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The Synapse

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT AT THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Welcome to the Fall 2011 edition of the Psychology Department Student Newsletter. We are modifying our newsletter to include more advising guidance and tips. We hope this newsletter serves as a helpful resource in providing you with important information about Departmental events and topics of interest within Psychology.

Psychology 4-Year Advising Sequence Chart

PSY	096	097	098	099
Title	Orientation to Psychology	Exploring the Psychology Major	Exploring the Psychology Profession	Psychology Professional Seminar
Year	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Semester	Fall	Spring	Spring	Fall
Description	This entry advising program is required for all freshmen and entering external transfer students enrolled as a Psychology major. Topics covered include general information about the College and services offered, registration processes, degree requirements, academic standards and integrity, and time management. General advisement relative to the major is also included. (Graded P/U)	This advising program is designed for sophomore Psychology majors. Students are provided with an orientation to the Psychology program as well as the Psychology specializations offered by the department. Students are introduced to our Experiential Learning in Psychology (ELOPsy) opportunities and the application requirements. Professionalism and ethics, resumes, cover letters, internship opportunities and departmental research are discussed. (Graded P/U)	This advising program is designed for junior psychology majors. It provides an introduction to the psychology profession and a variety of career options available to psychology graduates. This advising program includes workshops, presentations and panel discussions during which professionals in psychology-related fields describe their career development and their roles in providing psychology-related services. (Graded P/U)	This advising program is designed for senior psychology majors. This advising program aids students in making the transition from college to graduate school or industry. Topics include career planning, resume writing, interviewing techniques, professional responsibilities, and graduate school requirements. (Graded P/U)
Additional Notes	Also offered in the 1st 7 weeks of the spring semester for TCNJ external transfer students.	This advising program does not meet regularly.	This advising program does not meet regularly. Students attend various workshops during the semester to satisfy this advising program's requirements.	This advising program does not meet regularly. Students attend various workshops during the semester to satisfy this advising program's requirements.

*Internal transfer students do not enroll in PSY 096. They enroll in the appropriate advising program based on class standing at the time of admission to the Department.

Advising Tips for Course Registration

***Spring and Summer 2012 Registration begins on November 1st-11th.**

Meeting with your Advisor

- You will receive an e-mail from your advisor to sign up for a meeting time to discuss course registration for the following semester.
- Sign-up on the sign-up sheets located outside your advisor's office.
- Bring with you to the meeting the following items:
 - Summary Sheet (indicating courses already taken)
 - PAWS printout of your selected courses for the upcoming semester (Shopping Cart)

Steps for enrolling in classes

1. **Visit the PAWS Tutorials for TCNJ Students website** for complete information on how to log-in to PAWS, search for classes, browse the Course Catalog, view your Holds, add courses to your Shopping Cart, and register for classes. <http://pawshelp.pages.tcnj.edu/undergraduate-students/current-students/>
2. **Meet with faculty advisors before registering.** Check your advisor in the PAWS Student Center.
3. **View the exact date and time you may register** by visiting the Enrollment Appointment section in the PAWS Student Center. For step-by-step instructions on viewing your Enrollment Appointment, visit: <http://pawshelp.pages.tcnj.edu/files/2011/07/enrollappt.pdf>
4. **Check PAWS for any HOLDS that will prevent you from registering.** If there is a hold on your account, resolve the matter prior to your Enrollment Appointment. For the description of holds, access the following website: <http://www.tcnj.edu/~recreg/policies/holdflags.html>
**Note – For transfer students ONLY, an advising hold will be placed on your record for your first semester ONLY to ensure that you meet with your advisor. This hold will be removed during your advising session.
4. **Search for Classes and Fill Your Shopping Cart.** The Schedule of Classes is available on PAWS. Prepare for registration week by adding courses to your Enrollment Shopping Cart prior to your enrollment appointment. For instructions on how to use your Enrollment Shopping Cart, go to: http://pawshelp.pages.tcnj.edu/files/2011/07/ShoppingCart_8_5_1.pdf
5. **Check for Pre-requisite Issues.** You can see if you have met enrollment requirements prior to your enrollment time. The new Validate feature (available in your Shopping Cart) alerts you to any requisite issues that may prevent you from enrolling in a class. For quick tips on using the Validate feature, visit: <http://pawshelp.pages.tcnj.edu/files/2011/07/validate.pdf>
6. **Resolve Requisite Issues before Registration.** If the Validate feature identifies a potential requisite issue, and you are confident that the requisite was met, contact the Office of Records and Registration for assistance.

Becoming a Psych Major

Submit your application for fall 2012 semester consideration between **February 10, 2012 and February 22, 2012**

Requirements:

- Maintain a minimum overall GPA of 2.0.
- Take PSY 101 with a C+ or higher *before* applying.
- Complete the Psychology Major Application found on the psychology department website under “Becoming a Psychology Major”.
- Print out your unofficial transcript.
- Complete Records and Registration's “Change of Major” form.
- Submit your application, transcript, and form to the Psychology Department office: SSB 109 before the deadline.

For more information visit: <http://psychology.pages.tcnj.edu/academic-programs/becoming-a-psychology-major/>

Class Levels

Freshmen or 1st Year:	0.00–7.75 earned course units
Sophomore or 2nd Year:	8.00–15.75 earned course units
Junior or 3rd Year:	16.0- 23.75 earned course units
Senior or 4th Year:	24.0+ earned course units

Mark Your Calendars

—EVENTS—

October 20th—11:30-12:30, SSB TBA:

Career preparation workshop by Dr. Paul Martinetti

October 22nd - 11 -12:30: Social Sciences Atrium

Homecoming Reception and plaque dedication

October 27th - Time and Location TBA:

Department Brown Bag Lecture by David Redlawsk, the director of Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling and Professor of Political Science at Rutgers.

October 27th – 6:30-9:00pm, Brower Student Center 202 :

Lovin' the Body You're In: panel discussion about American dieting and body image ideals.

November 30th – 12pm-4pm, Roscoe West Room 102:

Dining Out in Professional Style (Dining Etiquette Workshop) sponsored by the Career Center

Spring 2012 Specialized Courses

PSY 331: Clinical Psychology

Dr. Borders MR 10:00-11:50

Prerequisites: PSY 216, PSY 217, and PSY 299

Introduction to common clinical methods of personality assessment and diagnosis. Emphasis on the most common therapeutic theories and techniques.

PSY 338: Sport and Exercise Psychology

Dr. Hall TF 10:00-11:50; TF 12:00-1:50

Prerequisites: PSY 101

The purpose of this course is to understand the psychological components of sport and exercise in order to become a more effective competitor and/or to become more consistent in one's exercise program. In addition, the course will address the psychosocial aspects (e.g., group cohesion, gender and racial differences, team vs. individual sports) and the health aspects of sport and exercise (e.g., burnout, recuperating from injuries, athletes with asthma or diabetes, etc.). Each student will work with an athlete or an individual who exercises to enhance the mental aspect of their performance.

PSY 342: Clinical Psychopharmacology

Dr. Ruddy TF 8:30-9:50

Prerequisite: PSY 212

Explores how psychological disorders are influenced by neurotransmitters, hormones, and neurotrophic factors, and by interventions that increase or decrease these chemicals. Clinical disorders will include: depression, anxiety disorders, anorexia/bulimia nervosa, attention deficits, dementia, and schizophrenia. Both intended effects and side effects of drugs will be studied, as well as individual differences in effects (due to genes/environments).

PSY 343: Behavior Pharmacology of Drug Use

Dr. Martinetti W 9:00-11:50

Prerequisite: PSY 212

Explores the pharmacological and behavioral events with several drugs of abuse including cocaine, nicotine, alcohol, opiates, hallucinogens, and caffeine, as well as other drugs such as inhalants and Ecstasy.

PSY 350: Psychology of Women

M 5:30-8:20

Prerequisite: PSY 121

Examines the psychology of women in light of biological, social, and cultural influences. A variety of psychological theories and research findings will be explored to study the development and behavior of women in various social contexts.

PSY 364: Industrial Psychology

Dr. Kirnan MR 12:30-1:50

Prerequisite: PSY 101

Introduces students to the content areas of industrial psychology and the application of psychological theory to organizational issues. Topics include employment law, job analysis, recruitment and selection, training, performance appraisal and discipline, employee motivation, and workplace safety. Using an applied approach, this course will help prepare students for their roles as employees and managers.

PSY 365: Consumer Behavior

Dr. Becker TF 10:00-11:50; TF 12:00-1:50

Prerequisite: PSY 101 or SOC 101 or MKT 201

Explores basic psychological principles (e.g., learning, memory, perception, attitudes, and motivation) as well as sociological and anthropological concepts (e.g., demographics, group dynamics, cultural influences) in relation to consumption processes and activities used by marketers and public policy actors to influence consumer behavior. Cross listed with MKT 365.

PSY 370: Developmental Seminar:

Dr. Hughes TF 2:00-3:20

Prerequisite: PSY 121 and PSY 220 (or equivalents)

The Developmental Seminar's focus will vary across semesters with respect to both age (children/adolescents/adults) and topic (e.g., Peer Relationships, Child Therapy, Children and the Media). Students may repeat the seminar as topics change.

PSY 373: Counseling and Clinical Seminar: Mental Health and Poverty

Dr. Chung W 9:00-11:50

Prerequisites: PSY 121, and PSY 216 or PSY 217

For decades, researchers have documented a close association between factors associated with poverty and mental ill-health; depression, for example, is twice as common

among the poor as among the rich. The best evidence suggests that the relation between poverty and mental illness is cyclical: poverty increases the risk of mental disorders and having a mental disorder increases the risk of descending into poverty. This seminar will introduce students to explanations of this complex negative cycle and evidence-based interventions aimed at improving the various social, financial, and psychological problems associated with mental ill-health. Learning activities will be primarily student-driven and involve a community-engaged component (students and professor will work with a Trenton partner to identify and address a community issue).

PSY 373: Counseling and Clinical Seminar: Psychology of the Media

Dr. Hall TF 2:00-3:50

Prerequisites: PSY 121, and PSY 216 or PSY 217

The goal of the Psychology of the Media course is to understand the psychological components of the media given the media's critical role in the dispersion of information in our society. Rodman (2008) states that the media does not tell us what to think but it does tell us how to think. We will spend the semester examining how the print media (newspapers, magazines, books) and electronic media (television, internet, radio, music, movies) present various aspects of human behavior and society. *We will not be covering children in the media since Dr. Graham offers this course. Our focus will be from college age and above. None of the assignments, including your paper, can focus on children or adolescents. If you want to focus on children and adolescents, take Dr. Graham's course.*

PSY 373: Counseling and Clinical Seminar: Cognitive Behavioral Theory

W 9:00-10:00

Prerequisites: PSY 121, and PSY 216 or PSY 217

The seminar will provide students with the opportunity for in-depth study of a specific topic within counseling and clinical psychology. The topic (e.g., Cognitive Behavior Therapy, Introduction to Counseling) will vary across semesters. Students may repeat the seminar as topics change.

PSY 374: I/O Psychology Semi-

nar: Training

Prerequisites: PSY 101 or MGT 201

The Seminar will provide students opportunities for in-depth study of a specific topic within Industrial/Organizational Psychology. The topic (e.g., Performance Management) will vary across semesters. Students may repeat the seminar as topics change.

PSY 383: Counseling & Clinical Field Experience Seminar

Dr. Vivona TF 12:30-1:50

Prerequisites: PSY 216, PSY 217
Field experience in a mental health setting, with classroom supervision of the clinical activities. Students in the counseling-clinical specialization will integrate knowledge from various courses as they apply concepts in a clinical setting. Both an appropriate piece of written work and an oral presentation to the class will be required. Faculty approval of each placement is necessary.

PSY 386 Psychological Testing

Dr. Kirnan MR 10:00-11:20

Prerequisite: PSY 121

An introduction to theoretical, practical, and ethical issues in psychological testing and measurement. Psychometric principles such as reliability, validity, and utility will be examined in the context of selecting the most appropriate assessment instruments to inform decision making. The development and psychometric properties of widely-used intelligence, achievement, personnel, and clinical/personality tests will be discussed. interesting research articles.

PSY 419: History of Psychology

Prerequisites: PSY 299

This course will consider how psychology's goals, methods, and beliefs have evolved throughout its history. As a senior experience, this course will allow students to integrate experiences from various areas of the discipline, to analyze and evaluate psychology's past and to make recommendations for its future.

[http://
psychology.pages.tcnj.edu/
specialized-courses-and-senior-
experiences-in-psychology/](http://psychology.pages.tcnj.edu/specialized-courses-and-senior-experiences-in-psychology/)