



# SWIFT THINKING

## UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

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### PLANNING FOR FALL 2018

A table showing our course offerings for [Fall 2018](#) is available online. The table includes information on meeting days and times. In addition, it indicates which major and minor requirements each course can fulfill, whether a course is available for pre-registration, and whether you need permission to enroll.

Please check this table and the [Registrar's website](#) for updates.

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### Pre-registering for Fall Courses

The Psychology Department will offer pre-registration through CAESAR for most of our Fall Quarter courses the week prior to regular registration. All students listed as psychology, cognitive science, or neuroscience majors or minors in the Registrar's system should be able to pre-register through CAESAR for these courses. The only courses not available for pre-registration for Fall Quarter are the PSYCH 101, PSYCH 110, PSYCH 218, and the PSYCH 397/398/399 research courses.

Pre-registration times are announced by the Registrar's Office. Students can pre-register for a maximum of two courses.

### Wait Lists

Psychology courses are very popular and they often close during registration. If a course you want to take has closed, use the electronic wait list function on CAESAR. As students drop the course, we will check the electronic wait list and send permission numbers to students to enroll.

*Wait lists will be monitored until the last business day before classes begin. Students will then need approval from the course instructor to be added to a course during the first week of classes.*

### Registering for PSYCH 205-Research Methods

Students listed in CAESAR as majoring or minoring in psychology, cognitive science, or music cognition may pre-register for PSYCH 205. Make sure you have the statistics prerequisite or an allowed [substitution](#) before you enroll. You **may not** take both PSYCH 205 and the statistics prerequisite during the same quarter. Your records will be evaluated for

## UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING IN PSYCHOLOGY

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Department advisers are available to talk with undergraduates about major and minor requirements, course selections, career choices, and how to plan an undergraduate program that will best prepare you for whatever you might do next. They are also good resources for learning about research opportunities in our department. You should see an adviser to complete your official Graduation Petition, which needs to be filed at the Registrar's Office one year before your expected graduation date (typically in Spring Quarter of your junior year).

The current department advisers for Psychology students are:

**Sara Broaders** (Substitutions, Study Abroad, Transfer credits, Non-standard ways of completing requirements)

**Ben Gorvine** (Substitutions, Study Abroad, Transfer credits, Non-standard ways of completing requirements, Clinical Psychology)

**Ginger Pennington** (Careers in Business)

**David Smith** (First-year students)

To make an appointment, call 847-491-5190, stop by the department office, Swift Hall Room 102, or send an email to [psych-advising@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:psych-advising@u.northwestern.edu)

this requirement and you will be asked to drop the course if you have not completed it. Once regular registration begins, any student with the statistics prerequisite may enroll.

## RESEARCH COURSES REQUIRING DEPARTMENT AND INSTRUCTOR PERMISSION:

### PSYCH 397-1, 397-2, 398, and 399

A great way to learn more about psychological research is to become actively involved in research activities through PSYCH 399-Independent Study or the two-quarter PSYCH 397-Advanced Supervised Research series. This is especially valuable for students considering graduate study in psychology and it can be an educational and enjoyable experience for others as well.

### PSYCH 397 and 399

You can count at most 1 quarter of 397-1 or 399 toward the major. You cannot count both courses toward the major requirements. PSYCH 205-Research Methods in Psychology is a prerequisite for PSYCH 397. The second quarter of the Advanced Supervised Research sequence, PSYCH 397-2, fulfills the upper-level research requirement for the psychology major. For more information on 397 and 399, including the differences between them, how they count toward requirements, and tips on finding a research adviser, see our webpage on "[Research for Course Credit](#)."

To enroll in PSYCH 397 or PSYCH 399, download the [application](#), fill it out, and have it signed by the professor with whom you will be working. Then, take the signed application to the psychology department office, Swift 102, and a student-specific permission number will be generated. Please note that you must turn in your application and register for the course through CAESAR **before the last day** to add a class for Fall Quarter, **which is December 9, 2018**.

*\*\*We cannot guarantee that an application submitted on the final day of the add period can be reviewed in time to generate a permission number before the add deadline. Students will need to obtain permission for the late addition of a course from the Dean's Office in this situation\*\**

### PSYCH 398-Senior Honors Seminar

Students who will take PSYCH 398-Senior Honors Seminar next quarter will require permission to enroll. The course will be set up

in CAESAR so that only those on the list provided by Dr. Sandra Waxman, the Honors Coordinator, will be able to register for the course.

## **SPECIAL COURSES FOR FALL QUARTER 2018**

In Fall 2018, the Psychology Department will offer one section of PSYCH 314-Special Topics: The Holocaust, and one section of PSYCH 314-Special Topics: Using R for Psychological Research. We will also be offering one section of PSYCH 359-Advanced Seminar: The Emotional Brain. The topics, course descriptions, and prerequisites for these courses are listed below:

### **Psych 314: Special Topics: The Holocaust: Psychological Themes & Perspectives**

Professor Benjamin Gorvine

This course will be an exploration of how particular psychological theories and concepts can inform our understanding of the events of the Holocaust at both a group and individual level. Material from the fields of Social and Clinical Psychology will be a particular focus of the course.

Six major topics will be explored vis-à-vis literature, historical accounts, film, and psychological theory: (1) Perpetrators and Bystanders; (2) Upstanders/Resisters; (3) Survivors; (4) Children of survivors; (5) Deniers; (6) Modern American Jewish identity, culture, and humor in the wake of the Holocaust.

### **Psych 314: Special Topics: Using R for Psychological Research**

Professor William Revelle

R is open source statistical system that has become the lingua franca of statistical data analysis. R is both a statistical system for processing data using traditional and modern statistics and a programming language for developing new methods. This course will introduce you to R with an emphasis in using R for psychological research. Time will be spent using standard R packages for data analysis including regression, factor analysis, test construction, and multilevel modeling.

Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of programming in R and will be shown how to modify existing packages to be more useful for their own work. No prior experience in programming is required, although a willingness to learn is essential.

### **Psych 359: Advanced Seminar: The Emotional Brain**

Professor Robin Nusslock

This course will provide an overview of the neurobiology of emotion and emotional disorders such as depression, bipolar disorder and anxiety. The course will include discussion of contemporary theories of emotion, 21st century methods for examining the emotional brain (e.g., MRI, EEG), the circuits in the brain underlying our experience of emotion, the biological mechanisms underlying emotional disorders, the mechanisms underlying the treatment of emotional disorders, and future directions in the study of the emotional brain. The course is introductory in nature and it is not expected that students have previous courses in either neurobiology or mood disorders.

## PETITION TO GRADUATE

All Northwestern undergraduates must complete and submit Graduation Petitions **one year prior to their intended graduation date**. The latest to submit the petition is two quarters before you anticipate graduating (e.g., before the end of Fall quarter if you expect to graduate in Spring quarter, and during Spring quarter if you plan to graduate in Fall quarter). To complete your Graduation Petition, set up an appointment with one of the department advisers by emailing [psych-advising@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:psych-advising@u.northwestern.edu) or see the Undergraduate Program Assistant in the department office (Swift 102, 847-491-5190). Be sure to bring a copy of your CAESAR Academic Requirements report to the meeting with the adviser.

Completing your Graduation Petition on time ensures you are on appropriate graduation lists and that you, your adviser, and the Registrar's Office agree on what requirements you have left to complete. It also provides an opportunity to talk about your experiences in the department thus far and your plans for the coming year and beyond.

You can read more about the petition process, including submission deadlines and access petition forms, on the Registrar's website. A good place to start is the [Registrar's Graduation Page](#).

### STATISTICS TUTORIAL RESOURCE NOW AVAILABLE

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We have created a new Canvas course with Statistics Tutorials for Psychology students. The site is open to any student at Northwestern who would like to be able to use the resource. It currently has video tutorials on most of the topics covered in Psych 201-Statistics, some more advanced topics, as well as some videos on using SPSS.

All of our current majors and minors should have already been added to the Canvas site. If you have not been added but would like to access the resources, contact [psych-advising@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:psych-advising@u.northwestern.edu). Provide your NetID and request to be added to the Statistics Tutorials Canvas site.

## UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATION (UPA) NEWS

Consider joining the Undergraduate Psychology Association (UPA) at Northwestern, a group of students who share a passion in exploring Psychology! All majors are welcomed to join. UPA sponsors academic, career-oriented, and social events during the school year. The primary goals are to help undergraduates learn more about psychology in a non-classroom setting, foster student-faculty communications, and facilitate the awareness of professional opportunities related to psychology. Come out to one of our upcoming events to learn more and get involved--there will always be free food! Please feel free to check us out at <http://upanorthwestern.weebly.com> for more information or you can visit the [UPA Facebook page](#) (NU Undergraduate Psychology Association). If you would like to be added to the UPA listserve and stay up to date on all things psychology at NU, simply send an e-mail to [upa.northwestern@gmail.com](mailto:upa.northwestern@gmail.com).

## PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS AND CHICAGO FIELD STUDIES

Are you thinking about doing an internship in some area that interests you? Many psychology students do internships for academic credit through Northwestern's Chicago Field Studies program. Internships are available with a wide range of Chicago-area businesses and organizations—organizations focused on mental health, education, and other social services, legal and environmental organizations, financial services, health clinics, start-ups, and market research groups, among others. For more on options for psychology students, including a list of sites where psychology students have interned, see our webpage on [Psychology and Chicago Field Studies](#) and [Chicago Field Studies' website](#).

Getting practical, hands-on experience in fields you find intriguing can help you see links between your academic studies and real-world issues. It is a good way to learn more about which career paths might be best for you. In addition, it can become a valuable credential when you apply for a job or for graduate study. Keep in mind that many work experiences not labeled as “internships” provide similar opportunities and benefits. See our webpage on [Internships and Volunteering](#) for more information and ideas.

## AWARDS FOR UNDERGRADUATES

### Conference Travel Awards

The students listed below have been chosen for the Psychology Department’s Undergraduate Travel Award to support the presentation of their research at conferences across the nation:

Dayanara Padilla

Ellen Wu

Ryan Loach

Megan Imundo

Christina Foo

Shari Gordon

Anne Zola

Rebecca Adler

### Win Hill Award for Best PSYCH 205 – Research Methods Paper

Elizabeth Ann Koehler

**Congratulations to all our students!**

## NEW FACULTY PROFILE – CATERINA GRATTON

Caterina Gratton is a cognitive neuroscientist who received her PhD in Neuroscience at UC Berkeley and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Washington University. She is joining the department as a member of the Brain, Behavior, and Cognition program. Professor Gratton studies brain networks and their contributions to cognition. She employs a combination of cutting-edge techniques, including functional magnetic resonance imaging and transcranial magnetic stimulation, with sophisticated analytical approaches. A main focus of her research is on the neural mechanisms that modify human behavior to achieve different goals. Additional projects examine how brain networks are affected by brain damage and disease. Professor Gratton will be starting at Northwestern University in the Fall of 2018. [Caterina Gratton Psychology Faculty Profile](#)

### ***SPECIAL EVENT***

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### **GRADUATION RECEPTION!**

The Psychology Department will honor all graduating psychology major students with a reception on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The event will be held from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm in Swift Hall, Room 107, and the first floor lobby. Our graduating seniors and their families are invited to attend and celebrate with us!