



# Forensic Psychology Minor



## For more information

### Psychology Department

Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.245.2526  
[www.psych.txstate.edu](http://www.psych.txstate.edu)

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## Forensic Psychology Minor

If you're interested in how psychology intersects with the criminal justice and court systems, consider a minor in forensic psychology.

The forensic psychology minor is a collaboration between the Department of Psychology and the School of Criminal Justice. Students learn about the legal system and the workings of the court from both legal and psychological perspectives. Issues covered include:

- What theories are used to explain crime?
- Will an eyewitness's testimony be believed?
- How do juries function as a group?
- How does the court evaluate competency to stand trial?
- What is the legal definition of competency and why is it important?

Other subjects students will explore include:

- evidence
- insanity defense
- criminal profiling
- personality theory
- mental health and the law



### Degree Program

The minor requires 21 credit hours: three psychology courses, three criminal justice courses and one elective.

If you are a psychology major pursuing the forensic psychology minor, you cannot count courses towards both the major and the minor.

#### Psychology Courses

Take both of the following:

- PSY 3335 – Forensic Psychology
- PSY 3331 – Social Psychology

Take one of the following:

- PSY 3315 – Abnormal Psychology
- PSY 3316 – Personality Psychology

#### Criminal Justice Courses

Take all of the following:

- CJ 1310 – Introduction to Criminal Justice
- CJ 2360 – Fundamentals of Criminal Law
- CJ 3329 – Forensic Evidence

#### Elective Courses

Take one of the following:

- ANTH 3380 – Forensic Anthropology
- CJ 4340 – Crime Theory and Victimization
- SOC 3343 – Criminology

Alternate electives may be permitted subject to approval from the Department of Psychology.

### Prerequisites

PSY 1300 or its equivalent is a prerequisite for all of the psychology courses in this minor. For non-psychology majors, PSY 1300 will satisfy the social science requirement of the General Education Core Curriculum at Texas State.

The prerequisites for CJ 3329 and CJ 4340 will be waived for students pursuing this minor because students will be exploring many of the issues covered in those requisite courses in the psychology course work portion of the minor.

