

# Psychology Major

## ***Psychology Mission:***

The Psychology program at Missouri Valley College encourages students to develop an understanding of the complexities regarding human behavior while studying how to facilitate change. Psychology is the scientific study of theories, tools, and methods used to describe, explain, predict, and/or influence behavior and mental processes. The Psychology program strives to balance theoretical and practical dimensions by providing the opportunity for more specialized experiences through classroom instruction, research, independent studies, and internships. The Psychology program promotes basic understanding of human principles, not only to psychology majors, but also to the general student population at Missouri Valley College.

## ***Learning Outcomes:***

- Demonstrate familiarity with major concepts and theoretical perspectives in psychology, specifically related to the foundational topic areas including development, personality, history, abnormal, and research and experimental psychology.
- Engage in application of the scientific approach in designing, executing, and interpreting findings from an original research study.
- Analyze and integrate research literature in writing APA-formatted papers.
- Identify and apply the psychological values of sociocultural diversity, ethical behavior, and tolerance of ambiguity in personal and social issues.
- Show insight into one's own and others' behavior and mental processes and apply effective strategies for self-management and self-improvement.
- Gain knowledge and skills facilitating excellence in careers and graduate/professional study.

***Major assessment: Psychology students are required to satisfactorily complete PY 485 (Senior Seminar) that includes an original research paper exploring a psychological concept. Psychology majors also take a set on in-house exams.***

**Program:** Psychology

**Type:** Major

## Major Requirements

***PY100, PY215, PY220, PY230, PY250, PY310, PY345, PY485, MA200, SC316***  
***+ 21 credit hours of PY electives, 12 credit hours must be upper-division***  
***+ 6 credit hours may be selected from CJ330, CJ380, CJ385, SC232, SC375***

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Hours</b>
PY 100	Principles of Psychology	3
PY 215	Careers in Psychology	1
PY 220	Research in Psychology	3
PY 230	History of Psychology	3
PY 250	Multi-Cultural Psychology	2
PY 310	Experimental Psychology	4
PY 345	Abnormal Psychology	3
PY 485	Senior Thesis in Psychology	3
MA 200	Introduction to Statistics	3
SC 316	Research Methods/Statistics	3

6 hours may be selected from

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Hours</b>
CJ 330	Criminology	3
CJ 380	Sexual Offenses and Sexual Offenders	3
CJ 385	Victimology	3
SC 232	Marriage and the Family	3
SC 375	Social Deviance	3
	<b>Total credits:</b>	<b>49</b>