

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 are 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. Joel Carr, for additional details.

Psychology Majors

In order to maintain accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Angelo State University conducts an annual evaluation of its academic programs. The psychology program is assessed, in part, by determining the students' basic knowledge in the field when they graduate. The assessment tool is a validated test that corresponds to the curriculum. Scores on the test are used to identify strengths and weaknesses in the program and make improvements.

In their last semester, students who have a major in psychology are required to successfully complete the Exit Exam. A description of the exam, the criteria for successful completion, recommendations for preparing for the exam, and sample questions are provided below.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EXAM

The exam is delivered via a Blackboard course entitled "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.

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

The exam is divided into two parts.

Part I 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. Between the beginning of Week 12 and the end of Week 15 of each semester (prior to final exam week), Part 1 of the exam is available for students to complete during the Testing Center hours of operation. The exam must be taken without 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 Brower (RLB)*. This exam covers the same material as is covered in Part 1 but with fewer questions. This part of the exam can be completed with the aid of books and notes. It can be taken an unlimited number of times until the passing criteria is satisfied. It is available 24 hours per day, beginning Week 12 of the semester and ending at 8:00 AM on the Monday following commencement.

*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%). 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%). Within the time frame that it 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 official graduation, even though they may participate in the commencement ceremony. They must repeat Part 2 of the exam again in a future semester in order to qualify for a diploma.

STUDYING FOR THE EXAM

The exam asks basic questions about the field 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 desirable to review relevant chapters in any basic textbook used in PSY 2301 General Psychology.

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