Study in psychology provides multiple perspectives on understanding persons as individuals and individuals in community. Research findings about the mind and mental processes as well as studies of the development, maintenance and change of socially significant behavior are emphasized throughout the curriculum.

The psychology major is designed to sharpen affective and cognitive life skills while the student masters the course content and conducts psychological research. Students may participate in faculty research. Contact with faculty advisors on an individual basis strengthens interpersonal skills, communication skills, management skills, motivation, ethics and commitment to a responsible lifestyle.

A bachelor’s degree in psychology prepares the student for employment in a wide variety of fields in addition to careers in the helping professions. The psychology curriculum also provides solid preparation for graduate work in counseling, clinical or experimental psychology and occupational therapy.

All students seeking to graduate with a major in psychology must achieve candidacy with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in order to be accepted into their senior year. Psychology students must maintain that GPA through the senior year. Students are also expected to submit a resume, complete a practice GRE, and participate in an interview conducted by department faculty at the start of their senior year.

Careers in Psychology include public social service agencies, mental health agencies, community service in missions, child development centers, hospitals, substance abuse treatment facilities, behavior analysis, human resources, occupational therapy, retirement communities, and private human service organizations. Career concentrations that support preparation for graduate school are available in Sport Psychology, Pre-Art Therapy, Pre-Music Therapy and Sport Psychology. Visit www.emu.edu/academics/concentrations for details on the Career Concentrations.
A minor in psychology is valuable for anyone planning to work with people in careers such as medicine, business, church ministry, nursing, education or physical education.

**Major in Psychology**

*A major in psychology consists of 45 SH. All courses required for the psychology major must be passed with a C- or better.*

- PSYC 101 General Psychology ............ 3
- PSYC 202 Developmental Psychology .3
- PSYC 203 Developmental Case Study .1
- PSYC 221 Social Psychology ............ 3
- PSYC 231 Applied Behavior Analysis .3
- PSYC 311 Psychological Research Design and Analysis .................. 3
- PSYC 331 Abnormal Psychology ........ 3
- PSYC 341 Cognitive Psychology .......... 3
- PSYC 361 Theories of Personality ...... 3
- PSYC 441 Teaching of Psychology ....... 1
- PSYC 472 Research in Psychology ...... 2
- PSYC 473 Research in Psychology: Applied .................. 2
- PSYC 482 Psychology Internship I ...... 2
- PSYC 483 Psychology Internship II ... 2
- STAT 120 Descriptive Statistics ...... 2

*Choose one of the following courses:*
- BIOL 447 Advanced Human Physiology .................................. 4
- PSYC 341 Cognitive Psychology .......... 3
- PSYC 342 Cognitive Psychology for the Health Sciences .............. 3

*Choose one of the following courses:*
- BIOL 255 Biology Research Seminar .1
- PSYC 311 Psychological Research Design and Analysis .................. 3

**Minor in Psychology**

*A minor in psychology consists of 18 SH:*

- PSYC 101 General Psychology ............ 3
- PSYC 202 Developmental Psychology .3
- PSYC 221 Social Psychology ............ 3
- PSYC 231 Applied Behavior Analysis .3
- PSYC 331 Abnormal Psychology ........ 3
- PSYC Elective ....................... 3

*Other*
- PSYC 499 Independent Study ........... 1-3

**Minor in Neuroscience (18-21 SH)**

Multiple disciplines have begun to incorporate neuroscientific methods to better understand human behavior (e.g., cognitive neuroscience, neuroeconomics, etc.). A minor in neuroscience will help prepare students for graduate studies in the neurosciences, but also help students to be savvy consumers in careers advocating “brain-based” practices.

*BIOL 478 Advanced Neurobiology .3
PSYC 101 General Psychology .......... 3
PSYC 331 Abnormal Psychology .......... 3
*PSYC/BIOL 451 Neuropsychology .... 3
PSYC 499 Research in a neuroscience topic ................................ 2

*Choose one of the following courses:*
- BIOL 447 Advanced Human Physiology .................................. 4
- PSYC 341 Cognitive Psychology .......... 3
- PSYC 342 Cognitive Psychology for the Health Sciences .............. 3

*Choose one of the following courses:*
- BIOL 255 Biology Research Seminar .1
- PSYC 311 Psychological Research Design and Analysis .................. 3

**Accelerated Program: BS in Psychology to MA in Counseling**

The accelerated program is a collaboration between EMU’s undergraduate department of psychology and the graduate program in counseling. The program is designed to award exceptional students the opportunity to apply to the MA in Counseling program during their junior year. If accepted into the MA in Counseling program, such students can be awarded a BS in Psychology and an
MA in Counseling through a five-year curriculum.

Students should express interest in the program during their first year as an undergraduate in order to be assigned an advisor to help plan their course of study. Because the program requires careful course scheduling from year one, it will not typically be an option for transfer students. In order for students to take undergraduate psychology courses in the accelerated undergraduate sequence, they must:

- Provide evidence of a minimum high school GPA of 3.6/4.0.
- Receive recommendation of a psychology advisor by the end of the first year.
- Achieve a 3.6 GPA in the first semester of classes.
- Successfully achieve psychology candidacy by the end of the second year.

Students will formally apply to the MA in Counseling program during their third year of undergraduate studies and must meet regular standards for admission into the Counseling program.

### Psychology (PSYC)

**101 General Psychology**

An introduction to the principles, language, methods and major topics of the science of behavior and mental life. Emphasizes exploration and application in the following areas of psychology: neuroscience, human consciousness, learning, memory, motivation, development, and abnormal behavior among others.

**202 Developmental Psychology**

Designed to introduce the principles, theory, and methods of developmental psychology. Examines the factors affecting the development of behavior, cognition, and emotions throughout the entire lifespan. Current research relevant to the entire lifespan is reviewed and analyzed. Social and emotional issues affecting the individual, family, and community are analyzed.

**203 Developmental Case Study**

Designed to introduce the skills of behavioral observation based on developmental principles. A one-to-one experience with a young child using suggested activities. To be taken during or after PSYC 202. Prerequisite: minimum of two semesters previous enrollment at EMU. Registration preference given to psychology majors.

**221 Social Psychology**

This course examines the major variables affecting an individual’s beliefs, emotions, and behavior in social situations. Topics include prosocial behavior, aggression and violence, prejudice, social perception, social cognition, attitudes, self-justification, persuasion, conformity, media influence, and attraction. Principles derived from social psychology research are applied to cultural, institutional, and group processes. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or PSYC 202.

**231 Applied Behavior Analysis**

Develops students’ skills of behavioral observation and analysis. Students learn to plan, conduct and evaluate programs of behavior change for themselves and others. Focuses on the ethical issues involved in the application of behavior principles to socially significant behaviors in a variety of settings.
301 Psychology of Interpersonal Relationships 3
Provides a basic framework for conceiving of human communication as a unique combination of theoretical and practical skills. Students learn firsthand the dynamics of intrapersonal and small-group communication through a variety of activities designed to foster an increased awareness of how transactional communication works. The importance of interpersonal relationship skills in the helping professions is emphasized and an Anabaptist framework for working restoratively in community is explored in this course. Preference given to junior and senior level psychology majors.

311 Psychological Research Design and Analysis 3
This course is a laboratory course designed to examine contemporary experimental work in psychology. Students will discuss experimental research and begin to develop computational expertise using JASP and Excel. This course provides exposure to psychological experimental methodologies, data analysis and application of skills learned in STAT 120 Descriptive Statistics. Prerequisite or corequisite: STAT 120.

331 Abnormal Psychology 3
An interdisciplinary approach to understanding abnormal (maladaptive) behavior emphasizing the crucial roles of learning and life stressors in the development and maintenance of abnormal behaviors. The clinical characteristics, causal factors and treatments of maladaptive behavior patterns are examined, including the areas of assessment, therapy and prevention. Students will also learn to identify and evaluate the accuracy of psychological disorders as depicted in popular media. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or PSYC 202.

341 Cognitive Psychology 3
The field of cognitive psychology involves studying and thinking about thinking. Questions are asked about how we acquire, store, retrieve, and use knowledge. Students will actively study and apply various theories about human thinking. Topics such as models of memory, mental imagery, language comprehension, problem solving, decision-making, and cognitive development will be covered. Enrollment priority is given to sophomore and junior level psychology majors. Prerequisite: PSYC 101, or permission of the instructor.

342 Cognitive Psychology for the Health Sciences 3
An alternate offering of Cognitive Psychology. In addition to covering critical content that will appear on the MCAT, students will read current research with an emphasis on applying it to health professions. This course does not fulfill the EMU Core Writing Intensive requirement, and does not fulfill the Cognitive Psychology requirement for the Psychology major. (BMC 572)

351 Positive Psychology: Theory, Research, and Applications 3
The focus of this course is on theories and current research in the field of positive psychology. Positive psychology as a science, studies human flourishing. Emphasis will be on the application of scientific knowledge of positive psychological principles that assist people to thrive in their everyday lives. Some topics to be covered include: bravery, hopeful thinking, wisdom, positive emotions, forgiveness, optimism, courage, positive schooling, and good work.

361 Theories of Personality 3
Empirical strategies that are particularly relevant to the study of personality process, human behavior and human experience provide a systematic study of the person. Major theories and principles of personality adjustment are studied, such as dispositional, genetic, cognitive and biological factors related to the understanding of personality. Prerequisite: PSYC 331.
380-385 Special Topics in Psychology 3
Courses on a variety of topics in psychology are offered on a rotating basis depending on student and faculty interest. Topics include: cross-cultural psychology, marriage and family, introduction to clinical psychology, psychology of pop culture and theology, forensics, psychology and spirituality, creativity, and narrative psychology. Open to psychology majors only. Prerequisite: junior/senior level status.

391 Introduction to Counseling 3
Counseling is studied from a Christian discipleship perspective. Emphasis is placed on understanding and developing helping skills utilized in the context of the church, mental health agencies, and school settings. Applications for counseling skills are examined along with a basic exposure to counseling theories and theories of development. Enrollment strictly limited to junior and senior psychology majors and helping professions.

431 Psychological Testing and Assessment 3
An introduction to the field of psychological testing and assessment. Emphasis is placed on briefly covering a wide range of specific types of test and testing situations. Special emphasis is given to test use requirements, test taker rights, and matching tests with specific needs or questions. Theoretical and applied material will be integrated so as to provide students with the rationale for and a hands-on feel of the assessment process. As appropriate, students will have the opportunity to observe and/or informally administer psychological testing instruments. Prerequisites: STAT 120 and PSYC 331. (Fall 2020)

441 Teaching of Psychology 1
Students serve as teaching assistants for PSYC 101 or PSYC 202. Enrollment limited to psychology majors. Prerequisite: junior/senior level status.

451 Neuropsychology 3
Survey of the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system, including the function of sensory receptors and hormones. Emphasis is placed on the role of general neurophysiological principles that affect human behavior. (BIOL 451)

472 Research in Psychology 2
Introduces the essentials of designing, conducting, and evaluating research in psychology. Topics include: formulating research questions, understanding variables, research designs, control, conducting a literature review, sampling, measurement, collecting data, validity, reliability, and ethics. Both qualitative and quantitative methods are considered. Prerequisites: two semesters of successful coursework in psychology at EMU, STAT 120, PSYC 311 and PSYC 341.

473 Research in Psychology: Applied 2
Students complete a research project under the supervision of psychology faculty. Involves formulating a research question, conducting a literature search, collecting and analyzing data, writing and presenting a final report. Open to majors only. Prerequisite: PSYC 472.

482 Psychology Internship I 2
Students gain field experience in a psychology related agency. The practicum is designed to begin developing students' psychological skills and abilities as professionals by utilizing previous coursework. A written plan must be approved and a contract made with the agency where the practicum work will occur. The agency and the practicum instructor provide supervision. Open to senior psychology majors only. Prerequisites: two semesters of successful coursework in psychology at EMU and PSYC 331.
483 Psychology Internship II
This capstone course builds on the field experience in Internship I. After students complete 150 hours of direct service in an area agency, they apply their learning in supervised settings by developing and presenting a case study, analyzing the integration of faith and practice, and exploring ethical decision making in the helping profession. The internship experience and processing sessions are designed to develop students' professional expertise in psychology. Open to senior psychology majors only. Prerequisite: PSYC 482.

499 Independent Study
1-3

*Indicates courses offered in alternate years.