Bachelor of Arts Degree Completion Program

in Psychology

2019-2021
B.A. DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM IN PSYCHOLOGY

Program Prerequisites: An associate’s degree from an accredited college with a minimum 2.5 G.P.A, General Psychology.

Additional Requirement: College level Math; college level Science course, and college level History, Philosophy, 42 Elms residency credits are required to receive an Elms College degree.

Description: Psychology is the scientific study of mental processes and behavior. Perception, learning, thinking, and motivation are studied in the context of individual development. Students learn the nature of psychological inquiry and the psychological approach to various issues encountered in the social sciences, the humanities, and life sciences. The psychology degree completion program is designed for working people who already have an associate’s degree. A bachelor’s degree can be completed in 20 months with classes held 4-8 p.m. on Thursdays, in 10, eight-week sessions, beginning in August 2019. Students will join a cohort and remain in that group throughout the program. Classes are held at Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner Campus, 444 Green Street, Gardner, MA 01440 as well as online.

Job Outlook: Employment of psychologists is projected to grow 19 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. Job prospects should be best for those who have a doctoral degree in an applied specialty. Greater demand for psychological services in schools, hospitals, mental health centers, and social services agencies should drive employment growth. Employment of school psychologists will continue to grow because of raised awareness of the connection between mental health and learning and the need for mental health services in schools. Given the limited number of graduates in this specialty and the growing need, school psychologists are expected to have good job opportunities.

2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR (YEAR ONE)

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2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR (YEAR TWO)

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<td>HIS 105 Early American History Online</td>
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<td>ART 215 Art History II Online</td>
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Courses, sequence, and dates subject to change. Tuition is subject to increase every July 1

Revised: 8.9.18
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The number in parentheses denotes the credits awarded for the course.

ART 215 Art History II (3) Online
This survey course focuses on the art of Western Europe from the early Renaissance through the rise of modernism, and includes contemporary trends in Europe and the United States. A special emphasis is placed on painting and sculpture and the relationship of art to social and political currents. Students will compare these works with examples of arts from non-Western cultures.

HIS 105 Early American History (3) Online
This course examines the main developments (political, economic, social, and religious) in American history from the pre-Columbian Era to the Civil War.

PHI 242 Ethics (3) Online
Do we see things as they really are or are they only illusions? Are there any good reasons for being moral? Does might make right? Can the existence of God be proven? This course will help students develop their own answers to these questions and others.

PSY 150 Writing in Psychology (3) hybrid
This course focuses on communication skills that are essential for professionals in the field of psychology: clear exposition, persuasive argument, effective synthesis, mastery of mechanics, and confident delivery. Students will write most weeks, in class or in take-home assignments. Peer editing and group work is a part of this course, and there will be oral presentations as well. The use of APA style will be emphasized.

PSY 202 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (3) Hybrid
This course is a critical component of the psychology major’s research training. To this end, basic descriptive and univariate inferential procedures are covered, including measures of central tendency variability, relative standing, correlation, hypothesis testing, normal distribution, t-tests, ANOVA, and Chi-square. Additionally, basic issues in research design and methodology are covered, and the link is continually made between research design and the relevant statistical procedures.

PSY 210 Research Methods (3)
Students will develop an understanding of the scientific method as it is applied to the study of human behavior. Students will learn to analyze, design, and conduct psychological research. Students will select, design, and conduct a class experiment on a behavior of current interest. This course is designated as a “communication intensive,” and fulfills that core requirement.

PSY 240 Stress and Coping (3)
Students will learn about the nature of stress and its relationship to health and coping. Emphasis will be on assessment and prevention strategies aimed at reducing stress-related symptoms.
**PSY 302 History and Systems (3)**
Students will study the development of psychology from its antecedents to its current “schools” or “systems,” including topics such as the origins of behavioral, cognitive, and psychoanalytic perspectives. An emphasis is placed on connecting the historical aspects of psychology to current day practices and developments. Prerequisites: PSY 101 General Psychology and PSY 202 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences.

**PSY 304 Forensic Psychology (3)**
This course will promote an understanding of the relationship between psychology and the law by showing how psychological research and theory inform the legal system. Topics include psychologists in the court, ethics in practice, criminal profiles, and assessment and rehabilitation approaches for criminal offenders. Prerequisite: PSY 101 General Psychology.

**PSY 306 Educational Psychology (3) Online**
This course is a study of the application of psychology to educational problems. It considers factors affecting learning and provides a theoretical background to help students evaluate and use educational methods properly. Topics of study include social, emotional, and cognitive development, learner differences, cultural diversity, motivation, and standardized and classroom assessment.

**PSY 307 Psychological Testing (3)**
The major techniques used to measure psychological attributes, such as intelligence, motivation, attitudes, interests, and personality will be introduced. Test construction, reliability, and validity will also be presented.

**PSY 308 Cognitive Psychology (3)**
Students will be introduced to the theory and research of mental processes from the initial sensation of information to the complex utilization of that information. Topics for study include sensation, perception, memory systems, comprehension, language, concept formation, and problem solving.

**PSY 309 Social Psychology (3)**
Social psychology is the science of how we think about, influence, and relate to each other. Although firmly based in scientific research, this field is uniquely applicable to everyday life. Students will actively apply topics to their everyday lives with brief application papers and activities. Some of the topics to be covered include the self, attitude and belief formation, interpersonal relations, persuasion, conformity, prejudice, and attraction and intimacy.

**PSY 313 Psychology of Behavioral Management (3) Online**
This course provides the student with an introduction to the theories and principles of behavior modification. Students will learn the fundamentals of behavioral analysis and treatment.

**PSY 325 Personality Theory (3)**
Students will be introduced to the field of personality. Major theories of personality will be covered, including those of Freud, Jung, Horney, Dollard and Miller, Wilson, Maslow, and Rogers. Contemporary applications and Internet resources will be integrated with historical perspectives in this fully on-line course using streaming audio lectures with PowerPoint slides, online discussions both live and asynchronous, web research, and online testing.

**PSY 401 Psychology Seminar: Capstone (3)**
The primary objective of this capstone course is to explore current issues in psychology, especially those that are of interest to students. Students will read, analyze, and discuss original research. A final project of a research paper and
formal presentation is required. This course is designated as “communication intensive” and fulfills that core requirement.

**REL 440 Addiction and Recovery (3) Online**
Using a bio-psycho-social-spiritual model, this course explores the dynamics of addiction and recovery. As part of this course, healthcare professionals and members of the local recovery community regularly share their expertise, experience, strength, and hope. This course assesses the spirituality and faith outcome of the Elms College core curriculum.

**SOC 209 Social Deviance (3) Online**
Nonconformist behavior- its causes, consequences and the social reaction- is the area study. Definitions of deviance, analysis of social structure, social change, and social control will analyze in order to expand the student’s knowledge of what society considers deviant behavior to be. Topics surveyed include crime, violence, suicide, family disorganization, alcoholism, drug addiction, and newly recognized deviances such as school violence and terrorism.

**SOC 210 Child Abuse and Neglect in American Society* (3) Online  MWCC**
Students investigate the growing problem of child abuse and neglect in American society. Psychodynamic and sociocultural factors that contribute to child abuse will be considered with an emphasis on prevention, reporting of abuse cases, intervention, and treatment. Prerequisite: SOC103.

**SOC 322 Social Life through Films (3) Online**
This course will examine society (particularly American society) through film to illuminate sociological concepts and important social issues. As students learn to analyze film through the lens of sociology, some fundamental questions will be posed. Is film merely a reflection of the society we live in, or does it have the power to inform society, thereby changing the way we interact with one another? Does film effectively and accurately address some of the darker aspects of the human condition and, if so, does it point society towards the light? Core concepts for this course include family and the dark side of family life, alienation, technology, deviance, war, culture of poverty, race, class, powerlessness, institutionalized behavior and the criminal justice system.
### Equivalent Courses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elms College</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>Philosophy</td>
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<td>SOC 209</td>
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<td>REL 440</td>
<td>HUM 240</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art, Theatre, Music</td>
<td>Any college level art, music or theatre course</td>
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For more information, contact:
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Fax: 413-265-2459