

CATALOG YEAR 2010-2011

(Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL : Arts and SciencesCurrent Catalog Page(s) Affected 87, 110, 357**Course:**

(check all that apply)

Add: Delete:

Change:

Number XX Title XX SCH Description XX Prerequisite

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

~~PSYC 4399~~~~Psychology Senior Project~~~~Three semester hour.~~

~~Develops strategies and skills in empirical research and report writing. Assists student in designing, conducting, and reporting of an individual research project in the field of psychology. This capstone experience, required of all psychology majors, includes a weekly seminar meeting with faculty. Prerequisite: PSYC 3302 or permission of instructor. Must be psychology major in senior year.~~

Psychology 4199-4399

Undergraduate Research

One-three semester hours

A course adapted to the study of special topics in Psychology and Cognitive Science. For advanced students interested in developing a research topic or a senior thesis independently through conference and activities directed by the professor. Topic is chosen by the student with the approval of the professor prior to registration. Course may be repeated but not to exceed eight semester hours. Prerequisite: PSYC 3302 or Permission of instructor.

JUSTIFICATION:

To Replace Psychology 4399 (Psychology Senior Project). Psychology Students are no longer required to complete a Senior Project.

To provide a broader segment of the Psychology (or related fields) majors an opportunity to explore and gain experience in Psychological research, broadly defined. Specifically, one major purpose of this course is to provide undergraduate students of psychology (or related fields) an opportunity to interact and become familiar with the theory and empirical methods of Psychological/Cognitive Science research. Moreover, A similar course is currently being taught

in Biology and it has been proven very successful.

Note: Apparently their intention is to replace 4399 in their major with the above PSYC 4199 - 4399.

Program: Add: _____ Change: ____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

Minor: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed minor. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____ Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

Approvals:

Signature

Date

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

01-29-2010

Chair
Department

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

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Psychology 4199-4399 (Undergraduate Research)

Instructor: Roberto R. Heredia., Ph.D.
Office: CH 301 Phone: 326-2637
Office Hours: By Appointment

URL: <http://www.tamtu.edu/~rheredia/>
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Class Time & Place: TBA, CH 205

COURSE PURPOSE:

A course adapted to the study of special topics in Psychology and Cognitive Science. For advanced students interested in developing a research topic or a senior thesis independently through conference and activities directed by the professor. Topic is chosen by the student with the approval of the professor prior to registration.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: Upon completion of this course the student will:

1. Be able to objectively read and interpret scientific research articles.
2. Understand the principles and logic of scientific inquiry.
3. Know how to conduct a sound literature review on a topic in psychology.
4. Understand the general principles of statistically-based scientific inquiry
5. Understand the mechanics of generating theoretically sound research ideas.
6. Be able to write an APA style academic journal article.

PREREQUISITES: Student must be an advanced psychology major or a related field, and have already completed PSYC 3302.

COURSE STRUCTURE: For the lecture portion of the class, lectures are expected to be highly interactive, and student participation is required. For the research portion of the course, students will be encouraged to pursue their research interest and will be assigned to a psychology faculty, accordingly. Students interested in clinical psychology, for example, will be assigned to the clinical psychologist.

TEXT: Articles from Psychological/Cognitive Science journals will be assigned in a reader format.

RESEARCH PROJECT: Students' primary responsibility is to design and complete a psychological study and report the results in an academic journal article format. Each student will be required to individually write a 20-25 paper in APA academic journal format as a final class project. Two different drafts of the final paper will be due during the semester. Each draft will be worth 25 points, and the final paper will be worth 50 points.

EXAMINATIONS:

Students will complete two examinations and a final. Exams will consist of short essays related to class discussions and their understanding of the topics covered in class (50 points each exam). The Final Exam will be a short essay written comprehensive exam (50 Points).

GRADING: Final Class Grade will be based on a total of 200 points, where A = 180-200, B = 160- 179, C = 140-159, D = 120-139, F = 119 and below.