

(to send October 15, 2007)

Subject line: Information psych majors for spring registration

Dear Psych Major,

Spring registration begins on November 6, so I would like to take this opportunity to share some information about classes and other opportunities.

Topics below include:

Advising

Apply for Graduation

Courses for Spring

Other course news

Opportunities

ADVISING

I would like to encourage you to get in touch with your Psychology faculty advisor to discuss your career plans and curriculum choices. Don't have an advisor, or can't remember who it is? Contact the Psych secretary, Monica Markley, for information. You can find her in DW 2119, at 520-4393, or by e-mailing mmarkley@iusb.edu. You should talk to your advisor at least once a year, to be sure that you are on the right track. Please don't wait until the last minute—our advisors are all faculty members with busy teaching schedules.

APPLY FOR GRADUATION

Planning to graduate in May or August? You must apply for graduation now (as soon as possible) by turning in the Application for Degree form to the Recorder's office (DW3300A). The form is available in the Recorder's office or on the CLAS student information webpage at <http://www.iusb.edu/~lasi/studentinfo.shtml>

COURSES FOR SPRING

Many of our courses are offered every semester, but some are only offered once per year, and there are several that are offered only once every two years.

Spring only courses:

P241 Functional Analysis of Behavior. This is the first course in our Applied Behavior Analysis emphasis. You will learn how to analyze a problem behavior (such as anger outbursts) and determine what function that behavior is serving. That information is necessary to begin to control the behavior. This will be a very applied class, using case studies and workbooks. Taught by Ms. Ginger DeBrule. The only prerequisite is P103 or P106.

P303 Health Psychology. What are the psychological factors in health and illness? How can you encourage people to lead more healthy lives? Taught by Dr. Warren Sibilla. Prerequisite of P103 or P106.

P326 Behavioral Neuroscience. How does biology affect behavior? Learn how genetic, neural, and hormonal factors affect sensation and perception, motivation, learning and more. Taught by Dr. Dennis Rodriguez. Prerequisite is P103 or P106.

P390 Behavior Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence. If you are interested in working with troubled children, this is the perfect course! You will learn about assessing and treating a variety of major behavior disorders. This course is particularly recommended for students who are interested in the Applied Behavior Analysis emphasis. This course has not been offered in several years, but we hope to offer it each spring under the P425 number. Taught by Dr. Carrie Cadwell. The prerequisite is P324, with either P216 or P316 strongly recommended.

P460 Psychology of Women. Interested in the psychological and emotional differences between boys and girls, men and women? Learn about the importance of gender in human development and the role that sex and relationships play in our lives. This course is cross-listed with Women's Studies. Taught by Dr. Cathy Borshuk. The prerequisite is 6 hours of psychology or 3 hours of psychology and 3 hours of women's studies.

Courses offered in spring of 2008, 2010, 2012:

P233 Industrial/Organizational Psychology. According to APA data, about half of the students who earn a BA in Psychology end up in business settings. This makes sense when you think of how much psychology is involved in management, sales, marketing, and human resources. This course will help you make those connections. Taught by Dr. Ken Hanig. The only prerequisite is P103 or P106.

P434 Community Psychology. How can we bring about better mental health and adjustment through change in the community? If you are interested in working in a community agency, this would be particularly relevant. Taught by Dr. Bryant. The prerequisite is 5 hours of psychology.

P438 Language and Cognition. In this course, you will learn about many aspects of psycholinguistics, ranging from speech production to the neurology of language. Taught by Dr. Michelle Verges. Prerequisite of 5 hours of psychology.

OTHER COURSE NEWS

Elkhart courses:

We are expanding our Elkhart offerings so that students can complete the Associate of Arts degree at that campus. This semester we have four courses:

P103 General Psychology—the initial course for all psych majors

P220 Drugs and Behavior—fulfills the Area 4 distribution requirement

P316 Psych of Childhood and Adolescence—fulfills the Area 1 distribution requirement

P324 Abnormal Psychology—fulfills the Area 2 distribution requirement

You might want to consider these courses even if you do not live in Elkhart. Class sizes are usually smaller (particularly the P103 course) so you will get even more opportunity for interaction.

Prior authorization required!

Some of our courses require prior authorization from the professor before you may enroll. Professors may not be on campus in the days before classes start, so students should get permission and signatures early. Forms are available in the psychology office and completed forms must be returned to Monica before you can enroll. All P495 options (research, psych lab, community internships, independent readings) require prior authorization.

P429 Advanced Lab in Developmental Psychology. The advanced lab is required of all majors and is taken during the senior year. The spring semester's lab will also admit students who are interested in social psychology research. **You must have prior authorization to enroll.** Please complete the form in the psychology office, to ensure that you have all prerequisites and a general idea for a research topic. Space is limited, so students are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible. Taught by Dr. Kathy Ritchie. Prerequisites are P103 or P106, P211, P354, P403 and one course from: P216, P316, P331 or P320.

P495 Independent study options

The P495 courses give students an opportunity to engage in customized, in-depth, hands-on experiences that can greatly enhance their learning and their resumé. Although students are not required to complete a P495, these courses are highly recommended for our majors. There are several types of P495 courses, which provide very different experiences. Course credit ranges from 1-3 credit hours, to be agreed upon by the student and the instructor. You may count a maximum of 15 credit hours of Independent study towards graduation, except in special cases authorized by the advisor, the instructor, and the departmental chairperson.

Please note that ALL P495 courses require the consent of the instructor. In many cases, limited slots are available and you may be asked to interview. It is important to discuss P495 options with the instructor well before course enrollment, so that all details are agreed upon before you sign up for classes.

In general, these courses are restricted to juniors and seniors in the major. Exceptions may be made upon agreement of the instructor and the departmental chairperson.

P495 Readings and Research in Psychology

In Readings and Research, you study a particular topic in-depth. The outcome is often a library research paper, but other products are possible. This option is particularly appropriate for the student who would like to follow up on a course or study a topic that we do not offer. The departmental chairperson is the instructor of record, but you must first meet with the appropriate instructor to get their agreement to supervise your work.

P495 Professional Practice Program Internship

In an Internship, you work in an applied setting throughout the semester, using what you have learned in your classes. There are two types of internship.

Community Experience. In this option, you work in the community in an agency or business that is related to psychology. For example, you might work at Madison Center, Logan Center, or Press-Ganey. This is excellent experience for students who hope to work in human services, and particularly for those who will be looking for employment soon. Students who excel in their internship often receive strong references or even job offers. For more information on this option, please see Dr. Hubbard.

Psychology Lab. In this option, you work as a teaching assistant in the Psychology Lab. You are assigned a particular course (usually a section of P103) and you assist the teacher and students in a variety of ways. You also lead general study sessions and help with other lab activities. For more information, contact Laura Talcott, Director of the Psych Lab.

P495 Supervised Research

In Supervised Research, you work closely with a faculty member on a research project. You might be part of a research team working on a common problem, or you might be working on your own research project under faculty supervision. This research experience is particularly valuable for students who plan to apply to Ph.D. programs. Several faculty members have their own section of P495, but other instructors can supervise research with the departmental chairperson as instructor of record. A current list of faculty research interests can be found on the psych department webpage at [Psychology faculty](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

Psych Club. Open to any interested student! Join by contacting President Nancy Watreas at nwatreas@iusb.edu. The club sponsors many activities, including information sessions and fundraisers for local organizations.

Psi Chi. Membership in the national honor society is by invitation only, based on grade point average. Invitations will go out in the spring.

Psych Department Website. Go to <http://www.iusb.edu/~sbpsy> for information on professors, curriculum, and departmental events. The scrapbook has photos of students and faculty from many events.

Applied Behavior Analysis certificate. We are developing a certificate in ABA that you could earn in addition to your degree. The basic certificate will require P103, P241, P325 and P430. For more information, see our website.