

**ISTINYE UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER**

**Introduction to Psychology**

An introduction to the basics of psychology; including but not limited to research methods, biological basis of behavior, learning, perception, motivation, memory, language, lifespan development, psychological disorders, psychological therapies, and social behaviour.

**Turkish Language I**

Definition and characteristics of language. Languages of the world, The place of the Turkish language among world languages, Historical development of Turkish language. Turkish grammar and parts of Turkish grammar, expression types: written expression and verbal lecture, spelling rules and practice, punctuation marks.

**Ataturk's Principles and History of Turkish Revolution I**

The declaration of the Republic; The importance of the leader and the staff in the revolution; Constitutional solutions to the problems related to the Lausanne Conference; The participation of Turkey in pacts and in international organizations; Reactions to the new governmental structure; Trials in the multi-party system; The Home and foreign policy of the Republic of Turkey; Atatürk's foreign policy to inspire confidence in the future of Turkey; Kemalism the Principles of Atatürk.

**Introduction to Sociology**

This course introduces the scientific study of human society, culture, and social interactions. Topics include socialization, research methods, diversity and inequality, cooperation and conflict, social change, social institutions, and organizations.

**2<sup>nd</sup> SEMESTER**

**Research Methods for Psychology I**

This course comprises topics that are essential psychological research such as theories and hypotheses, correlational and experimental research, ethics and APA style referencing.

### **Statistics for Psychology**

The course provides an introduction to elementary statistical principles and techniques relevant to psychological research. Topics covered include basic parametric and nonparametric statistics.

### **Introduction to Biology**

This course introduces the principles and concepts of biology. Emphasis is on basic biological chemistry, cell structure, organelles and function, the structure of nucleic acids, cell division and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate understanding of life at the molecular and cellular levels.

### **Turkish Language II**

Definition and characteristics of language. Languages of the world, The place of the Turkish language among world languages, Historical development of Turkish language. Turkish grammar and parts of Turkish grammar, expression types: written expression and verbal lecture, spelling rules and practice, punctuation marks.

### **Ataturk's Principles and History of Turkish Revolution II**

The declaration of the Republic; The importance of the leader and the staff in the revolution; Constitutional solutions to the problems related to the Lausanne Conference; The participation of Turkey in pacts and in international organizations; Reactions to the new governmental structure; Trials in the multi-party system; The Home and foreign policy of the Republic of Turkey; Atatürk's foreign policy to inspire confidence in the future of Turkey; Kemalism the Principles of Atatürk.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> SEMESTER**

### **Developmental Psychology**

Introduction to biological, cognitive and social aspects of psychological development. This course covers topics such as psychomotor, mental, emotional and social development from birth to death.

### **Research Methods for Psychology II**

This course comprises topics that are essential to psychological research such as reliability and validity, confounding factors, descriptive statistics, sampling, factorial design and interaction.

### **Social Psychology I**

This course is an introduction to theoretical perspectives, research methods and basic concepts which are developed for understanding human cognition, emotion and behavior in the actual/imagined presence of others. Social influence, social-cognitive processes, attitudes, social development and culture will be covered as topics of the interaction between individuals and other people/groups/ social situations.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

##### **Social Psychology II**

This course is an introduction to theoretical perspectives, research methods and basic concepts in the literature which are developed for understanding human cognition, emotion and behavior in the actual/ imagined presence of others. Interpersonal relationships, group dynamics, inter-group processes, self and social representations will be covered as topics of the interaction between individuals and other people/groups/ social situations.

##### **Psychology of Learning**

This is an introductory level course to the psychology of learning, which comprises topics such as principles of classical and instrumental conditioning, reinforcement and its patterns, extinction, relation of learning to motivation, generalization and discrimination.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

##### **Experimental Psychology**

This course provides students knowledge and practice with conducting an experimental research, including: design of simple experiments; observation and preference elicitation techniques; data analysis, considerations of validity, reliability, and research ethics; and preparation of written and oral reports

##### **Personality Theories**

This course focuses on the major models of personality including psychoanalytic, neo-analytic, learning, socio-cognitive, humanistic-existential, biological, and trait approach.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

##### **Physiological Psychology**

This course is a general introduction of physiological psychology. It provides basic information on the different physiological systems involved in behaviour and cognition. This course covers topics such as central and peripheral nervous system, brain injuries and their associations with behaviour, hormones and their effects on behaviour, and the effects of drugs on the nervous system.

##### **Psychopathology**

This course presents an overview of psychological disorders present in adulthood, with an emphasis on descriptive information, theoretical formulations, and empirical findings. An

understanding of normal and abnormal behaviour, multiaxial system of DSM-5 classifications, risk and protective factors of psychopathology.

### **Ethics in Psychology**

This course provides the basics for ethical conduct in the science and practice of psychology. This course introduces Turkish Code of Ethics for Psychologists and covers topics such as competence, confidentiality, informed consent, debriefing, plagiarism.

## **7<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

### **Clinical Psychology**

An introduction to the field of clinical psychology including prevalent theoretical and research models, as well as approaches and research findings of psychological assessment and diagnosis, and overview of several treatment modalities (individual, group, and family psychotherapies).

### **Health Psychology**

This course is an introduction to health psychology theoretical perspectives and constructs. Attribution theory, social cognitive theory, locus of control, perceived control, health beliefs model, theory of reasoned action, self-regulatory model of illness, learned helplessness, planned behaviour theory, protection motivation theory, transactional model of health behaviour, stages of change model are among models that are covered in this course. These models will be also used as guides for understanding a variety of health issues such as obesity, smoking, stress, pain management, management of chronic physical illnesses, communication between patients/families and healthcare professionals.

## **8<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

### **History of Modern Psychology**

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the history and systems of psychology. This course explores the roots of modern psychological thought and methodology. These roots are traced from their origins in philosophy and the natural sciences through the early schools of psychology and into its current form.

### **Psychological Applications**

This course will provide opportunities for practice of psychological principles and theories in relation to different sub areas of psychology such as social, experimental, health clinical and developmental psychology.

## **ELECTIVE COURSES**

### **Selected Topics in Psychopathology I**

This course provides a detailed understanding of a selected category of psychological disorders by drawing upon theoretical knowledge and research findings.

### **Selected Topics in Psychopathology II**

As in Selected Topics in Psychopathology I, this course provides a detailed understanding of a selected category of psychological disorders by drawing upon theoretical knowledge and research findings.

### **Selected Topics in Social Psychology I**

This course provides a detailed social psychological understanding on selected topics in the field of social psychology and related research methods.

### **Selected Topics in Social Psychology II**

As in Selected Topics in Social Psychology I, this course provides a detailed social psychological understanding on selected topics in the field of social psychology and related research methods.

### **Industrial and Organizational Psychology**

This course introduces the students to psychological constructs like leadership, motivation etc. in organizations and their functions in these institutions.

### **Selected Topics in Clinical Psychology I**

This course provides a detailed examination of contemporary empirical findings in selected topics in the field of clinical psychology.

### **Selected Topics in Clinical Psychology II**

As in Selected Topics in Clinical Psychology I, this course provides a detailed examination of contemporary empirical findings on selected topics in the field of clinical psychology.

### **Selected Topics in Developmental Psychology I**

The aim of the course is to provide students with a detailed examination of contemporary empirical findings on selected topics in the field of developmental psychology.

### **Selected Topics in Developmental Psychology II**

As in Selected Topics in Developmental Psychology I, the aim of the course is to provide students with a detailed examination of contemporary empirical findings on selected topics in the field of developmental psychology.

### **Selected Topics in Experimental Psychology I**

This course is designed to help students to gain experience in carrying out a psychological experiment and writing reports. It also aims to introduce recent findings in selected topics in the field of experimental psychology.

### **Selected Topics in Experimental Psychology II**

As in Selected Topics in Experimental psychology I, this course is designed to help students to gain experience in carrying out a psychological experiment and writing reports. It also aims to introduce recent findings in selected topics in the field of experimental psychology.

### **Traffic Psychology**

This course helps students understand the relationship between basic psychological processes and human behavior in traffic such as accidents, driver attitudes etc. based on contemporary research findings and theories in the field.

### **Cross-Cultural Social Psychology**

This course provides an introduction to theory and research in cultural and cross-cultural psychology. The main topics include learning and acquisition of language and culture, socialization, cultural development, cultural differences and similarities, acculturation, enculturation and the role of culture in human life.

### **Interviewing Skills**

The aims of this course is to review interviewing skills and help students apply these skills in different contexts.

### **Political Psychology**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students the major theories of political psychology along with the current debates in national and international politics. Topics covered include human thought, emotions, political thinking and behaviour in politics.

### **Gender**

This course focuses on the understanding of the construction of gender and society on the basis of diverse historical and contemporary perspectives in feminist theory and in psychology. This course covers topics such as construction of femininity and masculinity, gender and violence, gender and media representation, gender and politics, gender and the city.

### **Environmental Psychology**

This course is an introduction to environmental psychology theories and concepts. It provides an understanding on the ways in which the physical environment influences human behaviour and human actions shape the environment. The main topics include spatial perception and cognition,

personal space, territoriality, place attachment and place identity, urban environments such as neighborhoods, public spaces and cities, environmental challenges such as climate changes and environmental sustainability.

### **Forensic Psychology**

This course focuses on the application of psychological perspective on the criminal justice system. Topics covered include the psychology of criminal behaviour, forensic psychological assessment, ethics, the juvenile justice system, strategies for interviewing witnesses, expert testimony, offender treatment, psychopathy and child abuse.

### **Testing and Measurement**

Use of psychological tests, technical and methodological principles, and social and ethical considerations of testing will be introduced. Also, a number of well-established individual intelligence and personality tests will be presented.

### **Psychotherapy Approaches**

Definition of psychotherapy; description the historical development of its practice; compare and contrast individual therapies with family therapies; and the important historical figures associated with each theory will be covered in this course.

### **Qualitative Research Methods in Psychology**

This course introduces the qualitative research perspective in psychology. Students will take an opportunity to understand the research methods such as naturalistic observation, structured and semi-structured interviews, interpretive phenomenological analysis, content analysis, discourse analysis, grounded theory, action research and narrative analysis.

### **Advanced Statistics**

The main goal of this course is to provide more advanced skills in statistics. Sampling, randomization, hypothesis testing and more advanced analyses and techniques will be covered by using SPSS software.

### **Independent Study in Psychology**

This course gives the student an opportunity to pursue a research topic in greater depth than the regular classroom structure permits. This pursuit may take the form of directed reading, library research, and/or laboratory experience.

### **Neuropsychology**

This course introduces topics such as structure, and function of the nervous system and the biological bases of behavior, consciousness, memory, learning, emotions, perception, and motivation.

### **Trauma and Crisis Intervention**

Definition and characteristics of trauma, coping with its emotional burden and different aspects of crisis intervention in adults will be covered in this course.

### **Seminar in Psychology**

A series of seminars will be given on specific topics related to different subfields of psychology.

### **Selected Topics in Health Psychology I**

Contemporary knowledge and related research findings on the psychology of selected health related issues will be discussed in this course.

### **Selected Topics in Health Psychology II**

As in Selected Topics in Health Psychology I, contemporary knowledge and related research findings on the psychology of selected health related issues will be discussed in this course.

### **Professional Development in Psychology**

The aim of this course is to help students to acquire in depth knowledge and/or experience on a topic of choice in the area of psychology.

### **Psychology of Migration**

This course covers several key issues related to migration and migrants. This course explores the relations between gender and migration, types of migration, forced migration and experiences of refugees, interaction between migrants and host communities, acculturation strategies and expectations, intergroup prejudice, social justice, migration and refugee policies.

### **Urban Psychology**

This course focuses on urban environmental context in understanding human experience and psychological processes. Based on environmental psychology and social psychological frameworks, topics like environmental perception and behavior, crowding, personality, gender, residential environments, crime, self and society are covered. At the end of this course, students gain knowledge on psychological research and theory that is specific to urban environment and experience in collecting, interpreting and reporting data about the interaction between individuals and the urban environment they live in.

### **Media Psychology**

The interaction of human behavior and media and technology; the digital representation of self, virtual reality and the effects of networked games and social media on human will be discussed.



**Psychology of Sexuality**

Biological, social, individual and evolutionary aspects of human sexuality will be covered in this course.