**Department of Psychology**  
**2016-2018 Course Descriptions**

**PSYC 1018  Explorations in Psychology (3)**  
While exploring the person as a conscious, behaving, social organism, students examine the theories, evidence, and scientific methods of psychology and the implications of the science of psychology for understanding the individual within society. Prerequisite: Eligibility for ENGL 1109, ENGL 1119, or ENGL 1129, or permission of instructor.

**PSYC 2018 Introduction to Statistical Methods in Psychological Research (3)**  
The use of basic statistical methods in designing and analyzing psychological experiments. Topics covered include basic descriptive statistics, the normal curve, correlation, regression, and commonly used parametric and nonparametric inferential statistical techniques. Prerequisite: MATH 0930 or satisfaction of ELM requirement. (Credit cannot be earned for both PSYC 2018 and MATH 2200.)

**PSYC 2020  Psychology as a Profession (3)**  
Introduction to the profession of psychology, including careers related to psychology. Exposure to skills important for success in the Psychology major. Intended for majors.

**PSYC 2030  Interpersonal and Group Process Skills (3)**  
Readings and practice in skills for effective functioning in interpersonal and group settings, including active listening, interviewing, group interaction, and decision-making. Note: A grade of C or better in this class is required to enroll in the Applied Experience Courses (PSYC 4910, 4920, 4960, 4970, 4980). Prerequisites: Psychology major.

**PSYC 2110 Understanding Psychological Research I (3)**  
Asking and answering questions scientifically; critical thinking about research conclusions; data collection, univariate designs and statistical analysis, presentation of data, overview of research ethics. Prerequisites: PSYC 1018; PSYC 2018 or equivalent, with a grade of C- or better. Note: A grade of C or better in this class is required to enroll in PSYC 3110.

**PSYC 2230  Biological Psychology (3)**  
Study of the biological bases of behavior. Topics include: neuroanatomy, general cellular mechanisms of action including neurotransmission and receptor function. Also covered are the methods of studying brain function, the use of animal models with some coverage of mental and neurological disorders. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.
PSYC 2250  Lifespan Development (3)
Survey of development in prenatal, childhood, adolescent, adult, and old age periods. Coverage of methods used in studying development and findings about physiological, cognitive, perceptual, social, and personality development. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 3110 Understanding Psychological Research II (3)
Understanding research articles and reaching conclusions across research articles; comparing/contrasting research methodologies; critical thinking about evidence and explanation; formulating and conducting empirical research; multivariate designs and statistical analysis; training in protection of human and animal subjects. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in PSYC 2110.

PSYC 3210 Principles of Learning (3)
Examination of theory and research emphasizing behavioral principles. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 3220 Sensation and Perception (3)
Examination of theory and research concerning the processes by which humans obtain information about the world, including disorders in these processes. Emphasis on the biological basis of perceptual phenomena, including sense organs and brain mechanisms. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 3240 Cognitive Psychology (3)
This course is an introduction to the major theories and experiments in cognitive psychology. Students will explore many aspects of human cognition including perception, attention, memory, imagery, and language. Students will learn about past and recent research as well as applications of the latest research in psychology. Students will also learn about cognitive disorders. This course may be a service learning course. This course is lecture with discussion. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 3250 Child Psychology (3)
Examination of theory and research in the study of the psychological development of the individual from birth to adolescence. Lectures/discussions, and special investigations. This course may be a service learning course. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 3260 Social Psychology (3)
Examination of theory and research concerning group affiliation, group standards, social perception, reference groups, and other social influences on the behavior of individuals. Topics include: the self and society, attitudes and attitude change, social perception, attraction and
love, aggression and violence, and group dynamics. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

**PSYC 3270 Abnormal Psychology (3)**
The goal of this course is to help students understand what constitutes abnormal behavior, and to help students be able to define some of the types, causes, and treatments of abnormal psychology. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

**PSYC 3280 Personality (3)**
Examination of theory and research concerning approaches for understanding the person. Development of structures and dynamics in relation to adult functioning, psychopathology, and behavior change. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

**PSYC 3318 Adult-Child Relationships (3 units)**
Applies humanistic psychology’s concepts to adult-child relationships. Demonstrates the personal and social benefits of unconditional, non-directive interactions with children. Develop self-understanding and practice effective communication skills useful in family and professional settings. Note: PSYC 3318 requires interactions with children in order to practice and develop skills.

**PSYC 3340 Small Group Dynamics (3)**
Application of principles of social psychology to the understanding of small groups; experimentation and observation in group situations. Lectures and laboratory. This may be a service learning course. Recommended: One course in Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology. Carries credit in Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology.

**PSYC 3410 Adolescent Psychology and Development (3)**
In-depth examination of the second decade of life, including a thorough introduction to theory and research on adolescent development. Adolescents’ physical, cognitive, social, and moral development will be examined within the contexts of family, culture, peers, and school. Students in this course will be expected to engage in informed class discussions based on assigned reading. This may be a service learning course. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisites: PSYC 1018 or permission of instructor. PSYC 2250 or 3250 recommended.

**PSYC 3420 Family Psychology and Development (3)**
Examination of theory and research in the study of the psychological development of families. The course will address basic issues such as the definition of the family; the meaning of family for individuals; the history of family life; and the diversity of family structures in contemporary society. Theoretical perspectives and methods for studying families will be addressed. Strengths and weaknesses of families will be a focus. This may be a service learning course. Lecture/discussion. Prerequisites: PSYC 1018 or permission of instructor. PSYC 2250 or 3250 recommended.
PSYC 3430  Adults in Later Life (3)
This course provides an overview of older adults and the aging process based on demographics, theory and empirical findings. Additionally, this course includes a service learning component outside of the classroom where students will connect with older adults in the institutional setting forming intergenerational partnerships. The course will cover the demographic, biological, psychological and sociological effects of aging as well as the role of the older adult in the family, community and institutions for the aged. A comparison of various cultures will be discussed with a final focus on the different ways in which older adults prepare for (or do not prepare for) the final life process - dying. The discussion on death and dying will lead to self-examination of mortality.

PSYC 3510  Psychopharmacology: A Brief Review (3)
Psychological, philosophical and biological perspectives on the person as mind, body and brain. Will inform exploration of public policy issues related to the nature of a person (e.g., gender, sexuality, status of machines, animals, human embryos); rights and responsibilities (e.g., civic commitment, insanity plea, competence); and wellness and illness (e.g., mental illness and treatment). Carries credit in both PSYC and PHIL.

PSYC 3520  Personhood: Contemporary Policies and Practices (10)
Psychological, philosophical and biological perspectives on the person as mind, body and brain. Will inform exploration of public policy issues related to the nature of a person (e.g., gender, sexuality, status of machines, animals, human embryos); rights and responsibilities (e.g., civic commitment, insanity plea, competence); and wellness and illness (e.g., mental illness and treatment). Carries credit in both PSYC and PHIL.

PSYC 3610  Psychology of Diversity (3)
This course will provide an overview of theories and research on human diversity with a focus on populations of California and the United States. Diversity will be defined in a broad sense to cover culture, ethnicity, race, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, and physical challenges such as deafness and physical size. Interacting effectively with others from different backgrounds does not come naturally. This course uses a combination of social psychology, group dynamics, and personal exploration, to teach skills and concepts that increase student appreciation of our diverse world, including but not limited to, the classroom, workplace, and interpersonal relationships. The format for this course will include readings, discussion, focused activities, group interactions, student projects, and lecture. This may be a service learning course. Prerequisite: Completion of at least one course in psychology.

PSYC 3620  Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality (3)
Psychology 3620 will examine the psychological, developmental, psychosocial, psychopathological, and cultural aspects of human sexuality. Theories and research of Freud, Hooker, Havelock, Kinsey, Masters and Johnson, Money, and emerging research perspectives will be considered. This course has been designed to help you increase your general sexual knowledge, clarify your values, develop your communication skills, and become more comfortable with the subject area. Understanding the complex research problems and the
ethical considerations related to this important area will help you develop critical thinking skills for understanding popular and professional writings on sexuality. This may be a service learning course. Prerequisite: Completion of at least one course in psychology or permission from the instructor.

**PSYC 3638 The Psychology of Sexual Orientation (3)**
The purpose of this course is to incorporate information from a variety of different fields (e.g., history, sociology, biology) to address psychological issues relevant to sexual orientation. In this course, students will critically examine attitudes, assumptions, and research regarding straight, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people. Topics will include the development of gender and sexual orientation, historical views of sexual orientation, differences between individuals with different orientations, progression and change in orientation throughout the lifespan, social/legal policies regarding sexual orientation, and stereotypes and discrimination of individuals with particular orientations. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor. GRE

**PSYC 3648 Environmental Psychology (3)**
Given the increasing evidence that human behavior is harming the earth at an accelerating rate, humans must shift to living sustainably. Environmental psychology’s theories and research reveal reasons for environmentally-destructive choices and ways in which psychology can be used to help people make needed changes. Assignments include a personal change project.

**PSYC 3658 Psychology of Good and Evil (3)**
This class examines psychological theory and data on aspects of human behavior that can be classified as 'good' and 'evil.' Empirical approaches and explanations will be evaluated for such topics as genocide, terrorism, torture, domestic violence, bullying behavior, sexism, racism, other-isms, economic inequality, and mob mentality on the evil side. On the good side, topics such as conservation, altruism, volunteerism, environmentalism, other-isms, and philanthropy will be covered. Prerequisite: One course in psychology recommended.

**PSYC 3678 People, Ethics, and other Animals (3)**
Consideration of how “animal rights” and similar ethics revolutionize the human relationship with members of other animal species. Psychological research on humans’ attitudes and behaviors about human-other animal interactions and relationships. Implications of traditional versus alternative ethics. Note: PSYC 3670 is a service learning course.

**PSYC 3688 People and Animal Companions (3 units)**
The psychology of peoples’ relationships with animal companions, including attachment, lifespan development, ethics issues, and more. The place of these relationships in quality of life (physical and mental health, stress, and social relationships). Introduction to Animal-Assisted Therapy. Note: PSYC 3680 is a service learning course.
**PSYC 4120 History and Systems of Psychology (3)**
This course will introduce students to a historical perspective of the major trends and schools of thought in psychology. Students will be covering topics including the philosophical and physiological roots of psychology, early scientific psychology, and applications and social agendas in past and modern psychology. Throughout our exploration of these topics, students will be given opportunities to think about the historical contributions to modern research and theories. Course is Lecture and Discussion, with in class activities.

**PSYC 4120 History and Systems of Psychology (3)**
This course will introduce students to a historical perspective of the major trends and schools of thought in psychology. Students will be covering topics including the philosophical and physiological roots of psychology, early scientific psychology, and applications and social agendas in past and modern psychology. Throughout our exploration of these topics, students will be given opportunities to think about the historical contributions to modern research and theories. Course is Lecture and Discussion, with in class activities. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

**PSYC 4130 Effective Thinking (3)**
This primarily applied course is designed to help you think critically about issues that confront you in your day-to-day life. You will learn how to improve both your comprehension and use of language, improve your memory so that you have the facts at hand during discussions, evaluate the arguments of others as well as improve your own arguments, solve problems more efficiently, make better judgments and decisions, and improve your creativity. The class focuses on improving overall thinking skills that you can use throughout your life. The structure of the class is lecture and discussion, with many opportunities for cooperative learning in small groups. Sample topics include Science and Pseudoscience: Ghosts, UFOs and other Weird Things; How to Reason Logically; and Crossword Puzzles, Logic Problems, Anagrams, and Other Problems.

**PSYC 4210 Advanced Laboratory in Principles of Learning (3)**
Laboratory in Principles of Learning. Prerequisites: PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3210.

**PSYC 4220 Advanced Laboratory in Sensation & Perception (3)**
Laboratory in Sensation and Perception. Prerequisites: PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3210

**PSYC 4230 Advanced Laboratory in Biopsychology (3)**
Laboratory in Biological Psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 3110 and PSYC 2230. Note: PSYC 3110 may involve the use of live animals or animal tissue.

**PSYC 4240 Advanced Laboratory in Cognitive Psychology (3)**
Laboratory in Cognitive Psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3240.

**PSYC 4250 Advanced Laboratory in Child Psychology (3)**
Laboratory in Child Psychology. Prerequisites: PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3240.
PSYC 4260  Advanced Laboratory in Social Psychology (3)
Laboratory in Social Psychology.  Prerequisites:  PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3260.

PSYC 4270  Advanced Laboratory in Abnormal Psychology (3)
Laboratory in Abnormal Psychology.  Prerequisites:  PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3270.

PSYC 4280  Advanced Laboratory in Personality (3)
Laboratory in Personality.  Prerequisites:  PSYC 3110 and PSYC 3280.

PSYC 4320 Mental Health and Aging (3)
This course draws upon multidisciplinary information regarding psychological well-being in later life. Topics include definitions of mental health and psychosocial well-being among the elderly, emotional and behavioral challenges in the later life-span, family relations, health and economic considerations, and diagnostic and intervention principles.  Recommended:  PSYC 3270 and PSYC 3430.  Prerequisite: PSYC 1018.

PSYC 4330 Community Psychology (3)
Overview of Community Psychology, including the objectives, principles, and methods underlying the development, implementation, and evaluation of community-based psychological interventions. Students will become acquainted with concepts central to Community Psychology, including:  (a) social oppression; (b) ecological theory; (c) empowerment; (d) stress and coping; (e) social support; (f) models of resilience; (g) social change; (h) community organizing; (i) public policy analysis; and (j) prevention. Students will learn how these concepts and principles are applied to a wide range of contemporary social issues, including child abuse, teenage pregnancy, homelessness, childcare, education, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, and sexual health. This may be a service learning course. Discussion, presentations, and projects. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 4340 Health Psychology (3)
Integration of mind and body in the acquisition of good health and in the development and treatment of illness. Topics include stress, relaxation and self-regulation techniques, optimum performance, psychosomatic disorders, pain and the role of positive mind-body interactions in personal growth. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 4358  Positive Psychology (3)
Positive psychology focuses on positive emotions, like happiness, and human strengths that act as buffers against mental illness and promote quality of life. In this course we will look at what behavioral research tells us about positive emotions and human strengths like optimism, creativity, gratitude, and wisdom. Students will read popular and scholarly works, participate in classroom discussions, develop and complete exploratory exercises outside the classroom, and reflect upon and write about various aspects of the life lived well. Prerequisites: None.

PSYC 4420 Cognitive and Perceptual Development (3)
Intensive exploration of the development of perception, memory, logical reasoning, and problem solving, from infancy through adolescence. Prerequisite: PSYC 1018 or permission of instructor.
PSYC 4430 Personality and Social Development (3)
Investigation of the development of emotion, motivation, social reasoning and interpersonal relationships from birth through adolescence. Emphasis on normal personality development, including topics such as attachment, relationships with parents and peers, sex roles, pro-social and aggressive behaviors, and characteristics such as achievement, dependency, obedience, conformity, and creativity. May include psychodynamic, psychosocial, behavioral, cognitive, and biological perspectives. Prerequisite: PSYC 1018 or permission of instructor.

PSYC 4440 Language Development (3)
Examination of the child’s acquisition, development and use of language, including production and comprehension. Prerequisite: PSYC 1018 or permission of instructor.

PSYC 4520 Brain and Consciousness (3)
Consciousness is explored in light of current neuroscience research. Phenomena such as dreaming, altered states, unconscious brain processing, dissociation, hallucination, voluntary actions, false memory, mind/brain disorders, and the possibility of mind in machines and non-human animals are considered, including their cultural context. Prerequisites: One course in Psychology, one course in Biology or Psychobiology.

PSYC 4610 Psychology of Women (3)
Theory and research on the development of sex roles and sex differences, with an emphasis on the roles of women. Students of all sexes are welcome to participate. This may be a service learning course. Prerequisite: One course in Psychology or permission of instructor.

PSYC 4620 Psychology of Intergroup Relations (3)
An in-depth analysis of theories and principles about intergroup relations, with special attention given to the social psychology of minorities. Topics include a historical perspective and comparative review of research and theory in intergroup relations; current theory and research on social identity, stereotypes, attitudes; and applications of the literature to contemporary societal problems.

PSYC 4810 Directed Research in Brain & Behavior (3)
This course is designed to provide students with a structured and extensive research experience including in class and laboratory sessions. The course is also designed to prepare students for entrance into graduate programs focusing on the application process. Students will participate in various stages of research projects, either original or faculty-led research in the cognitive or behavioral neuroscience areas. General topics covered, will include research design and analysis, data collection, ethics in research, the GRE, the graduate school application process, professional development and presentation skills. Prerequisites: PSYC 2110 & PSYC 3110.

PSYC 4820 Directed Research in Applied Psychology (3)
This course is designed to provide students with a structured and extensive research experience including in class and laboratory sessions. Students will participate in various stages of research projects, either original or faculty-led, in the areas of social, developmental, abnormal, or personality psychology. General topics covered will include research design and analysis, data collection, ethics in research, and presentation skills. Prerequisites: PSYC 2110 & PSYC 3110.
PSYC 4860 Internship in Applied Psychology (3)
Supervised field experiences in community settings. Academic and placement requirements (such as hours, meetings, reading, papers, etc.) are arranged in consultation with the placement supervisor and the Applied Experience Coordinator of the Department of Psychology. Placements are coordinated through the Center for Community Engagement and Career Education. May be repeated for credit, up to a maximum of 9 semester units. Requires a minimum CSUB GPA of 2.0. Offered on a credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisites: A grade of “C” or better in PSYC 2030 and approval by the Applied Experience Coordinator of the Department of Psychology.

PSYC 4870 Cooperative Education (3)
Sponsored learning in a work setting, integrated with academic learning. The field experience is contracted by the Center for Community Engagement and Career Education on an individual basis, and is subject to approval by the department. May be repeated for credit, up to a maximum of 9 semester units. Requires a minimum CSUB GPA of 2.0. Offered on a credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisites: A grade of “C” or better in PSYC 2030 and approval by the Applied Experience Coordinator of the Department of Psychology.

PSYC 4880 Directed Study in the Instruction of Psychology (3)
Theory and method in undergraduate instruction in psychology. Weekly meetings with faculty sponsor and supervised experience which may include administering and developing examinations, proctoring self-paced instructional units, course development, discussion group leadership, and in-depth directed readings of relevant topics. Requires a minimum CSUB GPA of 2.0. May be repeated for credit, up to a maximum of 9 semester units. Offered on a credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in PSYC 2030; consent of instructor who will serve as sponsor; and approval by the Applied Experience Coordinator of the Department of Psychology. Students seeking to register for this course should obtain the correct form from the Applied Experience Coordinator or from the Psychology Department Office.

PSYC 4900 Senior Seminar (3)
Consideration of enduring issues facing the discipline. Critical examination and evaluation of evidence and of the inferences drawn from such evidence. Integration of information from other courses. Seminar format. Prerequisites: Senior standing, PSYC 3110, three other upper-division Psychology courses.