

Department of Middle, Secondary, Reading, and Deaf Education

*Dr. Barbara Radcliffe, Interim Head
Room 87, Education Building*

The Department of Middle, Secondary, Reading, and Deaf Education is a multidisciplinary department that offers the B.S.Ed. degree with a major in middle grades education, deaf education, or American sign language/English interpreting.

The department offers a program of study in middle grades education (grades 4-8) with candidates choosing two concentrations selected from language arts, mathematics, science, reading, or social studies. The programs provide experiences that allow preservice teachers to develop the content knowledge and pedagogical skills necessary for meeting the diverse needs of their future students. Emphasis is placed on student-centered and reflective approaches for communicating effectively, using the tools of inquiry, developing learning opportunities for all students, integrating technology into instruction, and fostering relationships within the larger community. A pre-professional degree is available in deaf and hard-of-hearing (P-12) with a professional degree available with a major in American sign language/interpreting. Candidates are prepared in areas of instruction, service, assessment, and multiple modes of communication.

Freshmen who are interested in initial teacher certification in secondary education (grades 6-12) will first complete a B.A. or B.S. degree in a content teaching field and then enter the Alternative Certification Track Master's Program (ACT) in the Department of Middle, Secondary, Reading, and Deaf Education.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION DEGREE WITH MAJORS IN MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION, DEAF EDUCATION, OR AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/ENGLISH INTERPRETING

Each of these three programs in the department has numerous desired outcomes. Examples of these outcomes include the following:

SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

1. Students in initial teacher education programs demonstrate knowledge of the content that they plan to teach and can explain important principles and concepts delineated in professional, state, and institutional standards.
2. Students in initial teacher education programs apply content-specific pedagogy to the subject area content and demonstrate a broad knowledge of instructional strategies that draws upon content and pedagogical knowledge and skills delineated in professional, state, and institutional standards to help all students learn.
3. Students in initial teacher education programs analyze educational research findings and incorporate new information into their practice.
4. Students in initial teacher education programs assess and analyze student learning, make appropriate adjustments to instruction, monitor student learning, and have a positive effect on learning for all students.

The departmental faculty members assess the desired learner outcomes for these three programs by using a variety of techniques. Examples of summative assessments in addition to course evaluations include the following:

EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS

1. Students in initial teacher education programs will demonstrate content knowledge through passing the state-required content assessment.
2. Students in initial teacher education programs will demonstrate pedagogical content knowledge and knowledge of evidence-based strategies through development of lesson plans identifying use of research-validated procedures and effective content pedagogy.
3. Students in initial teacher education programs will demonstrate skills in assessment, instructional strategies, use of technology, and monitoring and modifying instruction during observed teaching episodes evaluated by a university supervisor and P-12 mentor teacher.
4. Students in initial teacher education programs will demonstrate their ability to positively impact P-12 learning through a Teacher Work Sample (TWS).

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION DEGREE
WITH A MAJOR IN MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION**

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. ED. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42 hours
Area F Requirements.	18 hours
EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120, EDUC 2130	9 hours
Primary Concentration (select one area)	6 hours
Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading (select from the approved course list for concentration area)	
Secondary Concentration	3 hours
Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Reading (select from the approved course list for concentration area)	
MGED 2999	0 hours
All courses in Area F must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.	
College of Education and Human Services Health and Physical Education Requirements. ..	6 hours
KSPE 2000, KSPE 2150	4 hours
Two KSPE Fitness/Activity Courses	2 hours
Program Requirements.	63 hours
All courses listed under program requirements must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.	
Professional Courses.	14 hours
SPEC 3000, MGED 3220, MGED 3990, MGED 3991	12 hours
MGED 3020	2 hours
Teaching Concentrations	24 hours
Primary Concentration Area	12 hours
Select one: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Reading (select from the approved course list for concentration area)	
Secondary Concentration Area	12 hours
Select one: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Reading (select from the approved course list for concentration area)	
Professional Program	25 hours
MGED 4000	3 hours
Methods Courses (select two)	6 hours
MGED 4100, MGED 4200, MGED 4300, MGED 4400, MGED 4500	
MGED 4620, MGED 3110	4 hours
MGED 4790	10 hours
MGED 4800	2 hours
Total hours required for the degree.	129 semester hours

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION DEGREE
WITH A MAJOR IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING)**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. ED. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN
SPECIAL EDUCATION (DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING)**

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42 hours
Area F Requirements.	18 hours
DEAF 2999	0 hours
ISCI 2001 or ISCI 2002	3 hours
EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120, EDUC 2130	9 hours
ASLS 2110, ASLS 2120	6 hours
All courses in Area F must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher.	
College of Education and Human Services Health and Physical Education Requirements. ..	6 hours
KSPE 2000, KSPE 2150	4 hours
Two KSPE Fitness/Activity Courses	2 hours
Professional Education.	66 hours
ECSE 3010, ECSE 3210, ECSE 3390	8 hours
LITR 3110 and SPEC 3000	6 hours
ECSE 3220, ECSE 3490, ECSE 3020	8 hours
LITR 3120 and LITR 3130, Guided Elective (3)	9 hours
ASLS 3170, DEAF 3100, MATH 2008	9 hours
READ 4550, SPEC 3020, DEAF 3040	9 hours
ASLS 3180, DEAF 3120, DEAF 4050	9 hours
SEED 4010	1 hour
MGED 3991 and MATH 3161	7 hours

Total hours required for the degree. 132 semester hours

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION DEGREE
WITH A MAJOR IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/ENGLISH
INTERPRETING**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S.ED. WITH A MAJOR IN
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/ENGLISH INTERPRETING**

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42 hours
Area F Requirements.	18 hours
EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120, EDUC 2130	9 hours
ASLS 2110, ASLS 2120	6 hours
INTP 2998	0 hours
Guided Elective	3 hours
All courses in Area F must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher.	
College of Education and Human Services Health and Physical Education Requirements. ..	6 hours
KSPE 2000, KSPE 2150	4 hours
Two KSPE Fitness/Activity Courses	2 hours
Professional Education.	60 hours
ASLS 3170, DEAF 3100, INTP 3010, SPEC 3000, and ASLS 3190	15 hours
ASLS 3180, DEAF 3150, DEAF 3120, DEAF 3140, and INTP 3150	15 hours
INTP 4010, INTP 4020, INTP 4030, INTP 4040	15 hours
INTP 4050, INTP 4060, INTP 4070, INTP 4080	15 hours
Total hours required for the degree.	126 semester hours

MINOR IN DEAF STUDIES

Required courses.	18 hours
ASLS 2110, 2120, 3170, 3180 American Sign Language I-IV	12 hours
DEAF 3100 Deaf Education and Language Learning	3 hours
DEAF 3150 Deaf Community, Culture, and History	3 hours

Department of Psychology and Counseling

*Dr. Jackson P. Rainer, Head
Room 2104, Psychology Building*

The Department of Psychology and Counseling provides programs of study at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. At the undergraduate level, the department offers B.A. and B.S. degrees with a major in psychology. Psychology is an exciting and popular undergraduate major and minor at Valdosta State University. Undergraduate psychology training assists in preparing students for a number of career alternatives in government, business, industry, etc., that do not require more advanced training. It also assists in preparing students for professional or graduate school in psychology, law, physical or occupational therapy, social work, business, education, and other areas. At the graduate level, the department offers the M.S. degree in Psychology in Clinical/Counseling and Industrial/Organizational. Graduates are prepared to perform services in mental health settings, businesses, community colleges, government, or industries that require graduate training in psychology at the subdoctoral level. The department also offers programs leading to the M.Ed. and Ed.S. degrees in School Counseling. Information concerning these programs, their admission requirements, continuing education, and other services offered by the department can be obtained by contacting the department.

DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Psychology and Counseling serves the citizens of the region and state by offering instruction, research, and services designed to advance the understanding of behavioral and cognitive processes and to improve the quality of life. The principle function of the department is to prepare students at the undergraduate and graduate levels to pursue careers within the discipline and affiliated areas. A related purpose is to provide courses for programs in education, nursing, and other disciplines. At the baccalaureate level, students develop basic skills in scientific research and knowledge of psychological nomenclature and concepts, and they are introduced to the diverse applications of psychology. The graduate programs prepare students to apply skills in schools, mental health agencies, government, industry, and other settings. Training at the graduate level is designed to prepare qualified, responsible professionals who may provide assessment, consulting, counseling, and other services to the citizens of the region.

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY *and* BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

GRADE POINT AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

These programs introduce students to psychology as a scientific discipline, with content and methods able to improve the human condition. Students entering the university may declare a major in psychology upon completion of 30 credit hours and a 2.5 cumulative GPA. In order to remain a psychology major, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 in all course work undertaken. If a student's GPA falls below 2.5, the student will have one semester (fall or spring) to restore it to or above 2.5. If the overall GPA remains below 2.5 for two consecutive semesters, the student will be required to select another major. Any student who fails to select another major will automatically be transferred to an undeclared major status.

Students who enter the university as transfer students who wish to declare a major in psychology must have an overall GPA of at least 2.5. Upon acceptance as a psychology major, a student must maintain a 2.5 GPA in all coursework undertaken. Students changing majors from another program within the university must also have at least a 2.5 overall GPA to transfer to the psychology major, and they will be subject to the same requirements described above. A minimum of "C" must be earned in a PSYC course for it to count in the major. No PSYC course may be repeated more than three times before the student will be removed from the program.

Each program in the department has desired outcomes. Examples of these outcomes for the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science degrees include:

SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Students will

1. design, run, and analyze research studies and write reports using APA style;
2. use appropriately the technical language of the science of psychology in oral and written communication;
3. examine and evaluate career and educational opportunities for those with an undergraduate psychology degree.

EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS

The department assesses the extent to which program requirements create the desired outcomes by a variety of techniques. Examples of these assessments (and related educational outcomes) include the following:

1. Student research reports will be assessed by individual faculty members using appropriate criteria.
2. Students will be assessed on various measures during their senior year.
3. Students will assess academic advising.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42 hours
Area F Requirements.	18 hours
PSYC 1101	3 hours
ACED 2400 or CS 1000	3 hours
PHIL 2010 or PHIL 2020	3 hours
Three courses in the same foreign language.....	9 hours

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42 hours
Area F Requirements.	18 hours
PSYC 1101	3 hours
ACED 2400 or CS 1000	3 hours
PHIL 2010 or PHIL 2020	3 hours
One natural science course	3 hours
One mathematics course	3 hours
(MATH 1111 or MATH listed in Area D of the Core Curriculum)	
One natural science or math course	3 hours
(MATH 1111 or MATH listed in Area D of the Core Curriculum)	

Upper level requirements are the same for the B.A. and B.S. degrees.

Upper Division Courses Required for the Major.....	36 hours
PSYC 3200 or PSYC 3210 or PSYC 3220	3 hours
PSYC 3500, PSYC 3600, PSYC 3900.....	9 hours
PSYC 3400 or PSYC 3450.....	3 hours
Two courses selected from.....	6 hours
PSYC 3300, PSYC 3700, PSYC 3710, PSYC 3800, PSYC 3850, PSYC 3110, or PSYC 3130	
PSYC 4100 or PSYC 4150	3 hours
PSYC 4000 or PSYC 4050.....	3 hours
One course selected from PSYC 4900 or PSYC 4950 or PSYC 4991-4992-4993....	3 hours
Two of the following (not taken to fulfill above requirements)	6 hours
PSYC 4000, PSYC 4050, PSYC 4100, PSYC 4150, PSYC 4300,	
PSYC 4500, PSYC 4800, PSYC 4900, PSYC 4950, PSYC 4991-4992-4993.	

***Guided Electives.24 hours**

* If Area F requirements for the Valdosta State University B.A. or B.S. degree with a major in psychology are not taken in Area F or another area, they must be taken as Guided Electives.

Students, in consultation with their advisor, will take an additional series of courses, possibly a minor, that will further differentiate between the B.A. and the B.S. degrees. These electives will also allow for increased skill development that will help the student continue on to a graduate or professional school or to obtain employment in a career not requiring post-baccalaureate training. Although only 39 hours of 3000 and 4000 courses are required by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the student should not assume the minimum to be the maximum.

Total hours required for the degree. 120 semester hours

MINOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

A minor in psychology can be an excellent academic supplement to many majors at VSU or if a student wants to apply to graduate school in psychology.* Please contact the department for assistance in selecting courses most appropriate for your needs. Eighteen (18) hours of coursework selected from the following courses constitute a minor. PSYC 1101 must be completed before courses in the minor can be taken, and a grade of “C” or better must be earned in each course in the minor. Call the department if you have any questions: 229-333-5930.

Minor in Psychology	18 hours
PSYC 1101	3 hours
Choose one course from the following:	3 hours
PSYC 3200, PSYC 3210, or PSYC 3220	
Choose one course from the following:	3 hours
PSYC 3400 or PSYC 3450	
Choose one course from the following:	3 hours
PSYC 3300 or *PSYC 3500	
Choose two courses from the following:	6 hours
PSYC 3110, *PSYC 3600, PSYC 3700, PSYC 3710, PSYC 3800, PSYC 3850, *PSYC 3900, or any senior-level academic psychology courses for which you have met the prerequisites, excluding PSYC 4850 and 4870.	

* Suggested courses if you plan to attend graduate school in psychology without completing a psychology undergraduate degree. Check with the department’s graduate admissions committee for the specifics of a particular graduate degree, for proper advising, and for any additional graduate study requirements.