Welcome to prospective Psychology concentrators

Dan Osherson

osherson@princeton.edu

Spring 2012
Much of the information that follows is available via:
http://psych.princeton.edu/psychology/ug/main/declare.php

These slides are available near the top of the page at:
http://www.princeton.edu/~osherson
The concentration in Psychology

Princeton focuses on three broad areas of Psychology

- Cognition / Perception
Princeton focuses on three broad areas of Psychology

- Cognition / Perception
- Social / Personality / Clinical
Princeton focuses on three broad areas of Psychology

- Cognition / Perception
- Social / Personality / Clinical
- Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience
The concentration in Psychology

Princeton focuses on three broad areas of Psychology

- Cognition / Perception
- Social / Personality / Clinical
- Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience

Majors work with individual faculty on term papers in their junior year, then collaborate on original research as seniors. Typically, students write three short papers in the autumn of their junior year, and one longer paper in the Spring.
Course structure in the Psychology major (in addition to independent work)

Psychology 101 and Quantitative Methods 251 must be completed to enter the program (hence, by the end of the sophomore year). But note: you may substitute ORF 245, ECO 202, or EEB/MOL 355 for the PSY 251 pre-requisite requirement.

In addition, students must take nine courses in the department to graduate. The nine courses must be distributed in the following manner.
Course structure in the Psychology major (in addition to independent work)

Psychology 101 and Quantitative Methods 251 must be completed to enter the program (hence, by the end of the sophomore year). **But note:** you may substitute ORF 245, ECO 202, or EEB/MOL 355 for the PSY 251 pre-requisite requirement.
Course structure in the Psychology major (in addition to independent work)

- Psychology 101 and Quantitative Methods 251 must be completed to enter the program (hence, by the end of the sophomore year). **But note:** you may substitute ORF 245, ECO 202, or EEB/MOL 355 for the PSY 251 pre-requisite requirement.

- In addition, students must take nine courses in the department to graduate.
Course structure in the Psychology major (in addition to independent work)

- Psychology 101 and Quantitative Methods 251 must be completed to enter the program (hence, by the end of the sophomore year). **But note:** you may substitute ORF 245, ECO 202, or EEB/MOL 355 for the PSY 251 pre-requisite requirement.

- In addition, students must take nine courses in the department to graduate.

- The nine courses must be distributed in the following manner.
You’ll need to take three foundation courses, one from each of the following three areas.
You’ll need to take three foundation courses, one from each of the following three areas.

**First area**

- Personality, Social & Clinical:
  - PSY 207 Abnormal
  - PSY 212 Moral Behavior
  - PSY 252 Social Psychology
  - PSY 257 Personality
You’ll need to take three foundation courses, one from each of the following three areas.

**Second area**
- Developmental & Cognitive:
  - PSY 254 Developmental
  - PSY 255 Cognitive
  - NEU/PSY 259ab Cognitive Neuroscience
You’ll need to take three foundation courses, one from each of the following three areas.

### Third area

- **Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience:**
  - PSY 208 The Brain: A User’s Guide
  - PSY 256 Learning & Memory
  - NEU/PSY 258 Neuroscience
  - NEU/PSY 259ab Cognitive Neuroscience
In addition to the three foundation courses, you’ll need three courses, sampled from at least two of the three areas shown next.
PSY 305 Visual Cognition
PSY/NEU 306 Memory & Cognition
PSY308/MUS 304 Psych of Music
PSY/LIN 309 Psych of Language
PSY 310 Psych of Thinking
PSY 311 Rationality & Human Reasoning
WWS312/PSY 321 Decision-Making
NEU/PSY 330 Connectionist Models
PSY/NEU 338 Animal Learning & Decision Making
LIN/PSY 430 Cognitive Linguistics
PSY/NEU 406 Primate Posterior Parietal Cortex
PSY/NEU 416 Brain Imaging in Cog Neuro Research
PSY 417 Neural Basis of Goal-Directed Behavior
**Advanced distribution requirement**

### Neuroscience Area

- PSY/NEU 306 Memory & Cognition
- NEU/PSY 330 Introduction to Connectionist Models
- PSY 334 Motivation & Reward
- PSY/NEU 337 Neuroscience of Social/Cognitive Emotion
- PSY/NEU 338 Animal Learning & Decision Making
- PSY 407 Sleep: From Molecules to Mattress
- NEU408/PSY404 Cellular Systems
- PSY/NEU 410 Depression
- PSY/NEU415 Advanced Topics in Learning & Memory
- PSY/EEB/NEU 336 Diversity of Brains
More advanced distribution requirements

### Neuroscience

- PSY/NEU 416 Brain Imaging in Cognitive Neuroscience
- NEU/MOL/PSY 437 Computational Neuroscience
- PSY/NEU 402 Intro to Clinical Neuropsychology
- PSY/NEU 406 Primate Posterior Parietal Cortex
- NEU 408/MOL 408/PSY 404
- PSY 413 Brain & Space
- PSY 417 Neural Basis of Goal-Directed Behavior
- ELE/NEU/PSY 480 fMRI Decoding
- PSY/NEU 421 The Cognitive Neuroscience of Selective Attention
- NEU/PSY 339 Brain and Movement
Advanced distribution requirement, Social Area

- PSY 312 Social Interaction
- PSY 313 Social Perception
- PSY 314 Research Methods
- PSY 317 Health Psychology
- AAS/PSY 384 Prejudice
- PSY 326 Social Personality
- PSY/GSS 329 Psychology of Gender
- PSY/NEU 337 Neurosci of Soc/Cog Emotion
- AAS/PSY 375 Social Stigma
- PSY 400 Topics in Soc & Personality
- PSY 327 Close Relationships
- PSY 325 Persuasion & Propaganda
- PSY 411 Psychology of Face Perception
Elective courses

In addition to the three courses taken in the advanced areas, three or more courses at the 300 or 400 level must be taken, either from the advanced areas or from the additional, elective courses listed below. These elective courses count toward the departmental 9 course requirement. Up to two *cognate courses* in other departments may also fulfill this elective requirement.
Electives

- PSY 307 Educational Psychology
- PSY 320 Theories of Psychotherapy
- PSY 322/ORF 322 Human Machine Interaction
- PSY 323 Experimental Psychopathology
- PSY 351 Advanced Quantitative Analysis in Psychological Research
- HUM/PSY 365 Freud on the Psych Foundations of Mind
- PSY 319 Childhood Psychopathology
- PSY 420 Current Controversies in Clinical Psychology
- PSY 418 Neuroethics
- POL 311/PSY 301 Political Psychology
- LIN 320/PSY 335 From Words to Idioms to Grammar
- PSY/NEU/HUM 401 History of Neuroscience
Approved cognates are courses taken in other departments but counted toward the 9 distribution courses in the Psychology Department. They must be:

1. related to the student’s area of interest, and
2. approved with a note from the departmental representative, and then submitted to the Undergraduate Coordinator before the beginning of the term in which the course is taken.
Approved cognates are courses taken in other departments but counted toward the 9 distribution courses in the Psychology Department. They must be:

1. related to the student’s area of interest, and
2. approved with a note from the departmental representative, and then submitted to the Undergraduate Coordinator before the beginning of the term in which the course is taken.
**FALL**: Write 3 short (5-8 page) reports with three different advisers; one report due in Oct., Nov., and Jan., respectively; the 3 report grades are averaged together to become one grade for the fall term, which counts as 40% of the Junior Independent Work grade.
FALL: Write 3 short (5-8 page) reports with three different advisers; one report due in Oct., Nov., and Jan., respectively; the 3 report grades are averaged together to become one grade for the fall term, which counts as 40% of the Junior Independent Work grade.

Students also have the option to write one longer (15+ pages) Junior Paper, under a single adviser in the fall term.

NOTE: Students planning a Neuroscience Certificate are encouraged to take this alternative option.
An additional option for the Autumn JP

JP Lab

The JP lab is intended to prepare students to develop research questions and conduct psychological studies. Each student will take on a research question related to the topic of the class (and approved by the faculty advisor).
An additional option for the Autumn JP

JP Lab

- The JP lab is intended to prepare students to develop research questions and conduct psychological studies. Each student will take on a research question related to the topic of the class (and approved by the faculty advisor).
- Students will then spend the semester developing a study or series of studies on their question, and discuss their progress and challenges with the other students during the weekly lab meeting (with faculty facilitating the discussion).
The Spring Junior Independent Work Requirement

- **SPRING**: One longer (25+ pages) Junior Paper written under an adviser; the grade (combination of two reader grades) for this paper counts as 60% of the Junior Independent Work.
Senior Thesis and Departmental Exam Requirements

Two requirements

- Write a senior thesis, prepared during the entire year under the supervision of a faculty adviser. The senior thesis may involve either empirical research or a theoretical analysis based upon library research.

- Take a departmental exam, at the end of the senior year. This exam is a 1 hour oral, conducted by the two faculty members who graded the senior thesis.
The Neuroscience Certificate

Psychology is steadily evolving into Brain Science, and Princeton is home to several research teams at the intersection of mind and neuroscience. Undergraduates can get involved through the Neuroscience Certificate Program, managed by Dawn Tindall of the Neuroscience Institute.

Information is available via:

http://www.princeton.edu/neuroscience/
Study Abroad

Through the Study Abroad Program, Princeton undergraduates receive full academic credit for a semester or a year by enrolling in approved overseas universities. (For details, contact the Study Abroad office.)

Study abroad is fully compatible with a Psychology Major. (Many of our concentrators have spent semesters abroad.)
These sophomore orientation notes are available on my website (near the top):

http://www.princeton.edu/~osherson
The study of abnormal behavior, behavior under stress, and treatments for such behaviors

- Our department recognizes that many of our undergraduates are interested in **clinical psychology**.
Clinical Psychology

The study of abnormal behavior, behavior under stress, and treatments for such behaviors

- Our department recognizes that many of our undergraduates are interested in **clinical psychology**.

- Thus, although we do not have a graduate program in clinical psychology, we do offer a wide range of courses and experiences to educate students in clinical psychology and prepare students for graduate school in clinical psychology.
Our faculty includes Professor Ron Comer, who is a full time faculty member in the department and the Director of our clinical psychology program.
Our faculty includes Professor Ron Comer, who is a full time faculty member in the department and the Director of our clinical psychology program.

There are also several (excellent) part-time clinical psychology faculty members, including Professor Rob Woolfolk, Professor Lesley Allen, and Professor Jamie Hambrick.
Relevant to clinical psychology

PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology
PSY 320 Theories of Psychotherapy
PSY 319 Child Psychopathology
PSY 420 Controversies in Clinical Psychology
PSY 323 Experimental Psychopathology

With the exception of PSY 207 (which is a foundation course for the major), these courses each count as electives in our psychology course offerings, so concentrators can develop special knowledge in clinical psychology within the course selections required of psychology concentrators.
Welcome to prospective Psychology concentrators

Relevant to clinical psychology

- PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology
### Relevant to clinical psychology

- **PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology**
- **PSY 320 Theories of Psychotherapy**
Relevant to clinical psychology

- PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology
- PSY 320 Theories of Psychotherapy
- PSY 319 Child Psychopathology
Courses

Relevant to clinical psychology

- PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology
- PSY 320 Theories of Psychotherapy
- PSY 319 Child Psychopathology
- PSY 420 Controversies in Clinical Psychology
Relevant to clinical psychology

- PSY 207 Abnormal Psychology
- PSY 320 Theories of Psychotherapy
- PSY 319 Child Psychopathology
- PSY 420 Controversies in Clinical Psychology
- PSY 323 Experimental Psychopathology
With the exception of PSY 207 (which is a foundation course for the major), these courses each count as electives in our psychology course offerings, so concentrators can develop special knowledge in clinical psychology within the course selections required of psychology concentrators.
Any psychology concentrator can conduct their senior thesis and junior projects by focusing on a clinical topic (e.g., depression, eating disorders, anxiety, ADHD, treatment). The Senior Thesis may be either an empirical thesis or a library research thesis. The faculty who advise these projects include Professor Comer, 3 part time faculty members who specialize in clinical psychology, and a number of our department's non-clinical full-time faculty members who also have special expertise in particular areas of clinical psychology (for example, Professor Girgus on depression in women, and Professor Norman on false memories).
Any psychology concentrator can conduct their senior thesis and junior projects by focusing on a clinical topic (e.g., depression, eating disorders, anxiety, ADHD, treatment).
Any psychology concentrator can conduct their senior thesis and junior projects by focusing on a clinical topic (e.g., depression, eating disorders, anxiety, ADHD, treatment).

The Senior Thesis may be either an empirical thesis or a library research thesis.
Any psychology concentrator can conduct their senior thesis and junior projects by focusing on a clinical topic (e.g., depression, eating disorders, anxiety, ADHD, treatment).

The Senior Thesis may be either an empirical thesis or a library research thesis.

The faculty who advise these projects include Professor Comer, 3 part time faculty members who specialize in clinical psychology, and a number of our department’s non-clinical full-time faculty members who also have special expertise in particular areas of clinical psychology (for example, Professor Grgus on depression in women, and Professor Norman on false memories).
Professor Comer serves as an advisor for all students who are interested in graduate school and careers in mental health areas (e.g., clinical psychology, psychiatry, psychiatric social work).
Professor Comer serves as an advisor for all students who are interested in graduate school and careers in mental health areas (e.g., clinical psychology, psychiatry, psychiatric social work).

In addition, Professor Comer offers meetings in clinical graduate school and careers each year.
Professor Comer serves as an advisor for all students who are interested in graduate school and careers in mental health areas (e.g., clinical psychology, psychiatry, psychiatric social work).

In addition, Professor Comer offers meetings in clinical graduate school and careers each year.

It is worth noting that Princeton undergraduates have an excellent acceptance rate into graduate clinical programs of various kinds, even though such programs are among the most competitive kinds of graduate programs.
Faculty and staff are ready to discuss your program in Psychology. (Don’t be shy.) Contact us at:

- Dan Osherson: osherson@princeton.edu
- Tamara Thatcher: thatcher@princeton.edu
- Leslie Savadge: lsavadge@princeton.edu