

## Faculty

**Allan Fenigstein**  
Chair, Professor

Dana B. Krieg  
Assistant Professor

Michael P. Levine  
Samuel B. Cummings Jr. Professor  
(on leave)

Hewlet G. McFarlane  
Associate Professor

Paula M. Millin  
Assistant Professor

Sarah K. Murnen  
Professor

Andrew J. Niemiec  
Associate Professor

Tabitha W. Payne  
Assistant Professor

Charles E. Rice  
Professor Emeritus

Rowland H. Shepard  
Professor Emeritus

Linda M. Smolak  
Samuel B. Cummings Jr. Professor

Jon L. Williams  
Professor Emeritus

At Kenyon, psychology is taught as the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. The psychology curriculum provides an opportunity for majors and nonmajors to examine diverse theoretical views and findings in such areas as physiological psychology, cognition, human development, perception, personality, social psychology, and abnormal psychology. At all levels of study, the department gives students the opportunity to pursue research and to become involved in the work of local educational and

mental-health agencies that are affiliated with the Off-Campus Activities in Psychology Program (OAPP).

## New Students

Look for the ♦ symbol, which designates those courses particularly appropriate for first-year students or second-year students new to the psychology curriculum.

PSYC 101 and PSYC 102, the introductory courses, are prerequisites for all other psychology courses, although some courses have only PSYC 101 as a prerequisite. The first semester (PSYC 101) covers the basic processes underlying behavior, such as physiological, cognitive, and motivational factors. NEUR 112 (Introduction to Neuroscience) can be used as a substitute for PSYC 101 and as a prerequisite for the basic-processes courses in psychology. The second semester (PSYC 102) emphasizes behavior in various contexts, covering personality and the social, abnormal, and developmental aspects of behavior.

## Requirements for the Major

Students majoring in psychology must earn at least 5 units of credit in the psychology department. PSYC 101, PSYC 102, and PSYC 200 are required of majors, and majors are strongly advised to complete PSYC 200 by the end of their sophomore year. A grade of C- or better in PSYC 200 is required in order to declare a major in psychology.

Majors are required to have a balanced curriculum within the discipline that reflects coursework concerning the basic processes of behavior as well as behavior in context. To satisfy the basic process requirement, 1 unit of work must be completed by earning at least .5 unit of credit in any two of the following categories: (1) learning and motivation; (2) sensation and perception;

(3) comparative; (4) physiological or neuropsychology; and (5) psychology of language or cognition. The behavior-in-context requirement can be fulfilled by taking at least .5 unit of credit in any two of the following categories: (1) child development or adult development; (2) abnormal; (3) personality; (4) social; and (5) the psychology of women or cross-cultural psychology.

Further, students are expected to take one .5-unit course in research methods in the basic process area (i.e., research methods in biopsychology, research methods in physiological psychology, research methods in cognitive psychology, research methods in learning and motivation, or research methods in sensation and perception) as well as one .5-unit course involving research methods employing a contextual approach to behavior (i.e., research methods in developmental psychology, research methods in social psychology, research methods in personality, research methods for studying gender, or research methods in cross-cultural psychology).

## Senior Exercise

The Senior Exercise for psychology majors consists of two portions. The first portion involves a standardized multiple-choice exam that evaluates the student's breadth of knowledge in psychology. The second portion requires that the student write a research proposal in some area of psychology.

## Honors

Students who do excellent work are encouraged to apply to the department chair during the second semester of their junior year if they are interested in admission to the Honors Program. Participants complete a large-scale research project or literature review on an approved topic of their choice during their senior year. Each project is supervised by a single faculty member, but is also

reviewed periodically by all members of the department prior to an oral examination by an outside examiner in the spring.

## Year Courses

### Senior Honors

PSYC 497Y-498Y (1 unit)  
Staff

This is a program for senior candidates for honors in psychology, culminating in a senior honors thesis. The course will consist of a research project in some area of psychology. Students who wish to conduct an honors project must meet each of the following three criteria: (1) the student must have a GPA of 3.5 in psychology and an overall GPA of 3.3; (2) the student must have participated in a psychology-department-approved research experience (which might be research in a research methods course, independent study, or summer lab work); and (3) the student must have completed a minimum of 4 units in psychology and have taken the appropriate core courses for the proposal before the senior year. It is also recommended that the student have had exposure to calculus and other courses within the Natural Sciences Division.

## First-Semester Courses

### Introduction to Psychology: Basic Processes

PSYC 101 (.5 unit)  
Millin-Lipnos, Niemic, Payne

Psychology is the study of behavior and mental processes. In this introductory course, which is a prerequisite for all of the other psychology courses, you will explore a variety of areas in which psychologists conduct research, and you will learn about the process of conducting research. For example, you will study the biological foundations of behavior, sensory and perceptual processes, and learning and memory. The course is for first-year students and sophomores.

### Honors Introductory Psychology: Basic Processes

PSYC 111 (.5 unit)  
McFarlane

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to explore topics in the history of psychological science, biopsychology, sensation, perception, memory, thought, and language in more depth than the traditional introductory course. In addition to an advanced textbook, students will have supplementary readings and will participate in computerized laboratory exercises related to the topics covered each week, so as to develop communication and research skills. This course is designed for students who are serious about becoming majors in psychology and have already had some experience prior to college entry. It is more challenging than the traditional introductory psychology course, it is more interactive, and it goes into greater depth. One goal is for students to become proficient in computer skills early in their major. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, some experience in the study of psychology prior to college, an AP score of 3 or 4, and a strong intention of majoring in psychology. This course is not appropriate for all first-year students.

### Statistical Analysis in Psychology

PSYC 200 (.5 unit)  
Krieg

In this course, students will learn to conduct a variety of statistical tests that are commonly used in psychological research. In addition, the skills of choosing the appropriate statistical tests for particular research designs, and writing and interpreting the results of statistical analyses, will be emphasized. The computer statistical package SPSS will be used. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 and PSYC 102. Enrollment limited. Psychology and neuroscience majors have preference.

### Comparative Psychology

PSYC 302 (.5 unit)  
Niemic

Comparative psychology is the study of behavior and mental processes of

organisms, including humans. Until Darwin published his theory of evolution, it was commonly accepted that a huge gulf exists between human and nonhuman animals. In this course we will examine human and animal behavior and mental activity from an evolutionary perspective, that is, from a perspective in which humans are part of the continuum of life forms that inhabit the planet. We will consider the notion that, in contrast to the usual anthropocentric view of behavior and mental processes, many of the same evolutionary and ecological principles explain both human and animal behavior. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 or NEUR 112. Enrollment limited.

### Child Development

PSYC 323 (.5 unit)  
Smolak

This course focuses on normal human development from conception through adolescence. Biological and social influences on development are considered with an emphasis on their interaction. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and 102. Enrollment limited.

### Social Psychology

PSYC 325 (.5 unit)  
Fenigstein

Social psychology is the systematic study of social behavior. In general, it examines how we are affected by our social environment: how we perceive and interpret the behavior of others and the social situation, how we respond to others and they to us, and the nature of social relationships. Application of social psychological theory and methodology is encouraged through participation in small-scale laboratory or field observational studies. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and PSYC 102. Enrollment limited.

### Cross-Cultural Psychology

PSYC 327 (.5 unit)  
Staff

People cannot speak without having an accent from somewhere. In much the same way, people's psychological functioning is not accent-free. This course highlights the extent to which all levels of psychological functioning, even basic ones, are grounded in

culture-specific assumptions about what matters, what is “good”, and how the world works. Students are expected to emerge from this class with a sharpened ability to critique generalizations made about human psychology, a greater appreciation of interpersonal diversity, and a richer understanding of how their own ways of thinking and being derive from culture-bound experiences. Course requirements include exams, response papers, a research project, and class participation. Prerequisite: PSYC 102. Enrollment limited to twenty-five.

### **Human Sexual Behavior**

PSYC 344 (.5 unit)  
Fenigstein

This course examines the biological, psychological, and social bases of human sexuality. Topics include the physiology of sex functions, variations of sexual behavior, nature and treatment of sexual malfunctions, sexual identity and attitudes, gender differences in sexual behavior, and the social dynamics of sexual interaction. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and 102. Enrollment limited.

### **Psychopharmacology**

PSYC 347 (.5 unit)  
McFarlane

The emphasis of this course is on the biological mechanisms of the actions and effects of both legal and illegal psychoactive drugs. The course begins with brief discussion of the history of psychopharmacology followed by an in depth examination of the biological basis of drug action in the brain. This is followed by a discussion of the basis of drug classification. Specific drugs are discussed. These include illicit drugs like cocaine, amphetamines, and heroin as well as legal psychoactive drugs like caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol. Finally, the course ends with a discussion of the action of drugs used in the treatment of mental disorders such as schizophrenia (antipsychotics) and depression (antidepressants). Prerequisites: PSYC 101 or NEUR 112. Recommended but not required: PSYC 305.

### **Psychology in Context**

PSYC 350 (.5 unit)  
Krieg

This course will focus on the application of psychology to social settings and social services. We will examine a selection of social problems and the influence of social systems on individuals. In addition to regular class meetings, students will spend six out-of-class hours each week at a local community agency (e.g., Knox County Head Start). Students will integrate these service experiences with course-related material. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and PSYC 102. Preference given to juniors and seniors. Enrollment limited to ten students.

### **Research Methods in Cognition**

PSYC 402 (.5 unit)  
Payne

This course is designed with three specific goals: (1) to provide an understanding of basic research and design; (2) to cover essential issues, history, and debate in the field of cognitive psychology; and (3) to give students hands-on experience with some of the classic experiments in the field. The course will include lectures and discussion, as well as laboratory exercises in which students will participate in computerized experiments, collect data, and learn how cognitive psychologists make inferences about mental processes using observable performance measures. The course also requires students to create their own research proposal and present it in class. Prerequisites: PSYC 200 and PSYC 301, or PSYC 306. Enrollment limited.

### **Research Methods in Learning and Motivation**

PSYC 403 (.5 unit)  
Millin-Lipnos

This methods course provides students with the critical skills for understanding and conducting behavioral research in animal subjects. Students will be actively engaged in collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data. Students will also learn about designing research projects, making valid conclusions, critiquing journal

articles, and writing a scientific paper. Prerequisites: PSYC 200 and previous or concurrent enrollment in PSYC 303. Enrollment limited.

### **Research Methods in Developmental Psychology**

PSYC 421 (.5 unit)  
Smolak

This course explores the methods used in life-span developmental psychology research. Among the issues addressed are: ethics of research with children and the elderly, developmental research designs, developing measures, and data analysis. Prerequisites: PSYC 200 and either PSYC 322 or 323. Enrollment limited.

### **Individual Study**

PSYC 493 (.25 unit)  
Staff

The student conducts independent research under the supervision of a member of the department. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair, along with demonstrated special interest.

## **Second-Semester Courses**

### **Introduction Psychology: Behavior in Context**

PSYC 102 (.5 unit)  
Fenigstein, Krieg, Payne, Staff

This is the second part of the introductory psychology course. While PSYC 101 dealt with basic processes of behavior, in PSYC 102 you will examine behavior in context. You will study developmental psychology, personality and social psychology, and psychological disorders. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or NEUR 112.

### **Honors Introductory Psychology: Behavior in Context**

PSYC 112 (.5 unit)  
Payne

This course is designed to engage students in an in-depth exploration of topics pertaining to the study of personality, stress and coping, health psychology, abnormal psychology and psychopathology, clinical psychology, social psychology, and developmental psychology. Unlike

the typical introductory psychology courses at Kenyon, this course is a seminar that emphasizes the integration of information from a textbook, supplementary readings, and, where possible, computerized presentations or laboratory exercises. This course is designed for students who are serious about becoming majors in psychology. Prerequisite: An AP score of 3 or 4, a strong intention of majoring in psychology, and permission of the instructor.

### **Statistical Analysis in Psychology**

PSYC 200 (.5 unit)  
Murnen, Smolak

See first-semester course description.

### **Cognitive Psychology**

PSYC 301 (.5 unit)  
Payne

This course will consider research and theories regarding basic cognitive processes such as memory and perception, as well as higher level thinking processes such as decision-making, language processing, and social cognition. Emphasis will be on the use of laboratory research, with discussion of how the findings relate to real-world cognition. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and PSYC 102. Enrollment limited.

### **Learning and Motivation**

PSYC 303 (.5 unit)  
Millin-Lipnos

This course is concerned with the basic theories and principles underlying the concepts of learning and motivation as they apply to animal and human behavior. A thorough review will be made of the theoretical issues, experimental methods, and findings relevant to the processes of learning and motivation. Finally, a major part of the course will be concerned with how the fields of learning and motivation have been applied to real-world issues (e.g., drug addiction and behavioral therapies). Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or NEUR 112. Enrollment limited.

### **Physiological Psychology**

PSYC 305 (.5 unit)  
McFarlane

This course will investigate the relationships among the brain, the body,

and behavior. Material covered will include neuroanatomy as well as the organization and function of the central and peripheral nervous systems as well as the endocrine system. The ways in which this knowledge can be used to understand sensory and motor phenomena will be explored as a prelude to attempts to relate knowledge of human and animal physiology to psychological processes such as motivation, thought, mood, learning, and emotion. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or NEUR 112. Enrollment limited.

### **Sensation and Perception**

PSYC 307 (.5 unit)  
Niemiec

This course focuses on the ways in which the brain gathers, processes, and interprets information from the external environment in order to construct an internal representation that the organism construes to be reality. The goal is to provide students with an understanding of the evolution, structure, and function of various sensory systems as well as an understanding of how the brain interprets incoming sensations and turns them into perceptions that allow organisms to act on their environment. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or NEUR 112. Enrollment limited.

### **Psychology of Women**

PSYC 346 (.5 unit)  
Murnen

Psychological research about women is examined critically in this course. Topics such as gender differences, gender stereotypes, hormonal effects on women's behavior, eating disorders, and violence against women will be addressed with particular attention to the effects of sociocultural factors on the research in these areas. A variety of learning tools (e.g., conducting projects, engaging in discussion, taking exams) will be used by the class. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and PSYC 102. Enrollment limited.

### **Adolescence**

PSYC 348 (.5 unit)  
Krieg

This course will provide students with an overview of important issues in adolescent psychology, from early

adolescence to young adulthood. The major physical, cognitive, social, and emotional developments that occur during this transitional period will be covered. Influences on adolescent development such as family, peers, school, work, and culture will also be explored. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and PSYC 102. Enrollment limited.

### **Research Methods in Physiological Psychology**

PSYC 405 (.5 unit)  
McFarlane

This is a laboratory methods course that focuses on research methods used in physiological psychology and behavioral neuroscience. The emphasis of the course will be on designing, conducting, and presenting research, as well as on mastering specific laboratory techniques. The primary goal is to examine the relationships between brain chemistry and behavior. To this end, students will engage in the designing and implementation of projects that examine these relationships using animal subjects. The course will also focus on data analysis and experimental design. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 and one of the following: PSYC 347, PSYC 305, or NEUR 112. Enrollment limited.

### **Research Methods in Sensation and Perception**

PSYC 406 (.5 unit)  
Niemiec

This methods course teaches students the skills necessary for conducting research in sensation and perception. It will provide students with firsthand experience with a number of concepts and measurement techniques as well as an understanding of the ways in which sensory psychologists investigate how the brain gathers, processes, and interprets information from the external environment in order to construct an internal representation of reality. Students will learn to design experiments; collect, analyze, and present data using computer software packages; and write a scientific paper. Prerequisites: PSYC 200 and previous or concurrent enrollment in either PSYC 307, PSYC 301, or PSYC 305 as well as permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited.

**Research Methods in Social Psychology**

PSYC 423 (.5 unit)  
Fenigstein

Social psychology attempts to understand the ways in which our thoughts and processes are affected by others. This course will examine the principles, methods, and problems of research in social psychology. Using a variety of formats, ranging from lectures, to discussion of research, to class and field demonstrations, students will become familiar with the ways in which research ideas are generated, critical evaluation of relevant research literatures, research design and methodology, data collection procedures using both laboratory and naturalistic settings, statistical analyses, and ways of presenting research consistent with journal publication. Prerequisites: PSYC 200 and past or current enrollment in PSYC 325. Enrollment limited.

**Research Methods in Cross-Cultural Psychology**

PSYC 424 (.5 unit)  
Staff

This course is designed to train students in the skills needed to conduct cross-cultural research studies in psychology. The format will be primarily that of a lab-oriented seminar, though lecture also will be included. Through discussion and hands-on research activities, students will develop and refine their ability to generate and test cultural hypotheses, to collect and analyze relevant data, and to report and critique cross-cultural research findings. Topics to be covered include experimental design, questionnaire construction, naturalistic observation, content analysis, computer-based statistical analysis, and American Psychological Association writing style. Course requirements include two data-collection projects with lab reports, in-class presentations, and a final exam. Prerequisite: PSYC 200. Enrollment limited to twelve.

**Research Methods to Study Gender**

PSYC 425 (.5 unit)  
Murnen

Science is a valuable tool for understanding the world, but when dealing with the issue of gender, it has often been applied in flawed ways. A feminist critique of science has helped us understand both the limits and the possibilities of examining issues related to gender from a scientific perspective. In this course we will consider the application of feminist theories and methods to understanding psychological issues related to gender. You will critically analyze various research articles, conduct two class research projects and prepare written reports of the results, and develop your own proposal for a piece of independent psychological research related to gender. Prerequisites: PSYC 200 and any one or more of the following: PSYC 323, PSYC 325, PSYC 326, PSYC 346 or WMNS 111.

**Seminar in Memory**

PSYC 444 (.5 unit)  
Millin-Lipnos

This seminar will survey basic experimental and theoretical work on memory processes, drawing from both human and animal research. Topics may include the neurobiology of memory, forgetting, the effects of drugs on memory, memory disorders (such as amnesia or Alzheimer's), the effects of stress on memory, and the implantation of false memories. Students may also suggest special topics to be covered. This course has a discussion format. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 or 102, or permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited.

**Individual Study**

PSYC 494 (.25 unit)  
Staff

Students conduct independent research under the supervision of a member of the department. This course is restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair, along with demonstrated special interest.