PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC)

PSYC 110a, Introduction to Psychology  Samuel McDougle
A survey of major psychological approaches to the biological, cognitive, and social bases of behavior.  SO

* PSYC 125a / CHLD 125a / EDST 125a, Child Development  Ann Close and Carla Horwitz
This course is first in a sequence including Theory and Practice of Early Childhood Education (CHLD127/PSYCH 127/EDST 127) and Language Literacy and Play (CHLD 128/PSYCH 128/EDST 128). This course provides students a theoretical base in child development and behavior and tools to sensitively and carefully observer infants and young children. The seminar will consider aspects of cognitive, social, and emotional development. An assumption of this course is that it is not possible to understand children – their behavior and development – without understanding their families and culture and the relationships between children and parents. The course will give an overview of the major theories in the field, focusing on the complex interaction between the developing self and the environment, exploring current research and theory as well as practice. Students will have the opportunity to see how programs for young children use psychodynamic and interactional theories to inform the development of their philosophy and curriculum. Weekly Observations:-Total Time Commitment 3 hours per week. Students will do two separate weekly observations over the course of the semester. They will observe in a group setting for 2 hours each each week at a Yale affiliated child care center. Students will also arrange to do a weekly 1 hour observation (either in person or virtually) of a child under the age of 6. Students must make their own arrangements for these individual observations. If it is not possible to arrange a child to observe, please do not apply to take this course. For a portion of class meetings, the class will divide into small supervisory discussion groups. Priority given to juniors, seniors, Ed Study students.  WR, SO

PSYC 130a / CGSC 110a, Introduction to Cognitive Science  Brian Scholl
An introduction to the interdisciplinary study of how the mind works. Discussion of tools, theories, and assumptions from psychology, computer science, neuroscience, linguistics, and philosophy.  SO

PSYC 140a / EDST 140a, Developmental Psychology  Frank Keil
An introduction to research and theory on the development of perception, action, emotion, personality, language, and cognition from a cognitive science perspective. Focus on birth to adolescence in humans and other species. Prerequisite: PSYC 110.  SO

PSYC 150a / EDST 160a, Social Psychology  Maria Gendron
Theories, methodology, and applications of social psychology. Core topics include the self, social cognition/social perception, attitudes and persuasion, group processes, conformity, human conflict and aggression, prejudice, prosocial behavior, and emotion.  SO

PSYC 160a / NSCI 160a, The Human Brain  Robb Rutledge
Introduction to the neural bases of human psychological function, including social, cognitive, and affective processing. Preparation for more advanced courses in cognitive and social neuroscience. Topics include memory, reward processing, neuroeconomics,
individual differences, emotion, social inferences, and clinical disorders. Neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and neuropharmacology are also introduced.  

**PSYC 179a, Thinking**  Woo-Kyoung Ahn  
A survey of psychological studies on thinking and reasoning, with discussion of ways to improve thinking skills. Topics include judgments and decision making, causal learning, logical reasoning, problem solving, creativity, intelligence, moral reasoning, and language and thought.  

**PSYC 180a / EDST 180a, Clinical Psychology**  Jutta Joormann  
The major forms of psychopathology that appear in childhood and adult life. Topics include the symptomatology of mental disorders; their etiology from psychological, biological, and sociocultural perspectives; and issues pertaining to diagnosis and treatment.  

**PSYC 182a / CGSC 282a / PHIL 182a, Perspectives on Human Nature**  Joshua Knobe  
Comparison of philosophical and psychological perspectives on human nature. Nietzsche on morality, paired with contemporary work on the psychology of moral judgment; Marx on religion, paired with systematic research on the science of religious belief; Schopenhauer paired with social psychology on happiness.  

**PSYC 200a, Statistics**  Dylan Gee  
Measures of central tendency, variability, association, and the application of probability concepts in determining the significance of research findings.  

**PSYC 235a, Research Methods, Writing Intensive**  Staff  
Introduction to general principles and strategies of psychological research. Topics include generating and testing hypotheses, laboratory and field experiments, scale construction, sampling, archival methods, case studies, ethics and politics of research, and Internet and cross-cultural methods. Hands-on research experience in laboratories. Prerequisite: PSYC 200 or S&DS 103.  

**PSYC 303a / NSCI 355a, Social Neuroscience**  Stephanie Lazzaro  
Exploration of the psychological and neural mechanisms that enable the formation, maintenance, and dissolution of social relationships. Topics include the neuroscience of how we form impressions and decide whether to instigate relationships with others; how we build relationships through trust, cooperation, attachment, conflict, and reconciliation; and group-level processes including intergroup bias, moral judgment, and decision making. Prerequisite: PSYC 110 or permission of instructor.  

**PSYC 312a / ER&M 412a, Native American Mental Health**  Christopher Cutter and Mark Beitel  
Issues of health policy, research, and service delivery in Native American communities, with a focus on historical antecedents that shape health outcomes and social policy for indigenous communities. Urgent problems in health and wellness, with special attention to Native American mental health. The roles of the Indian Health Service, state and local agencies, and tribal health centers; comparison of Native American and European American conceptions of health and illness.  

**PSYC 315a / CGSC 315a, The Modern Unconscious**  John Bargh  
The notion of the unconscious mind traced from the early 1800s through Freud to present-day cognitive science, with a focus on the past thirty years. The power and function of the unconscious as a pervasive part of normal everyday human functioning.
Readings mainly from cognitive and social cognitive psychology but also philosophy of mind and evolutionary biology.  

**PSYC 317a / EDST 237a / LING 217a, Language and Mind**  Maria Pinango
The structure of linguistic knowledge and how it is used during communication. The principles that guide the acquisition of this system by children learning their first language, by children learning language in unusual circumstances (heritage speakers, sign languages) and adults learning a second language, bilingual speakers. The processing of language in real-time. Psychological traits that impact language learning and language use.  

**SO**  

**RP**  

0 Course cr

**PSYC 318a / LING 220a, Phonetics I**  Jason Shaw
Each spoken language composes words using a relatively small number of speech sounds, a subset of the much larger set of possible human speech sounds. This course introduces tools to describe the complete set of speech sounds found in the world’s spoken languages. It covers the articulatory organs involved in speech production and the acoustic structure of the resulting sounds. Students learn how to transcribe sounds using the International Phonetic Alphabet, including different varieties of English and languages around the world. The course also introduces sociophonetics, how variation in sound patterns can convey social meaning within a community, speech perception, and sound change.  

**SO**  

0 Course cr

**PSYC 342a / WGSS 315a, Psychology of Gender**  Tariq Khan
This course explores the historical relationship between the "mind sciences" and dominant gender notions, ideologies, and norms. Students will critically examine the historical role that psychology and related fields have played in reinforcing and perpetuating things such as gender hierarchy, the gender binary, and the cis-hetero-patriarchal nuclear family unit, among other things. Students will be introduced to works that illuminate the larger underlying social, political, and economic systems, institutions, and historical processes that are co-constitutive with these gender hierarchies, ideologies, and norms, with an emphasis on the role of psychology and related fields. Students will also learn about psychologists and related scientists and scholars whose work has challenged those systems and institutions toward a more emancipatory vision for the role of psychology in society, and how their work has shaped the field.  

None  

**SO**

Introduction to the emerging field of moral cognition. Focus on questions about the philosophical significance of psychological findings. Topics include the role of emotion in moral judgment; the significance of character traits in virtue ethics and personality psychology; the reliability of intuitions and the psychological processes that underlie them.  

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**PSYC 426a, Foundations of Logical Thought in Cognitive Development**  Staff
This is a seminar surveying the cognitive, developmental, and evolutionary origins of our capacities to use logical representations and deductive inferences to learn, form predictions, and make decisions. The seminar explores the growing field of research that investigates the foundations of logical thought in language acquisition, in preverbal infants’ cognition, and in the mind of our close and distant relatives in the animal world. There are no formal prerequisites for this course, but this course is designed for
advanced students who have already completed introductory psychology coursework (PSYC 110, Introduction to Psychology)

* **PSYC 436a / EDST 436a, Translating Developmental Science into Educational Practice**  Julia Leonard
Recent insights from developmental psychology and neuroscience on synaptic plasticity, critical periods, metacognition, and enriched environments are ripe for application to improve children’s lives. Yet sometimes the translation of research into practice is a bridge too far. In this course, we discuss cutting-edge research in developmental cognitive and neural sciences and examine how these findings can inform policy and educational practice.

We live in a world replete with “forgeries that become genuine”: pieces of paper that become money, words that become promises, lines in the sand that become borders. Nearly every aspect of our lives is shaped and constrained by these kinds of socially constructed entities, things as real as mountains but far more mysterious. How do such entities come to be, and how do (and how should) we understand them? How are they made and how can they be contested when they go astray? Answering these questions requires ranging across diverse literatures beginning with psychology but including philosophy, anthropology, economics, and game theory. Prerequisite: PSYC 110 or CGSC 110.

* **PSYC 449a / NSCI 449a, Neuroscience of Social Interaction**  Steve Chang
This seminar covers influential studies that inform how the brain enables complex social interactions from the perspectives of neural mechanisms. Students thoroughly read selected original research papers in the field of social neuroscience across several animal species and multiple modern neuroscience methodologies. In class, the instructor and students work together to discuss these studies in depth. Focused topics include neural mechanisms behind brain-to-brain coupling, empathy, prosocial decision-making, oxytocin effects, and social dysfunction. Prerequisite: PSYC 160 or permission from the instructor.

* **PSYC 457a, Communicating Psychological Science**  Laurie Santos
Examination of best practices in the communication of psychology. The course explores strategies for communicating psychological findings to varying audiences (e.g., policy makers, popular media) and in varying formats (op-eds, long-form articles, podcasts, short videos) with the goal of gaining the skill and confidence necessary to give psychological science its broadest possible reach. Students choose specific psychological topics based to cover in their communication projects and explore current challenges within psychology communication (e.g., the ethics of psychology communication, exploring the issue of replication in the field of psychological science). Readings include examples of different forms of psychology communication along with the published empirical papers associated with those readings. Seminar discussions include a workshop component where students provide feedback on other students’ creative writing/communication projects. Graded assignments include both group-based creative projects (short videos and podcast clips) and individual written work, including weekly directed writing exercises. Prerequisites: PSYC 110, PSYC 200 (or equivalent), and at least two other upper-level courses in PSYC.