; chemical therapies for mental illness; drugs and society; and ethical concerns. **Prerequisites & Notes:** PSY 101 or permission of instructor.

PSY 309 - Health Psychology

This course is a study of psychosocial influences on health and illness and the response of individuals when they do get ill. Topics include the biopsychosocial model; health promotion; the practice and modification of health behaviors; health-compromising behaviors; stress reaction and coping mechanisms; the use of health services, patient-practitioner interaction, pain and its management, management of chronic illness, and psychological issues in terminal illness. **Prerequisites & Notes:**

PSY 101 or permission of instructor Credits: 3

PSY 402 - Counseling Theory and Practice

This course is an investigation of counseling theories and therapeutic approaches combined with an introduction to basic counseling skills. **Prerequisites & Notes:** PSY 101; Junior or Senior level or permission of instructor. Credits: 3

PSY 404 - Sensation and Perception

This course is a study of the psychophysical processes involved in sensation and perception, with a special emphasis on the visual system, including the perception of objects, color, depth, size and movement. This course also explores the auditory system, the bodily and chemical senses, and perceptual development and disorders. **Prerequisites & Notes:** PSY 101, Junior or Senior level, or permission of instructor. Credits: 3

PSY 407 - Introduction to Neuroscience

This course is a study of the neural mechanisms underlying behavior and experience, including research in psychopharmacology, neuropsychology, psychophysiology, and comparative psychology. Topics include: evolution, genetics, anatomy and function of the nervous system, physiological research methods, brain dysfunction, mechanisms of sensation and perception, hormones and sex, neuroplasticity, emotions, and mental illness. **Prerequisites & Notes:** PSY 101, Junior or Senior level, or permission of instructor. Credits: 3

PSY 408 - Coordinating Seminar

This course is a capstone experience of the Psychology major designed to prepare majors for careers and graduate school study in psychology following graduation. It includes a comprehensive review of psychological concepts, principles and theories learned throughout undergraduate study, development of a career and graduate school portfolio, and further development of critical thinking skills through discussion of controversial issues. This course is offered in the fall semesters only. It may be writing assisted. **Prerequisites & PSY 101**, Junior or Senior level, or permission of instructor. Credits: 3

PSY 450 Substance Use Disorder Rehabilitation

This course provides a comprehensive overview of evidence-based assessment and treatment practices in Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling. Assessment tools and treatment plan development and implementation, including a consideration of client involvement, relapse prevention, and continuing after care will be covered. Pre/Co-requisite: PSY301 Credits: 3

PSY 451 – Ethics in Substance Use Disorder Treatment

This course provides an examination of the ethics and legal issues in the advocacy and treatment of clients with Substance Use Disorder (SUD). Emphasis is given to the NAADAC/NCCAP (2016) Code of Ethics which establishes SUD counselors' responsibility to ensure the safety and welfare of their clients. Pre/Co-requisite: PSY 301 Credits: 3

SW 315 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment

This course uses an ecological framework to view the interplay of forces that shape human behavior and the environments in which it occurs. The life course is viewed in the context of biological, psychological and social forces which influence development throughout life. The impact of the lenses through which human behavior is viewed, both in broadening and limiting our understanding, is a continuing theme through the course. The influence of race, class, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation is also considered. **Prerequisites & Notes:** Junior status or permission of instructor. Credits: 3