

PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS
AND OUTCOMES
BY COURSE LISTING

Psychology 1010: General Psychology

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1 Nature of psychology

a. **Define** psychology as the science that studies behavior and mental processes and the profession that applies that science

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

a. **Explain** how psychology meets the criteria of science.

1.3 Structure of psychology

a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines

1.5 Objectives of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** the primary objectives of psychology

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology

1.8 Main themes of psychology

a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology

1.9 Content domains of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains

1.10 Role of ethics

a. **Describe** relevant ethical issues, as addressed by the APA code of ethics

1.11 Career opportunities

a. **Identify** careers associated with psychology at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology

2.2 General research strategies

a. **Describe** various general research strategies, including advantages and disadvantages of use

2.3 Correlation

a. **Define** correlation

2.4 Experimentation

a. **Describe** the role of controlled comparison in justifying a cause- effect claim

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation

2.6 Research elements

a. **Define** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions

2.7 Participant selection and assignment

a. **Describe** rationale for choosing and assigning specific group of participants

2.8 Design quality (internal validity)

a. **Define** validity and **describe** conditions that enhance valid findings

2.9 Generalization(external validity)

a. **Describe** the relationship of research design to generalizability of results

2.10 Reporting research findings

a. **Identify** the basic components of APA style

2.11 Research ethics

a. **Describe** the basic principles of the APA code of ethics for research with human and animal participants, including the role of an IRB

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences

2.13 Database skills

a. **Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology

2.14 Statistical skills

a. **Describe** the differences between descriptive and inferential statistical analysis

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

a. **Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior

3.2 Association skills

a. **State** connections between diverse facts and theories

3.3 Argumentation skills

a. **Identify** arguments based largely on anecdotal evidence and personal experience

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

a. **Identify** common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior

3.5 Questioning skills

a. **Explain** the appropriateness and relevance of questions with direction and guidance

3.6 Creativity

a. **Describe** elements of creativity and its role in solving psychological problems

3.7 Problem solving

a. **Define** the stages of problem solving

3.8 Skepticism

a. **Define** skepticism and its role in psychological thinking

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.1 Healthy lifestyle

a. **Describe** elements of healthy lifestyle

4.2 Abnormal behavior

a. **Summarize** the criteria of abnormality

4.3 Positive psychology

a. **Summarize** the emerging field of positive psychology

4.4 Psychological interventions

a. **Describe** common characteristics of a psychological approach to solving problems

4.5 Potential for change

a. **List** ways that psychological principles can facilitate personal, social, and organizational change

4.6 Applied areas in psychology (i.e. clinical, counseling, and industrial/organizational)

a. **Identify** major applied areas in psychology

4.7 Personal application

a. **Identify** psychological principles that have been influential in your own life

Psychology 1100: Human Development Across the Lifespan

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

a. **Explain** how psychology meets the criteria of science.

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods)

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology

1.8 Main themes of psychology

a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology

1.9 Content domains of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains

1.11 Career opportunities

a. **Identify** careers associated with psychology at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology

2.2 General research strategies

a. **Describe** various general research strategies, including advantages and disadvantages of use

b. **Distinguish** the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not

2.3 Correlation

a. **Define** correlation

2.4 Experimentation

a. **Describe** the role of controlled comparison in justifying a cause- effect claim

b. Describe experimental design strategies to address research questions

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

a. Explain the difference between correlation and causation

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

a. Identify variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

a. State how evidence is contextual and tentative

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

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3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

a. Identify common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior

3.6 Creativity

a. Describe elements of creativity and its role in solving psychological problems

3.7 Problem solving

a. Define the stages of problem solving

3.8 Skepticism

a. Define skepticism and its role in psychological thinking

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.4 Psychological interventions

a. Describe common characteristics of a psychological approach to solving problems

4.5 Potential for change

a. **List** ways that psychological principles can facilitate personal, social, and organizational change

4.7 Personal application

a. **Identify** psychological principles that have been influential in your own life

Psychology 1430: Stress Management

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1 Nature of psychology

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1.3 Structure of psychology

a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines

1.5 Objectives of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** the primary objectives of psychology

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology

1.8 Main themes of psychology

a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative

b. **Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

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a. **Explain** the appropriateness and relevance of questions with direction and guidance

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3.7 Problem solving

a. **Define** the stages of problem solving

b. **Apply** problem solving strategy to develop solutions to problems in diverse contexts

3.8 Skepticism

a. **Define** skepticism and its role in psychological thinking

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.1 Healthy lifestyle

a. **Describe** elements of healthy lifestyle

b. **Analyze** a specific personal lifestyle and examine strengths and weaknesses

4.2 Abnormal behavior

a. **Summarize** the criteria of abnormality

4.3 Positive psychology

a. **Summarize** the emerging field of positive psychology

b. Compare and **contrast** the abnormal and positive approach to promoting psychological well-being

4.4 Psychological interventions

a. Describe common characteristics of a psychological approach to solving problems

b. Predict outcomes from the application of a psychological intervention

4.5 Potential for change

a. List ways that psychological principles can facilitate personal, social, and organizational change

4.6 Applied areas in psychology (i.e. clinical, counseling, and industrial/organizational)

a. Identify major applied areas in psychology

4.7 Personal application

a. Identify psychological principles that have been influential in your own life

b. Analyze your own behavior, emotional experiences, and personal characteristics according to psychological concepts and theories

Psychology 1480: Substance Abuse, Prevention

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

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1.1 Nature of psychology

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a. **Explain** how psychology meets the criteria of science.

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a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines

1.5 Objectives of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** the primary objectives of psychology

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology

1.8 Main themes of psychology

a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative

b. **Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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a. **Explain** the appropriateness and relevance of questions with direction and guidance

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a. **Describe** elements of creativity and its role in solving psychological problems

3.7 Problem solving

a. **Define** the stages of problem solving

b. **Apply** problem solving strategy to develop solutions to problems in diverse contexts

3.8 Skepticism

a. **Define** skepticism and its role in psychological thinking

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.1 Healthy lifestyle

a. **Describe** elements of healthy lifestyle

b. **Analyze** a specific personal lifestyle and examine strengths and weaknesses

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a. **Summarize** the criteria of abnormality

4.3 Positive psychology

a. **Summarize** the emerging field of positive psychology

b. Compare and **contrast** the abnormal and positive approach to promoting psychological well-being

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a. Describe common characteristics of a psychological approach to solving problems

b. Predict outcomes from the application of a psychological intervention

4.5 Potential for change

a. List ways that psychological principles can facilitate personal, social, and organizational change

4.6 Applied areas in psychology (i.e. clinical, counseling, and industrial/organizational)

a. Identify major applied areas in psychology

4.7 Personal application

a. Identify psychological principles that have been influential in your own life

b. Analyze your own behavior, emotional experiences, and personal characteristics according to psychological concepts and theories

Psychology 3000/3005: Statistical Methods in Psychology with Lab

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

- a. **Explain** how psychology meets the criteria of science.
- b. **Analyze** how psychological research reflects scientific principles.

1.10 Role of ethics

- a. **Describe** relevant ethical issues, as addressed by the APA code of ethics
- b. **Apply** relevant ethical principles, as addressed by the APA code of ethics

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

- a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology
- b. **Analyze** how primary behavioral research adheres to scientific principles

2.2 General research strategies

- a. **Describe** various general research strategies, including advantages and disadvantages of use
- b. **Distinguish** the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not

2.3 Correlation

- a. **Define** correlation
- b. **Interpret** meaning of correlational findings

2.4 Experimentation

- a. **Describe** the role of controlled comparison in justifying a cause- effect claim
- b. **Describe** experimental design strategies to address research questions

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

- a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation

2.11 Research ethics

- a. **Describe** the basic principles of the APA code of ethics for research with human and animal participants, including the role of an IRB

2.14 Statistical skills

- a. Describe** the differences between descriptive and inferential statistical analysis
- b. Define** statistical significance and its role in interpreting research findings
- c. Analyze** and **interpret** simple statistics from research results and in journal articles
- d. Distinguish** between statistical and practical significance
- e. Evaluate** statistical power in results by addressing effect size and confidence intervals
- f. Speculate** about the implications of using the conventions of statistical significance in interpreting results

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- a. State** how evidence is contextual and tentative
- b. Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- a. Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior
- b. Collect** and **use** scientific evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice
- c. Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

- a. Identify** common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior

3.5 Questioning skills

- a. Explain** the appropriateness and relevance of questions with direction and guidance

3.7 Problem solving

- a. Define** the stages of problem solving
- b. Apply** problem solving strategy to develop solutions to problems in diverse contexts
- c. Appraise** the quality of solutions

Psychology 3010/3015: Research Methods in Psychology with Lab

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1 Nature of psychology

- a. Define** psychology as the science that studies behavior and mental processes and the profession that applies that science
- b. Distinguish** the similarities and differences between the professional and scientific communities in psychology

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

- a. Explain** how psychology meets the criteria of science.
- b. Analyze** how psychological research reflects scientific principles.
- c. Evaluate** psychological science as a means of understanding behavior and mental processes.

1.3 Structure of psychology

- a. List and explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology
- b. Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns

1.5 Objectives of psychology

- b. Compare and contrast** the primary objectives of psychology

1.10 Role of ethics

- a. Describe** relevant ethical issues, as addressed by the APA code of ethics
- b. Apply** relevant ethical principles, as addressed by the APA code of ethics
- c. Evaluate** policies and procedures related to psychology research and practice using APA ethical principles

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

- a. Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology
- b. Analyze** how primary behavioral research adheres to scientific principles
- c. Design** research that adheres to the principles of scientific method

2.2 General research strategies

- a. Describe** various general research strategies, including advantages and disadvantages of use

- b. **Distinguish** the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not
- c. **Select** and **apply** general research strategies to address appropriate kinds of research questions
- d. **Categorize** research articles that employ methods permitting causal and non-causal inferences
- e. **Evaluate** effectiveness of a general research strategy in addressing a research question

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

- a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation
- b. **Match** research questions to appropriate method
- c. **Evaluate** whether a specific research method warrants a cause-effect conclusion

2.6 Research elements

- a. **Define** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions
- b. **Deduce** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions from research articles and scenarios
- c. **Formulate** testable research hypotheses, based on operational definitions of variables

2.7 Participant selection and assignment

- a. **Describe** rationale for choosing and assigning specific group of participants
- b. **Analyze** potential influence of participant variables
- c. **Design** appropriate controlled conditions to minimize their effects, including random assignment

2.8 Design quality (internal validity)

- a. **Define** validity and **describe** conditions that enhance valid findings
- b. **Analyze** conditions that will enhance or detract from validity of conclusions
- c. **Evaluate** the validity of conclusions derived from psychology research

2.9 Generalization(external validity)

- a. **Describe** the relationship of research design to generalizability of results
- b. **Analyze** the generalizability of research findings based on strengths or weaknesses of research design
- c. **Generalize** research conclusions appropriately based on the parameters of particular research methods

2.10 Reporting research findings

- a. **Identify** the basic components of APA style
- b. **Explain** (in writing) the methods, results and conclusions of a data collection project
- c. **Write** all sections of a research report and a review type paper applying APA style

2.11 Research ethics

- a. **Describe** the basic principles of the APA code of ethics for research with human and animal participants, including the role of an IRB
- b. **Adhere** to the APA code of ethics in the treatment of human and nonhuman participants in the design, data collection, interpretation, and reporting of psychological research
- c. **Evaluate** the contributions and constraints entailed in adherence to APA code of ethics and make appropriate adjustments in design
- d. **Complete** an IRB application

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

- a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences
- b. **Apply** sociocultural framework to research strategies and conclusions

2.13 Database skills

- a. **Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology
- b. **Develop** and **adjust** search strategies to represent adequate range of research
- c. **Create** efficient and effective search strategies to address research questions

2.14 Statistical skills

- a. **Describe** the differences between descriptive and inferential statistical analysis
- b. **Define** statistical significance and its role in interpreting research findings
- c. **Analyze** and **interpret** simple statistics from research results and in journal articles

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative
- b. **Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment
- c. **Justify** the evolving nature of scientific findings

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- b. **Collect** and **use** scientific evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice
- c. **Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.2 Association skills

- a. **State** connections between diverse facts and theories
- b. **Relate** connections between diverse facts and theories
- c. **Apply** diverse facts and theories over a wide range of contexts
- d. **Assess** the quality of connections made between diverse facts and theories

3.3 Argumentation skills

- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.5 Questioning skills

- a. **Explain** the appropriateness and relevance of questions with direction and guidance
- b. **Differentiate** independently between ill-defined and well-defined questions
- c. **Evaluate** and **modify** questions to eliminate ambiguity throughout the process of scientific inquiry

3.6 Creativity

- a. **Describe** elements of creativity and its role in solving psychological problems

Psychology 3120: Cognitive Psychology

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.3 Structure of psychology

- b. Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns
- c. Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

- b. Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and choice of problems of psychology with those of other disciplines
- c. Integrate** knowledge derived from psychological science with that of other disciplines

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

- b. Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and other elements of major contemporary perspectives in psychology
- c. Evaluate** the utility and effectiveness of contemporary psychological perspectives
- d. Describe** how each perspective applies its findings to promote human welfare

1.8 Main themes of psychology

- a. Identify** the overarching themes of psychology
- b. Apply** the overarching themes of psychology in explaining specific behaviors
- c. Debate** the merits of each side of the overarching themes of psychology

1.9 Content domains of psychology

- a. Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains
- b. Apply** and **analyze** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains
- c. Evaluate** and **synthesize** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.8 Design quality (internal validity)

- b. Analyze** conditions that will enhance or detract from validity of conclusions
- c. Evaluate** the validity of conclusions derived from psychology research

2.13 Database skills

- a. Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- b. Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment
- c. Justify** the evolving nature of scientific findings

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- a. Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior
- c. Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions

3.2 Association skills

- a. State** connections between diverse facts and theories
- b. Relate** connections between diverse facts and theories

3.3 Argumentation skills

- a. Identify** arguments based largely on anecdotal evidence and personal experience
- b. Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories
- c. Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

- c. Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.8 Skepticism

- c. Maintain** rigorous standards related to quality of scientific evidence in support of a behavioral claim

Psychology 3400: Psychology of Abnormal Behavior

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.3 Structure of psychology

- a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology
- b. **Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns
- c. **Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

- a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and choice of problems of psychology with those of other disciplines
- c. **Integrate** knowledge derived from psychological science with that of other disciplines

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

- a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and other elements of major contemporary perspectives in psychology
- c. **Evaluate** the utility and effectiveness of contemporary psychological perspectives

1.8 Main themes of psychology

- a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology
- b. **Apply** the overarching themes of psychology in explaining specific behaviors
- c. **Debate** the merits of each side of the overarching themes of psychology
- d. **Evaluate** the appropriateness of scientific explanations of behavior and mental processes from the standpoint of its overarching themes

1.9 Content domains of psychology

- a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains
- b. **Apply** and **analyze** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains
- c. **Evaluate** and **synthesize** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

1.10 Role of ethics

- a. **Describe** relevant ethical issues, as addressed by the APA code of ethics
- b. **Apply** relevant ethical principles, as addressed by the APA code of ethics
- c. **Evaluate** policies and procedures related to psychology research and practice using APA ethical principles

1.11 Career opportunities

- a. **Identify** careers associated with psychology at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the credentials, skills, and experiences required for a career in psychology

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

- a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology
- b. **Analyze** how primary behavioral research adheres to scientific principles

2.2 General research strategies

- e. **Evaluate** effectiveness of a general research strategy in addressing a research question

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

- a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation
- b. **Match** research questions to appropriate method
- c. **Evaluate** whether a specific research method warrants a cause-effect conclusion

2.6 Research elements

- a. **Define** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions
- b. **Deduce** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions from research articles and scenarios

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

- a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences
- b. **Apply** sociocultural framework to research strategies and conclusions

2.13 Database skills

- a. **Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology
- b. **Develop** and **adjust** search strategies to represent adequate range of research

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative
- b. **Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment
- c. **Justify** the evolving nature of scientific findings

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- a. **Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior

3.2 Association skills

- a. **State** connections between diverse facts and theories
- b. **Relate** connections between diverse facts and theories

- c. **Apply** diverse facts and theories over a wide range of contexts
- d. **Assess** the quality of connections made between diverse facts and theories

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

- a. **Identify** common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior
- b. **Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories
- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.6 Creativity

- b. **Apply** alternative strategies to known protocols
- c. **Generate** novel insights about the psychology of humans and nonhumans

3.8 Skepticism

- c. **Maintain** rigorous standards related to quality of scientific evidence in support of a behavioral claim

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.2 Abnormal behavior

- a. **Summarize** the criteria of abnormality
- b. **Apply** criteria of abnormality to a given set of symptoms or characteristics
- c. **Evaluate** the significance of symptoms in the sociocultural context

4.4 Psychological interventions

- a. **Describe** common characteristics of a psychological approach to solving problems
- b. **Predict** outcomes from the application of a psychological intervention
- c. **Evaluate** the quality of a psychological intervention taking into account the sociocultural context

4.5 Potential for change

- a. **List** ways that psychological principles can facilitate personal, social, and organizational change
- b. **Apply** a psychological principle to facilitate positive change in a personal, social, or organizational behavior
- c. **Evaluate** the power of psychological strategies to promote change

4.6 Applied areas in psychology (i.e. clinical, counseling, and industrial/organizational)

- a. **Identify** major applied areas in psychology
- b. **Link** applied areas to an appropriate psychological career
- c. **Determine** whether an applied specialty can produce a solution for a given psychological problem

4.7 Personal application

- a. **Identify** psychological principles that have been influential in your own life
- b. **Analyze** your own behavior, emotional experiences, and personal characteristics according to psychological concepts and theories
- c. **Evaluate** how what you know about psychology may be used to improve your own life

Psychology 3410: Social Psychology

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1 Nature of psychology

c. **Evaluate** the influence of context in evolving definitions of psychology

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

b. **Analyze** how psychological research reflects scientific principles.

c. **Evaluate** psychological science as a means of understanding behavior and mental processes.

1.3 Structure of psychology

a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology

b. **Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns

c. **Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines

1.5 Objectives of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** the primary objectives of psychology

b. **Compare** and **contrast** the primary objectives of psychology

c. **Evaluate** the strengths and limitations of the primary objectives of psychology

1.8 Main themes of psychology

a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology

b. **Apply** the overarching themes of psychology in explaining specific behaviors

c. **Debate** the merits of each side of the overarching themes of psychology

d. **Evaluate** the appropriateness of scientific explanations of behavior and mental processes from the standpoint of its overarching themes

1.9 Content domains of psychology

a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains

b. **Apply** and **analyze** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

c. **Evaluate** and **synthesize** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

1.10 Role of ethics

a. **Describe** relevant ethical issues, as addressed by the APA code of ethics

b. **Apply** relevant ethical principles, as addressed by the APA code of ethics

c. **Evaluate** policies and procedures related to psychology research and practice using APA ethical principles

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

- a. Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology
- b. Analyze** how primary behavioral research adheres to scientific principles
- c. Design** research that adheres to the principles of scientific method

2.3 Correlation

- a. Define** correlation
- b. Interpret** meaning of correlational findings
- c. Speculate** about and evaluate the significance of correlational findings

2.4 Experimentation

- a. Describe** the role of controlled comparison in justifying a cause- effect claim
- b. Describe** experimental design strategies to address research questions
- c. Compare** and **contrast** different experimental research methods used by psychologists

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

- c. Evaluate** whether a specific research method warrants a cause-effect conclusion

2.6 Research elements

- a. Define** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions
- b. Deduce** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions from research articles and scenarios

2.10 Reporting research findings

- a. Identify** the basic components of APA style
- b. Explain** (in writing) the methods, results and conclusions of a data collection project

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

- a. Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences
- b. Apply** sociocultural framework to research strategies and conclusions

2.13 Database skills

- a. Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology

2.14 Statistical skills

- c. Analyze** and **interpret** simple statistics from research results and in journal articles
- d. Distinguish** between statistical and practical significance

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- b. Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment
- c. Justify** the evolving nature of scientific findings

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

c. Evaluate the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.2 Association skills

b. Relate connections between diverse facts and theories

c. Apply diverse facts and theories over a wide range of contexts

d. Assess the quality of connections made between diverse facts and theories

3.3 Argumentation skills

b. Deduce contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories

c. Develop sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

a. Identify common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior

b. Deduce contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories

3.5 Questioning skills

a. Explain the appropriateness and relevance of questions with direction and guidance

b. Differentiate independently between ill-defined and well-defined questions

c. Evaluate and **modify** questions to eliminate ambiguity throughout the process of scientific inquiry

3.7 Problem solving

a. Define the stages of problem solving

b. Apply problem solving strategy to develop solutions to problems in diverse contexts

c. Appraise the quality of solutions

d. Select optimal strategy from multiple alternatives

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.7 Personal application

a. Identify psychological principles that have been influential in your own life

b. Analyze your own behavior, emotional experiences, and personal characteristics according to psychological concepts and theories

c. Evaluate how what you know about psychology may be used to improve your own life

Psychology 3700: Personality Theory

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.3 Structure of psychology

- a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology
- b. **Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns
- c. **Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

- a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

- a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods)
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** historical perspectives
- c. **Assess** the relative importance of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology
- d. **Defend** a historical perspective

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

- a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and other elements of major contemporary perspectives in psychology
- c. **Evaluate** the utility and effectiveness of contemporary psychological perspectives
- d. **Describe** how each perspective applies its findings to promote human welfare

1.8 Main themes of psychology

- a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology
- b. **Apply** the overarching themes of psychology in explaining specific behaviors
- c. **Debate** the merits of each side of the overarching themes of psychology

1.9 Content domains of psychology

- a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains
- b. **Apply** and **analyze** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains
- c. **Evaluate** and **synthesize** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology

2.2 General research strategies

a. **Describe** various general research strategies, including advantages and disadvantages of use

b. **Distinguish** the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not

2.3 Correlation

a. **Define** correlation

b. **Interpret** meaning of correlational findings

c. **Speculate** about and evaluate the significance of correlational findings

2.4 Experimentation

a. **Describe** the role of controlled comparison in justifying a cause- effect claim

b. **Describe** experimental design strategies to address research questions

c. **Compare** and **contrast** different experimental research methods used by psychologists

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation

b. **Match** research questions to appropriate method

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences

b. **Apply** sociocultural framework to research strategies and conclusions

2.14 Statistical skills

a. **Describe** the differences between descriptive and inferential statistical analysis

b. **Define** statistical significance and its role in interpreting research findings

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

a. **Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior

b. **Collect** and **use** scientific evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice

c. **Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.2 Association skills

a. **State** connections between diverse facts and theories

b. **Relate** connections between diverse facts and theories

3.3 Argumentation skills

- a. **Identify** arguments based largely on anecdotal evidence and personal experience
- b. **Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories

3.6 Creativity

- a. **Describe** elements of creativity and its role in solving psychological problems
- b. **Apply** alternative strategies to known protocols

3.8 Skepticism

- a. **Define** skepticism and its role in psychological thinking
- b. **Distinguish** between scientific and pseudo-scientific explanations of human behavior and **compare** their relative value

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.2 Abnormal behavior

- a. **Summarize** the criteria of abnormality
- b. **Apply** criteria of abnormality to a given set of symptoms or characteristics

4.7 Personal application

- a. **Identify** psychological principles that have been influential in your own life
- b. **Analyze** your own behavior, emotional experiences, and personal characteristics according to psychological concepts and theories
- c. **Evaluate** how what you know about psychology may be used to improve your own life

PSY 3215: Development in Infancy and Childhood

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1 Nature of psychology

- a. **Define** psychology as the science that studies behavior and mental processes and the profession that applies that science
- b. **Distinguish** the similarities and differences between the professional and scientific communities in psychology

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

- a. **Explain** how psychology meets the criteria of science.
- b. **Analyze** how psychological research reflects scientific principles.

1.3 Structure of psychology

- a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology
- b. **Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns
- c. **Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

- a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines

1.5 Objectives of psychology

- a. **Identify** and **explain** the primary objectives of psychology
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the primary objectives of psychology

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

- a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods)
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** historical perspectives
- c. **Assess** the relative importance of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology
- d. **Defend** a historical perspective

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

- a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and other elements of major contemporary perspectives in psychology

1.8 Main themes of psychology

- a. **Identify** the overarching themes of psychology
- b. **Apply** the overarching themes of psychology in explaining specific behaviors

1.9 Content domains of psychology

- a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains
- b. **Apply** and **analyze** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains
- c. **Evaluate** and **synthesize** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

1.10 Role of ethics

- a. **Describe** relevant ethical issues, as addressed by the APA code of ethics

1.11 Career opportunities

- a. **Identify** careers associated with psychology at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the credentials, skills, and experiences required for a career in psychology

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

- a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology
- b. **Analyze** how primary behavioral research adheres to scientific principles

2.2 General research strategies

- a. **Describe** various general research strategies, including advantages and disadvantages of use
- b. **Distinguish** the nature of designs that permit causal inferences from those that do not

2.3 Correlation

- a. **Define** correlation
- b. **Interpret** meaning of correlational findings
- c. **Speculate** about and evaluate the significance of correlational findings

2.4 Experimentation

- a. **Describe** the role of controlled comparison in justifying a cause- effect claim
- b. **Describe** experimental design strategies to address research questions
- c. **Compare** and **contrast** different experimental research methods used by psychologists

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

- a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation
- b. **Match** research questions to appropriate method
- c. **Evaluate** whether a specific research method warrants a cause-effect conclusion

2.6 Research elements

- a. **Define** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions
- b. **Deduce** hypotheses, variables, and operational definitions from research articles and scenarios

2.7 Participant selection and assignment

- a. **Describe** rationale for choosing and assigning specific group of participants

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

- a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences

2.13 Database skills

- a. **Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology

2.14 Statistical skills

- a. **Describe** the differences between descriptive and inferential statistical analysis
- b. **Define** statistical significance and its role in interpreting research findings
- c. **Analyze** and **interpret** simple statistics from research results and in journal articles

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative
- b. **Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- a. **Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior
- b. **Collect** and **use** scientific evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice
- c. **Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.2 Association skills

- a. **State** connections between diverse facts and theories
- b. **Relate** connections between diverse facts and theories
- c. **Apply** diverse facts and theories over a wide range of contexts

3.3 Argumentation skills

- a. **Identify** arguments based largely on anecdotal evidence and personal experience
- b. **Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories
- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

- a. **Identify** common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior
- b. **Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories
- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.8 Skepticism

- a. **Define** skepticism and its role in psychological thinking

b. Distinguish between scientific and pseudo-scientific explanations of human behavior and **compare** their relative value

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.2 Abnormal behavior

a. Summarize the criteria of abnormality

4.4 Psychological interventions

a. Describe common characteristics of a psychological approach to solving problems

4.6 Applied areas in psychology (i.e. clinical, counseling, and industrial/organizational)

a. Identify major applied areas in psychology

b. Link applied areas to an appropriate psychological career

4.7 Personal application

a. Identify psychological principles that have been influential in your own life

b. Analyze your own behavior, emotional experiences, and personal characteristics according to psychological concepts and theories.

PSY 4140: Cognitive Neuroscience

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1 Nature of psychology

- a. **Define** psychology as the science that studies behavior and mental processes and the profession that applies that science
- b. **Distinguish** the similarities and differences between the professional and scientific communities in psychology
- c. **Evaluate** the influence of context in evolving definitions of psychology

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

- b. **Analyze** how psychological research reflects scientific principles.
- c. **Evaluate** psychological science as a means of understanding behavior and mental processes.

1.3 Structure of psychology

- a. **List** and **explain** the major research and applied subfields of psychology
- b. **Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns
- c. **Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

- a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and choice of problems of psychology with those of other disciplines
- c. **Integrate** knowledge derived from psychological science with that of other disciplines

1.5 Objectives of psychology

- c. **Evaluate** the strengths and limitations of the primary objectives of psychology

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

- a. **Describe** the key eras of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology (including their founders, assumptions, explanatory concepts and methods)
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** historical perspectives
- c. **Assess** the relative importance of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

- a. **Identify** and **describe** the major contemporary perspectives of psychology
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and other elements of major contemporary perspectives in psychology
- c. **Evaluate** the utility and effectiveness of contemporary psychological perspectives

1.9 Content domains of psychology

- a. **Identify** and **explain** basic concepts, theory, and research represented in the general content domains
- b. **Apply** and **analyze** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains
- c. **Evaluate** and **synthesize** concepts, theory, and research in the general content domains

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.1 Scientific method

- a. **Describe** the basic characteristics of the scientific method in psychology
- b. **Analyze** how primary behavioral research adheres to scientific principles

2.2 General research strategies

- c. **Select** and **apply** general research strategies to address appropriate kinds of research questions
- d. **Categorize** research articles that employ methods permitting causal and non-causal inferences
- e. **Evaluate** effectiveness of a general research strategy in addressing a research question

2.5 Correlation vs. Experimentation

- a. **Explain** the difference between correlation and causation
- b. **Match** research questions to appropriate method
- c. **Evaluate** whether a specific research method warrants a cause-effect conclusion

2.8 Design quality (internal validity)

- a. **Define** validity and **describe** conditions that enhance valid findings

2.9 Generalization(external validity)

- a. **Describe** the relationship of research design to generalizability of results
- b. **Analyze** the generalizability of research findings based on strengths or weaknesses of research design

2.10 Reporting research findings

- a. **Identify** the basic components of APA style
- b. **Explain** (in writing) the methods, results and conclusions of a data collection project

2.11 Research ethics

- a. **Describe** the basic principles of the APA code of ethics for research with human and animal participants, including the role of an IRB
- b. **Adhere** to the APA code of ethics in the treatment of human and nonhuman participants in the design, data collection, interpretation, and reporting of psychological research

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- a. **Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior
- b. **Collect** and **use** scientific evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice
- c. **Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

- a. **Identify** common fallacies and poorly supported assertions regarding behavior
- b. **Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories
- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.6 Creativity

- a. **Describe** elements of creativity and its role in solving psychological problems
- b. **Apply** alternative strategies to known protocols
- c. **Generate** novel insights about the psychology of humans and nonhumans

PSY 4200: Psychology of Morality

Learning Goals and Outcomes

LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.2 Relationship of psychology to Science

- b. **Analyze** how psychological research reflects scientific principles.
- c. **Evaluate** psychological science as a means of understanding behavior and mental processes.

1.3 Structure of psychology

- b. **Differentiate** subfields in relation to specific research topics and/or behavioral concerns
- c. **Speculate** about psychology's continuing evolution and refinement of subfields

1.4 Relationship of psychology to other disciplines

- a. **Identify** the connections between psychology and other disciplines
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the assumptions, methods, and choice of problems of psychology with those of other disciplines
- c. **Integrate** knowledge derived from psychological science with that of other disciplines

1.6 Historic perspectives in psychology

- c. **Assess** the relative importance of the major schools of thought in the history of psychology
- d. **Defend** a historical perspective

1.7 Contemporary perspectives in psychology

- c. **Evaluate** the utility and effectiveness of contemporary psychological perspectives
- d. **Describe** how each perspective applies its findings to promote human welfare

1.8 Main themes of psychology

- c. **Debate** the merits of each side of the overarching themes of psychology
- d. **Evaluate** the appropriateness of scientific explanations of behavior and mental processes from the standpoint of its overarching themes

LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

2.12 Sociocultural context and diversity

- a. **Identify** variations in behavior related to sociocultural differences
- b. **Apply** sociocultural framework to research strategies and conclusions
- c. **Incorporate** sociocultural factors in development of research questions, design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation

2.13 Database skills

- a. **Identify** and **locate** relevant journals and databases in psychology

2.15 Limits of scientific reasoning and evidence

- a. **State** how evidence is contextual and tentative
- b. **Discuss** the reasons why empirical findings and conclusions may change or require adjustment
- c. **Justify** the evolving nature of scientific findings

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

3.1 Use of evidence in psychology

- a. **Discern** difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior
- b. **Collect** and **use** scientific evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice
- c. **Evaluate** the quality, objectivity, and credibility of evidence of research findings in drawing conclusions and in practice

3.2 Association skills

- a. **State** connections between diverse facts and theories
- b. **Relate** connections between diverse facts and theories
- c. **Apply** diverse facts and theories over a wide range of contexts
- d. **Assess** the quality of connections made between diverse facts and theories

3.3 Argumentation skills

- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.4 Detection of errors in psychological reasoning

- b. **Deduce** contradictory and oversimplified arguments based on a growing knowledge of the available facts and theories
- c. **Develop** sound, integrated arguments based on scientific reasoning and empirical evidence

3.6 Creativity

- c. **Generate** novel insights about the psychology of humans and nonhumans

3.8 Skepticism

- b. **Distinguish** between scientific and pseudo-scientific explanations of human behavior and **compare** their relative value
- c. **Maintain** rigorous standards related to quality of scientific evidence in support of a behavioral claim

LEARNING GOAL 4: APPLICATION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.3 Positive psychology

- a. **Summarize** the emerging field of positive psychology.
- b. **Compare** and **contrast** the abnormal and positive approach to promoting psychological well-being.
- c. **Evaluate** the potential of the positive psychology movement as an applied area in psychology.