DESCRIPTION
Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Psychologists use diverse technological, psycho-physiological, statistical and analytical techniques to investigate how the individual’s immediate environment, past experience, physiological makeup, and sociocultural context influence current thoughts, emotions and behavior. Psychologists actively translate basic science into usable technology, educational innovations, and practical interventions at the personal, group, community, and societal levels.

People with a bachelor’s degree in psychology may pursue careers in a variety of fields, in both the public and private sectors. Careers within the field of psychology often require graduate degrees - and depending on the career -specialized certification/licensure. Psychology students at PCC typically pursue a transfer or bachelor’s degree or another related certificate. Psychology degrees at the associate’s level are not available.

PSY 101. Psychology and Human Relations. 4 Credits.
Applies psychological principles to relationships in both personal and professional environments. Includes an overview of basic personality and social psychology concepts, as well as specific skill development in the areas of communication, listening, and conflict resolution. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 201A. Introduction to Psychology - Part 1. 4 Credits.
Surveys the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in scientific research, biological psychology, sensation and perception, learning theory, memory, language, cognition, consciousness, and human development. Provides an overview of popular trends, examines the overarching themes of heredity vs. environment, stability vs. change, and free will vs. determinism, and emphasizes the sociocultural approach which assumes that gender, culture, and ethnicity are essential to understanding behavior, thought, and emotion. Psychology 201A is the first term of a two-term sequence in introductory psychology. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Cultural Literacy, Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 202A. Introduction to Psychology - Part 2. 4 Credits.
Surveys the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in personality theory, psychological disorders, therapy, emotion, motivation, intelligence, health psychology, and social psychology. Provides an overview of popular trends, examines the overarching themes of heredity vs. environment, stability vs. change, and free will vs. determinism, and emphasizes the sociocultural approach which assumes that gender, culture, and ethnicity are essential to understanding behavior, thought, and emotion. Psychology 202A is the second term of a two-term sequence in introductory psychology. Recommended: PSY 201 or 201A. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Cultural Literacy, Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 213. Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience. 4 Credits.
Surveys the role of the brain and nervous system in behavior, psychological functioning, and neurophysiological processes that underlie human development. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement, and PSY 201A or one year of biology. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 214. Introduction to Personality. 4 Credits.
Covers a variety of personality theories including the theoretical and scientific explanations for individuals’ characteristic patterns of perception, thought, emotion and behavior. Emphasizes the understanding and mastery of personality constructs applied to students’ personal and professional lives. Recommended: PSY 201A or PSY 202A. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 215. Human Development. 4 Credits.
Surveys major developmental theories and patterns of change and continuity from birth to death in human subjects. Emphasizes biological, cognitive, and emotional development through the lifespan. Examines cultural influences on development. Recommended: PSY 201A or 202A. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 216. Social Psychology. 4 Credits.
Surveys the scientific study of how individuals think about, influence, and relate to one another with respect to social beliefs, persuasion, attraction, conformity, obedience, prejudice, aggression, and pro-social behaviors. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 222. Family & Intimate Relationships. 4 Credits.
Explores processes involved in both traditional and non-traditional relationships and families: including love, cohabitation, dating, marriage, parenting, communication and conflict resolution, sexuality, balancing work and family, domestic violence, divorce, remarriage, and blended families. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 231. Human Sexuality. 4 Credits.
Explores sexual issues from scientific and humanistic perspectives. Surveys historical, cultural and cross-cultural variation in sexuality, sex research, female and male sexual and reproductive anatomy and physiology, gender issues, sexual response, sexual communication, sexual behavior patterns, love, and sexual orientations. This is the first course in a two-course sequence. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Cultural Literacy, Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 232. Human Sexuality. 4 Credits.
Explores sexual issues from scientific and humanistic perspectives. Surveys sexuality through the life cycle, sexual problems, sexual satisfaction, contraception, conception, sexuality and disability, sex and chronic illness, sexually transmitted infections, sexual victimization, atypical sexual behavior, and the commercialization of sex. This is the second course in a two course sequence. Recommended: PSY 231 taken before PSY 232. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 236. Psychology of Adult Development and Aging. 4 Credits.
Provides an overview of the biological, cognitive, and psychosocial aspects of adulthood and aging including theories of aging and specific research in the field of gerontology. Focuses on genetic and environmental factors that influence health as we age. Includes the challenges specific to gender, ability level, and culture. Recommended: PSY 201 or PSY 201A or PSY 215. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.
PSY 239. Introduction to Abnormal Psychology. 4 Credits.
Surveys the history, theories, etiology, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of the spectrum of psychological disorders. Prerequisites: (PSY 201 or PSY 201A or PSY 202A) or (AD 102 with instructor permission), and (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 240. Personal Awareness and Growth. 4 Credits.
Explores multidimensional perspectives on personal growth and awareness. Includes how childhood and adolescent development and experience affect thinking, feelings and behavior; differentiation; self-discipline and resilience; applying the principles derived from psychological research to everyday living; stress management; creative expression; body image and awareness; education and job/career pursuits; loneliness and solitude; death and loss. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Social Sciences/AAOT, Social Sciences/AS, Social Sciences/AAS, Social Sciences/AGS, Social Sciences/ASOT-B.

PSY 285. Psychology Seminar and Practicum. 4 Credits.
Explores psychology as an academic discipline, a career, and as a body of research. Focuses on critically understanding research, professional writing, and oral presentation skills. Includes a 60 hour (minimum) practicum in the community. Highly recommended: MTH 243 Prerequisites: PSY 201 or 201A and PSY 202 or 202A. Prerequisite/Concurrent: WR 122. Audit available.