UVM’s Department of Psychological Science offers high-quality teaching and training in clinical and experimental psychology, and places an emphasis on research. Programs are arranged in four closely integrated clusters:

- **Biobehavioral Psychology** - The study of the relationship between behavior and biological processes. Research interests include behavioral and neurobiological mechanisms of Pavlovian and instrumental conditioning, stress and anxiety, and sex differences in learning and emotion.

- **Social Psychology** - The study of how the situation (or context) shapes and determines human thought, feeling, and behavior. Research interests include relationships and what makes people feel more or less connected, the experiences of targets of stigma, how to improve intergroup relations, how to foster compassion and prosocial outcomes, and the social psychology of food.

- **Developmental Psychology** - The study of the development of emotions, thoughts, and behaviors, including the interplay between biological and environmental influences. Research interests include family relationships, parental socialization, children’s peer relationships, gender development, adaptation to stress, and developmental psychopathology.

- **Clinical Psychology** - The study of psychological distress, its influences, and healthy adaptation. Research interests include adult anxiety and mood disorders and sexual dysfunctions; childhood ADHD, conduct disorder, and family preventions; resiliency in adolescents; and refugee mental health.

The faculty include widely published experts, several holding leadership positions within their professional associations.

### MAJORS

**PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE MAJORS**

Psychological Science B.A.

Psychological Science B.S.

### MINORS AND CERTIFICATES

**PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE MINORS AND CERTIFICATES**

Physical Activity Promotion in Children and Youth - Undergraduate Certificate

Psychological Science

### GRADUATE

Psychology AMP

Psychology M.A.

Psychology Ph.D.

See the online Graduate Catalogue for more information.

### Courses

**PSYS 1010. Topics In: First-Year Seminar. 3 Credits.**

Intensive first-year seminar focused on specific themes and/or disciplinary perspectives. Emphasis on developing critical reading and writing skills, substantive revision, information literacy, and analytical thinking. First-year seminars are frequently organized to meet one of the disciplinary Catamount Core requirements. Topics vary by offering; periodic offering at intervals that may exceed four years. Catamount Core: WIL1.

**PSYS 1012. Topics in: FYS: Div Human Exp. 3 Credits.**

Intensive first-year seminar focused on specific themes and/or disciplinary perspectives. Emphasis on developing critical reading and writing skills, substantive revision, information literacy, and analytical thinking. First-year seminars are frequently organized to meet one of the disciplinary Catamount Core requirements. Topics vary by offering; periodic offering at intervals that may exceed four years. Catamount Core: D2, WIL1.

**PSYS 1020. Topics In: LASP Seminar. 3 Credits.**

Intensive course in a broad disciplinary area (humanities, social sciences, arts, or natural sciences). Part of an integrated first-year experience in which students take 2-4 classes exploring aesthetic, humanistic, social, linguistic, environmental, or scientific issues. May repeat for credit with different content. Topics vary by offering; periodic offering at intervals that may exceed four years. Co-requisite: Enrollment in the appropriate Liberal Arts Scholars Program. Catamount Core: WIL1.

**PSYS 1400. Intro to Psychological Science. 3 Credits.**

Introduction to the entire field, emphasizing the behavior of the normal adult human being. Catamount Core: S1.

**PSYS 1990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.**

See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

**PSYS 2000. Psych Research Methods w/lab. 0 or 4 Credits.**

Principles of research methodology, including design and reporting. Prepares students to understand and evaluate psychological research in a variety of areas of psychology. Includes laboratory component. May not be taken for credit concurrently with, or following receipt of, credit for PSYS 2002. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400.

**PSYS 2002. Psych Research Methods. 3 Credits.**

Principles of research methodology, including design and reporting. Prepares students to understand and evaluate psychological research in a variety of areas of psychology. May not be taken for credit concurrently with, or following receipt of, credit for PSYS 2000. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400.
PSYS 2010. Statistics for Psych Sci. 0 or 4 Credits.
Analysis of quantitative data in psychology. Calculation and interpretation of common statistical tests, including t-test, correlation, regression, chi-square, and ANOVA. Laboratory experiences. Prerequisite: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002. Catamount Core: QD.

PSYS 2100. Learning, Cognition & Behavior. 3 Credits.
Behavioral and cognitive principles underlying learning, memory, and action inside and outside the laboratory. Includes conditioning, motivation, biological constraints, and mechanism of remembering and forgetting. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400. Catamount Core: N1.

PSYS 2200. Biopsychology. 3 Credits.
Biological bases of behavior: classical and contemporary issues, including introduction to nervous system, behavioral effects of drugs, chemical bases of behavioral disorders. Prerequisites: PSYS 1400 or BIOL 1400 or BCOR 1400 or BCOR 1425. Catamount Core: N1.

PSYS 2300. Social Psychology. 3 Credits.
An introduction to theory and research on the science of how one’s situation influences individual thoughts, feelings, and behavior. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400. Catamount Core: S1.

PSYS 2400. Developmental Psych: Childhood. 3 Credits.
Survey of research and theories on child development from conception to adolescence emphasizing experimental analyses of early social and cognitive development. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400. Catamount Core: S1.

PSYS 2500. Psychopathology. 3 Credits.
Describing and defining abnormal behavior; models of etiology; research evidence for biological and social models; methods of intervention and prevention. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400. Catamount Core: S1.

PSYS 2990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
Intermediate courses or seminars on topics beyond the scope of existing departmental offerings. See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Prerequisite: PSYS 1400.

PSYS 2995. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

PSYS 3100. Learning. 3 Credits.
Analysis of theory and research on the basic learning process and behavior. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2100.

PSYS 3105. Cognition. 3 Credits.
Research and theories on the major areas within cognition: perception, attention, pattern recognition, memory, knowledge representations, mnemonic strategies, problem-solving and neurocognition. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2100.

PSYS 3110. Motivation. 3 Credits.
Theory and research on motives, including hunger, fear, sex drive, and addiction, their influence on behavior, relationship to other psychological processes, and biological correlates. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2100 or PSYS 2200.

PSYS 3200. Physiological Psychology w/lab. 0 or 4 Credits.
Students build on their foundational knowledge of neuroscience to learn the biological basis of learning and memory, emotion, motivated behaviors, and the dysregulation of those behaviors, such as that observed in neuropsychiatric disorders. With laboratory experience. May not be taken for credit concurrently with, or following receipt of, credit for PSYS 3202. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2200 or NSCI 2105.

PSYS 3202. Physiological Psychology. 3 Credits.
Students build on their foundational knowledge of neuroscience to learn the biological basis of learning and memory, emotion, motivated behaviors, and the dysregulation of those behaviors, such as that observed in neuropsychiatric disorders. May not be taken for credit concurrently with, or following receipt of, credit for PSYS 3202. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2200, NSCI 2100, or NSCI 2105.

PSYS 3205. Hormones and Behavior. 3 Credits.
A study of the involvement of hormones in cognition, emotion, the stress response, circadian and homeostatic mechanisms that affect mental state, psychopathology, and reproductive behavior. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2200, NSCI 2100, or NSCI 2105.

PSYS 3210. Behavioral Genetics. 3 Credits.
Students will gain conceptual understanding of the contributions of genes, environments, and the interplay of these and other factors, to various behaviors. Addresses variety of approaches to behavioral genetics research, including family and twin studies, animal studies, genome-wide association studies and the candidate gene approach. Prerequisite: (PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2200); or (NSCI 2105, BIOL 1400, BCOR 1400, or BCOR 1425).

PSYS 3215. Adv Cognitive Neuroscience. 3 Credits.
Cognitive Neuroscience studies thinking processes (e.g., attention, memory, problem solving) by investigating brain function. Focuses on dominant theories and relevant empirical data including a focus on non-invasive brain imaging of humans. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2100, PSYS 2200, or NSCI 2105.

PSYS 3250. Psychopharmacology. 3 Credits.
Effects of drugs (both medical and recreational) on behavior. Topics such as drug effects on learning, memory, motivation, perception, emotions, and aggression. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2200 or NSCI 2105.

PSYS 3300. Advanced Social Psychology. 3 Credits.
In-depth discussion of select topics centering on how situations influence individuals’ thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Prerequisites: PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2300.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3305</td>
<td>Self and Social Cognition</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2300.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYS 3350</td>
<td>Organizational Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2100, PSYS 2300, PSYS 2400, or PSYS 2500.</td>
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<td>PSYS 3400</td>
<td>Adolescence</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2400.</td>
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<td>PSYS 3405</td>
<td>Race in African Youth</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Catamount Core: D1.</td>
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<td>PSYS 3410</td>
<td>Emotional Development and Temperament</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2400.</td>
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<td>PSYS 3415</td>
<td>Social Development</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2400.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYS 3420</td>
<td>Psychology of Gender</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2300, PSYS 2400.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYS 3425</td>
<td>Psychology of Families</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2300, PSYS 2400.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3450</td>
<td>Fit Kids Applied Research</td>
<td>0 or 3</td>
<td>PSYS 1400 or EDSP 1050 or EDEC 1010; Junior Standing; Instructor Permission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3455</td>
<td>Adv Fit Kids: Applied Research</td>
<td>0 or 3</td>
<td>PSYS 3450 or PSYS 3520; Instructor permission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3500</td>
<td>Intro to Clinical Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2500.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYS 3505</td>
<td>Behav Disorders of Childhood</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2400 or PSYS 2500.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3510</td>
<td>Intro to Health Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2500.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3515</td>
<td>Science of Traumatic Stress</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYS 2000 or PSYS 2002; PSYS 2500.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3520</td>
<td>Fit Kids: Special Populations</td>
<td>0 or 3</td>
<td>PSYS 1400 or EDSP 1050 or EDEC 1010; Instructor permission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3525</td>
<td>Spec Populations</td>
<td>0 or 3</td>
<td>PSYS 3450 or PSYS 3520.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3990</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
<td>1-18</td>
<td>See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Prerequisites: PSYS 2002; and PSYS 2100 or PSYS 2200 or PSYS 2300 or PSYS 2400 or PSYS 2500.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYS 3991</td>
<td>Mentored Clinical Internship</td>
<td>1-18</td>
<td>On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Will include an in-class component.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PSYS 3993. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

PSYS 3994. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

PSYS 4990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles. Prerequisites: PSYS 2002; and PSYS 2100 or PSYS 2200 or PSYS 2300 or PSYS 2400 or PSYS 2500.

PSYS 4996. Honors. 1-6 Credits.
College honors thesis or other department/program honors, under the supervision of a faculty member. Offered at department discretion.