

Graduating Seniors Exit Procedures

Instructions for Undergraduate Students Enrolled in their Last Semester

Apply to Graduate

Students should complete the Application for [Graduation Form](#) when they register for classes in their final semester. This is a crucial step because when the application is processed, various offices on campus may correspond with those on the graduation list about matters that students must attend to. Students should also review the information about graduation that is presented on the [Commencement Web page](#).

Complete the Exit Requirements in Your Major

To maintain accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, ASU conducts an annual evaluation of its academic programs. The three undergraduate programs in this department as assessed, in part, by determining the students' basic knowledge in the major when they are ready to graduate. The assessment tools are validated tests that correspond to the curriculum. Scores on the tests are used to identify strengths and weaknesses in the program and make improvements.

The exit process is handled differently in the three majors, so students will need to familiarize themselves with the procedure that specifically applies to their major. Carefully read the section below that pertains to students in your subject area.

Sociology Majors

Sociology majors satisfy the exit requirements by passing a capstone course, SOC 4161, in their last semester. This course is offered during the second eight weeks of each semester (except summer). The material covered includes exit tests, interviewing skills, resume development, preparation for the workplace and graduate school information.

Social Work Majors

The exit procedure for social work majors is designed to prepare them for passing the licensure exam. Consult the director of the program, Dr. Tom Starkey, for additional details.

Psychology Majors

In their last semester, psychology majors are required to successfully complete the Psychology Exit Exam. A description of the exam, the criteria for successful completion, recommendations for preparing for the exam and sample questions are provided below.

The exam is delivered via a Blackboard course and is titled “Undergraduate Exit Exam”. When students apply to graduate, they are automatically enrolled in this course, which has no other purpose except delivering the exam. There is no charge for this exit procedure.

Description of the Exam

The exam covers material in 10 subfields of psychology: research methods, history of psychology, social psychology, developmental psychology, learning and memory, cognition, motivation, personality, abnormal psychology and physiological psychology.

The exam is divided into two parts.

Part 1 has 100 multiple-choice questions. It must be completed in the ASU Testing Center, which is located on the top floor in the southeast corner of the Vincent Building. Part 1 of the exam is available to complete during the Testing Center hours of operation. The exam must be taken without the aid of books or notes while answering the questions.

All students must complete Part 1 during the time it is available. If they earn a passing score (see the passing criteria below), they are not required to take Part 2. Students may not take Part 2 until after they have completed Part 1.

Part 2 has 50 multiple-choice questions. It can be completed from any computer station that has the Respondus Lockdown Browser (RLB)*. This exam covers the same material as is covered in Part 1 but with fewer questions. This part of the exam may be completed with the aid of books and notes. It can be taken an unlimited number of times until the passing criteria are satisfied. It is available 24 hours a day beginning Monday of Week 13 and ending at midnight on Sunday of Week 15 of the semester.

*The RLB is installed on all computers in ASU labs and can be downloaded onto off-campus computers by following the instructions posted in Blackboard.

Criteria for Passing the Exam

On Part 1, students must correctly answer 60 questions out of 100 (60 percent). If they do so, then they pass the Exit Exam (and need not take Part 2).

Students who do not pass Part 1 must successfully complete Part 2 by correctly answering 35 out of 50 questions (70 percent). Within the time frame that is offered, they can take Part 2 as many times as is necessary to reach the passing criteria.

Students who do not successfully pass the Exit Exam by satisfying the criteria described above do not qualify for graduation and must repeat Part 2 of the exam again in a future semester.

They need not be registered for courses to do so, but they do need to apply for graduation again.

Studying for the Exam

The exam asks basic questions about the fields of psychology that are typically covered in the General Psychology course (PSY 2301) as well as elsewhere in the curriculum. Research on the items has found that students who demonstrate mastery of the material in psychology courses are able to correctly answer the questions.

Prior to taking the exam, it would be helpful to review relevant chapters in any introductory psychology textbook (such as those used in PSY 2301 General Psychology). One textbook is kept on reserve in the Porter Henderson Library.

Sample Questions

The school of psychology that takes the most positive or optimistic view of human nature is:

- a. Behaviorism
- b. Humanism
- c. Functionalism
- d. Psychoanalysis

An impulse moves from one neuron to another through the action of:

- a. Hormones
- b. Action potentials
- c. Neurotransmitters
- d. Neuromodulators

Placebos are used in research to control for:

- a. The absence of a hypothesis
- b. The subjects' expectations about treatment
- c. Secondary drug effects
- d. Random fluctuations in the independent variable

The type of learning in which voluntary (emitted) responses come to be controlled by their consequences is:

- a. Operant conditioning
- b. Observational learning
- c. Classical conditioning

- d. Contiguity learning

The person who hears voices singing even though none are present is suffering from:

- a. Hallucinations
- b. Obsessions
- c. Loosened associations
- d. Delusions

When an individual has a tendency to attribute his success to personal factors and his failure to situational factors, the individual is demonstrating:

- a. The fundamental attribution bias
- b. The self-effacing bias
- c. The illusory correlation
- d. The self-serving bias