

The Psychology Major Goals

July 2005

The purpose of a psychology major is to enable a learner to interpret psychological theory utilizing scientific methodology in order to apply that knowledge to describe, analyze, predict, and shape human behavior. A learner who has successfully completed a psychology major at Upper Iowa University will be expected to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of psychological terms and theories. This characteristic is established through the successful completion of a combination of the following courses.

PSY 190 General Psychology
PSY 432 Personality
Psychology electives

2. Demonstrate an understanding of the physical and behavioral stages of human development. This characteristic is established through the successful completion of a combination of the following courses.

EDU/PSY 142 Human Growth, Development and Guidance
PSY XXX Lifespan Developmental Psychology course to be developed
PSY 212 Developmental Psychology: Birth to Adolescence
PSY 222 Developmental Psychology: Young Adulthood to Late Adulthood
PSY 397 Social Gerontology

3. Demonstrate an understanding of the use of statistical interpretation in psychology research. This characteristic is established through the successful completion of a combination of the following courses.

PSY 190 General Psychology
MATH 220 Elementary Statistics
PSY 373 Research Methods
Psychology electives

4. Demonstrate an understanding of the skills and strategies used in the helping professions. This characteristic is established through the successful completion of a combination of the following courses.

PSY 190 General Psychology
PSY 355 Skills and Strategies for the Helping Professions
Psychology electives

5. Demonstrate an awareness of moral, ethical and legal issues associated with the helping professions and the ability to incorporate ethical practices in dealing with others in professional situations. This characteristic is established through the successful completion of a combination of the following courses.

PSY 454 Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions
Psychology electives

6. Demonstrate an understanding of the interpretation of psychological research and the application of that information to analyze options, draw conclusions and make sound recommendations in matters related to the field of psychology. This characteristic is established through the successful completion of a combination of the following courses.

PSY 373 Research Methods
Psychology electives