

PSYCHOLOGY

Lewis University Accelerated Programs

Lewis University provides adult students an opportunity to complete a college degree with a learner-centered, accelerated delivery format compatible with their needs and lifestyles. Most three-semester credit hour courses are completed in eight-week sessions, and meet one night per week.

The Department of Psychology seeks to provide several options of career preparation within the context of liberal learning and personal growth opportunities. Its programs emphasize critical analysis of research and applied problems, the importance of recognizing individual uniqueness and cultural pluralism, and the recognition of human values in the context of psychological science. Course offerings provide opportunities for personal growth, as well as strong training for students with varied career interests, such as graduate school, community-oriented social service, business and personnel work. Our philosophy is influenced by Lewis University's values – appreciating the diversity of human experience and the dignity of each individual.

As a student in the psychology program, you will develop skills in several key areas:

- You will learn the basic areas of psychology, including behaviorism, cognitive theory, humanistic theory, psychodynamic theory and psychobiology.
- You will learn to approach psychological work from an ethical perspective.
- You will gain the knowledge of statistics necessary to design an effective research project.
- You will gain a real-world context for your knowledge.

As a graduate, you will be well prepared to pursue an advanced degree in psychology, or choose a career in a related field such as social service, human resources, or business.

Program Entrance and Transfer Requirements

Applicants typically:

- Have earned a minimum of 12 semester (18 quarter) hours of transferable credit at a regionally accredited postsecondary institution;
- Have earned a minimum of a 2.0 (4.0 scale) cumulative transfer GPA, based on all transferable courses; and
- Have full-time work experience.
- Transfer credits must be earned from schools accredited by a regional accrediting agency.
- A maximum of 72 semester hours of community college (or credits from a two-year school) will be accepted at the time of entry.

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CURRICULUM

General Education (36 credit hours)

- College Writing I (3)

- College Writing 2 (3)

- Introduction to Human Communication (3)

- Mathematics (satisfied by Statistics for the Social Sciences) (3)

- Natural Science (3)

- Natural Science (3)

- Social Science (3)

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- Social Science (3)

- Fine Arts/Humanities (3)

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Mission-Related Courses (9 credit hours)

- Christian Action and Values (3)
OR Ethics (3)

- Cultural Diversity and Intergroup Relations (3)

- Theology (3)

Two of the above Mission-based courses must be taken at Lewis.

Core Courses (18 credit hours)

- General Psychology (3)

- Psychobiology (3)

- Statistics for the Social Sciences (3)

- Methods of Research (3)

- Learning Theory and Application (3) OR Theories of Cognition (3)

- Research in Psychology (3) OR Seminar (3)

Major-Related Electives (18 credit hours)

Six courses from the Psychology department or appropriate related electives. An advisor will work with students to select electives.

General Electives (47 credit hours)

Any college-level course taken at Lewis University or meeting transfer requirements.

Degree Requirements

- Successful completion of a minimum of 128 semester credit hours.
- Completion of final 32 semester graded credit hours at Lewis University including four upper division foundation courses and or major courses (12 semester credit hours).
- Achievement of an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 ("C") for all courses taken at Lewis University and a 2.20 average for the foundation and major area courses.

Minors are also available in:

- Accountancy
- Computer Information Systems
- Information Security and Risk Management
- Theology

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Major Courses

L6-100 General Psychology (3):

Students are introduced to the study of human behavior and mental processes, with emphasis on the biopsychosocial determinants of behavior. Topics include psychobiology, learning, memory, motivation, development, personality, psychopathology and social behavior.

L6-290 Psychobiology (3): This course provides an analysis of the biological foundations of behavior with particular emphasis on central nervous system mechanisms that mediate learning and memory, motivation, emotion, sensory processes, and chemical and electrical stimulation of the brain. Physiological function rather than anatomy is emphasized.

L6-303 Statistics for the Social Sciences (3): This course covers the fundamental skills necessary for a complete understanding of statistics as a tool of science. Topics covered include data collection and organization, measures of central tendency, measures of variability, probability, correlation, hypothesis testing, t-tests, analysis of variance, chi-square and nonparametric tests.

L6-405 Methods of Research (3):

Students gain experience in conducting psychological research, including the formulation of testable hypotheses, experimental design, data collection and analysis, writing of research reports and the ethics of research. Students design, carry out, and write up a research project.

L6-411 Learning Theory and Application (3):

A survey of the historical and contemporary theories of learning is presented. Topics include classical conditioning, free-operant conditioning, instrumental learning, cognitive aspects of learning and some applications of learning theories.

L6-412 Theories of Cognition (3):

This in-depth study of basic processes involved in information processing includes pattern recognition, attention, sensory memory, short-term and long-term memory and levels of processing. Concept formation, semantic organization, problem solving and decision making are also covered.

L6-496 Research in Psychology (3):

In this in-depth experience in research, students design, conduct and analyze a research project in an area of their choice, under the supervision of a faculty member. This course fulfills the Capstone requirement.

L6-497 Seminar (3):

This seminar provides an in-depth study of topics in areas not covered in regularly scheduled courses. Topics will be announced when the seminar is placed in the schedule. Emphasis is on small group discussions and student-initiated examinations of the seminar topic. Prerequisite: Three courses in Psychology or instructor consent. Offered: As needed



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