Psychology Curriculum 2.0

New Psychology classes
The Psychology Department started a new course, **PY 222 – Introduction to the Psychology Major**, this past Fall 2013. Dr. Zayac is teaching this class in its first rendition. It will cover all those things you wish you would have known about it before you started.

**PY495 Psychology Capstone Project** – Starting Fall 2014! The objective of the course is to allow the student to design and complete a research project. The project can have either an empirical focus, an applied focus, or a theoretical focus. This course is offered primarily to *seniors* under the direction of a psychology professor. The activities of the student, the timeline for completion of the project, and an evaluation of the project will be determined by consultation with the professor of record for the course. A written completed project will be submitted. Open to Psychology Majors. Departmental approval required.

Proposed New Psychology Program…in the Works!
The Psychology Department has proposed a new certificate program in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to begin in Fall 2014. Students interested in this certificate program are encouraged to speak with Dr. Zayac. Additional information about the program will appear in the next Psychobabble.

TIDBIT
Justin Slayton says that *Ender’s Game* is his favorite book. Two thumbs up from Bates!
The Psychology Club exists to grant students of psychology the opportunity to be acquainted with fellow students and professors of the department for the purpose of promoting their education and interest in psychology. It’s Not All Fun and Games…

Well, technically it is. While building relationships among peers and professors, club members attend monthly meetings (typically the first week of each month) to discuss various shenanigans and plan monthly socials. Most socials are held at a local Mexican restaurant with members meeting up at Lauderdale Lanes after a healthy dose of chips and salsa for fiercely competitive games of bowling. For more information on upcoming events search for us on Facebook or go to https://www.facebook.com/groups/134308693862/ and ask to join our Facebook group.

A Special Thanks to Our Officers

President – Adam Aycock
Vice-President – Brandon Pennington
Secretary – Jessica Capers (Fall 2013) & Kayla Bales (Spring 2014)
Treasurer – Elisa Holm

NOTE: It is recommended that students with the HCI/UX Evaluation minor and major in Psychology take PY 435 and PY 451 as elective choices if available. [NOTE: PY 495 will serve as a capstone course for the HCI/UX Evaluation minor]
Shawn Schenerger Geron
Shawn graduated in 2008 and moved to Kansas City in 2009. She worked as a Youth Case Manager for two years at The Guidance Center. She and her family moved to Port Ludlow, WA, when her husband received his orders. She now works for the state in child protective services. She says she loves the Pacific Northwest (we’re sure it has something to do with the sparkly vampires up there).

Sarah Freed
Sarah is in the Master’s program in I-O Psychology at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga where she has blossomed into quite the overachiever. In addition to her graduate classes and coursework, Sarah is also an adjunct professor at UTC.

Jessica Williams
Jessica made the move to Cookeville, TN in the Fall of 2012 after being accepted into Tennessee Tech’s Behavior Analysis Ph.D. program. She is writing up her final results for her thesis! Next up…a quantitative project. Sounds like yet another stats nerd.

Deanna Rumble
Deanna recently graduated (Summer 2012) from the University of South Alabama with a Master’s in Experimental Psychology and is currently working on her Ph.D. at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Her Ph.D. work in rehabilitation science focuses on motor relearning in stroke survivors. She did her rotation last summer in the Taub clinic at UAB. She also completed her quals at the end of the summer.

Kimberly Beam
Kimberly Beam is in the Master’s program in Experimental Psychology at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She is completing the second year of the program and has successfully defended her Master’s thesis. Kim, it’s hard work being this awesome, but someone has to do it.

Trent Walters
Mr. Walters is currently in the Master’s program at Missouri State University (MSU). He works as a graduate assistant at MSU’s Learning Diagnostic Clinic where he assesses members of the community for learning, attention, and other psychological disorders.

Lauren Kirby
Lauren is a first-year student in Auburn’s Cognitive and Behavioral Sciences Psychology doctoral program. She is learning how to operate an MRI machine! She has begun working towards her Master’s thesis, which will entail developing a new film/video stimulus set used to elicit emotions in the laboratory. She hopes to propose her thesis this summer and defend it in the fall or spring.

Elisa Holm
Elisa is finishing her second semester in the UNA Counseling Education graduate program. In her free time, she is staying busy with karate, working out and kayaking!
Continued

Jordan Sparks
Jordan is completing her first year in the Georgia Tech Quantitative Psychology doctoral program. Her first year project concerned Multidimensional Scaling and External Multidimensional Unfolding Techniques to create emotion space using facial stimuli. Hudiburg taught her more stats than we thought!

Joy Wimberly
Joy is finishing her first year at the University of Alabama in their School Psychology doctoral program. She has been quite busy at UA, but plans to transfer to the doctoral program at The University of Southern Mississippi to ultimately become a licensed psychologist and obtain her BCBA.

Karly Cochran
Karly is attending Appalachian State graduating with her MA in general experimental psychology this May. Her current research involves forgiveness in the context of betrayal in romantic relationships. She will begin her doctoral program in experimental psychology at Kent State this fall. She plans to study conflict resolutions in relationships.

John Lemay IV
John is currently at Georgia Southern University working on his doctorate in Educational Leadership. He hopes to work in assessment in higher education.

Joseph Pastuszak
Joseph is currently at the University of South Alabama in the Clinical and Counseling Psychology doctorate program with a focus on neuropsychology.

Roar(schach) Lions! Soon to be Alumni

Samantha Sampson is going to UAH for experimental psychology. She plans to get her Ph.D in clinical psychology afterwards.

Mitch Wright is headed off to MTSU for their Quantitative Psychology Master’s Program. Stats freaks are everywhere!

Suzanne Reese is graduating in May with a degree in psychology and a minor in music. She is headed to the MFA Musical Theatre program at the Boston Conservatory (OMG!) in September.

David Russell will be attending UTC beginning in the Fall. He has been offered admission into their I/O program. He believes this field is challenging yet rewarding.

Mary Katherine Osborn begins her Ph.D. program in Behavioral Neuroscience at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) this fall!

We are proud of all of graduates for their hard work and dedication to their discipline. We also realize that there are some alumni out there that were unable to send in information regarding their current status. No matter where you are or what you’re doing, we want you to know that we consider you family (sometimes a dysfunctional family, but hey, family nonetheless).

Help Save the Professors

Family members get duct taped to a chair or one’s office gets redecorated, or a party is hosted in a family member’s office while they’re away on travel, or perhaps Hudiburg comes to class in a dress. It's all in the name of fun and/or fund raising.

If you’d like to help spare our professors the shame of prancing down the hallway in a red, velvet dress or getting duct taped to a chair, please consider donating to our department. You can designate what the funds can be used for (e.g., student travel, resources, coffee).

Cue Sarah McLachlan music…

We’re like family here in the Psychology Department and sometimes family gets quirky.
PsychoBabble

Spring 2014

Research, Conferences, and Stuff!

Oh My!

Baby Reese!
Since the last PsychoBabble, Dr. Zayac has welcomed a new addition to his family! Reese Harper Auburn Zayac was born on October 25, 2012. He’s proud to announce that her first word was “Dada” – she’s still working on saying psychology. As a future member of the UNA class of 2032, Reese has begun studying for the ACT and plans to major in riding the swing and going down the slide (currently her favorite activities).

Baby Kelly!
According to Joy, the most beautiful baby in the world was born on February 6th, 2014, namely Skye Lucille Kelly. She seems excited to be the newest member of the Psychology Department! Just another way we are improving the beauty of our department.

91st Annual Meeting at the Alabama Academy of Science


2013 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion


61st Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association

Caption this picture!

Are you going to win anything? Probably not, but you’re going to have fun doing it. Log onto the UNA Psychology Department Alumni & Friends Facebook page and caption the picture of our esteemed Dr. Zayac’s evil twin, Nayr Zayac, and his hoard of porcelain piggies.

Find us on Facebook!

The Profs & Staff

Richard Hudiburg, chair and professor
A.A., General Studies, 1970, Monterey Peninsula College
B.A., Psychology, 1972, Sonoma State University
M.A., Experimental Psychology, 1975, Texas Christian University
PhD, Experimental Psychology, 1979, Texas Christian University

Gabriela Carrasco, assistant professor
B.A., Psychology, 2000, Our Lady of the Lake University
PhD, Experimental Psychology, 2007, Texas Tech University

Ryan Zayac, assistant professor
B.S., Neuroscience, 2002, Allegheny College
M.S., Psychology, 2005, Auburn University
PhD, Psychology, 2008, Auburn University

Larry Bates, professor
B.S., Psychology, 1992, University of North Alabama
M.S., Clinical Psychology, 1995, Auburn University
PhD, Clinical Psychology, 1998, Auburn University

Joy Kelly, administrative assistant
B. A., Business, 1997, University of Maryland
M.B.A., CIS, 2013, University of North Alabama