



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Revisions to the BSLAS in Psychology

SPONSOR: Diane Musumeci, Associate Dean College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, musumeci@illinois.edu, 333-6622

DEPT CONTACT: Professor Robert Wickesberg, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, wickesbe@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Updating lists of course offerings within the major; correcting the minimum hours required in the major along with the hours of Psychology courses; removing a footnote regarding lab/research methods courses; specify examples of supporting coursework for students; updating the general information regarding the Psychology Major.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Psychology has added (105, 204, 220, 334, 350, 379, 437, and 489) and removed (217, 358 and 411) courses in the past few years and would like to update the lists of course options for various sections of our major. We are also correcting an error in the minimum hours required in the major along with the hours of Psychology courses.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed. No additional staff dollars are needed. The courses we are adding as options are taught on regular rotations.
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.). No internal reallocations needed. The courses we are adding as options are taught on regular rotations.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments. Courses outside Psychology have not been added to the major.
- d. Impact on the University Library. N/A
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. No impact on computer, lab or equipment use. The courses we are adding as options are taught on regular rotations.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2011

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

Psychology

<http://www.psychology.illinois.edu>

Head of Department: David Irwin

Department Office: 315 Psychology Building, 603 East Daniel, Champaign, (217) 333-0631

Psychology is the scientific investigation of human and animal behavior. Psychologists study behavior in systems ranging from single cells to the individual person, from small groups of people to large communities. Psychologists strive to describe behavior and to understand its underlying biological and social mechanisms. This enterprise, designed to better understand the human condition, creates knowledge to solve problems faced by individuals and by communities. Students that graduate with a major in psychology acquire a wide range of knowledge and useful skills that allows them to find employment in many different areas.

Undergraduate Program

The Psychology program of study is a broad-based curriculum within a research-focused department. The program is designed both for students interested in a liberal arts education with psychology as a focal area and for students who plan to attend graduate or professional school either in psychology or in a different field such as medicine, law, social work, business administration, counseling, labor relations and many others. Undergraduate students also have the opportunity to participate in current research projects by working in labs. Students should contact our undergraduate advising office for help in creating a plan of study that best meets their goals and interests.

The graduate preparatory work in psychology is designed to provide students with a solid academic background that will prepare them for graduate education in a number of psychology specializations. Career opportunities in these specializations vary, as does the required level of graduate school training. While a doctorate is needed for most areas of academic psychology, a master's degree is sufficient for careers in many applied psychology fields such as personnel psychology, measurement psychology, and engineering psychology.

Academic Advising

The psychology undergraduate advising office is open to help students choose patterns of courses relevant to their interests, as well as to help students explore graduate school, professional school, and career options. Advising is done by an award-winning staff of academic professionals along with mentoring by faculty for students with research interests. Peer registration assistants are also available to help with the registration process.

Major in Sciences and Letters Curriculum

E-mail: advising@psychology.illinois.edu

Degree title: Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Minimum required major and supporting course work equates to 44 hours including 32 hours of Psychology courses.

General education: Students must complete the [Campus General Education](#) requirements.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Department Distinction: To be eligible for graduation with Distinction in Psychology, a student must complete a two-semester research sequence in PSYC 494, submit a Senior Thesis, and maintain an overall 3.0 GPA at the time of submission. To be eligible for High or Highest Distinction, a student must first be admitted to the Honors Program (requirements: junior standing, 3.5 GPA in Psychology and overall, and completion of an introductory and two other psychology courses plus psychological statistics). The student then has to complete the three semester Honors Program (1 semester of PSYC 398 and 2 semesters of PSYC 498), submit a Senior Thesis, and maintain an overall GPA of at least a 3.0 to be awarded High Distinction or a GPA 3.5 for Highest Distinction.

Hours	Requirements
4	Select one of the following:
	PSYC 100 - Intro to Psych
	PSYC 103 - Intro Experimental Psych
	PSYC 105- Psych Introduction
3	PSYC 235 - Intro to Statistics or equivalent
6	Select two courses from the following:
	PSYC 204- Intro to Brain and Cognition
	PSYC 210 - The Brain and the Mind
	PSYC 220-Images of Mind
	PSYC 224 - Cognitive Psych
	PSYC 230 - Perception & Sensory Processes
	PSYC 248 - Learning and Memory
6	Select two courses from the following:
	PSYC 201 - Intro to Social Psych
	PSYC 216 - Child Psych
	PSYC 238 - Abnormal Psych
	PSYC 239 - Community Psych
	PSYC 245 - Industrial Org Psych
	PSYC 250 - Psych of Personality
13	Select any 300- or 400-level Psychology courses including at least one course

	from the following laboratory/research methods courses:
	PSYC 311 - Techniques of Bio Psych
	PSYC 331 - Cognitive Psych Lab
	PSYC 332 - Lab Meth In Soc Psych
	PSYC 333 - Social Psych In Nat Settings
	PSYC 334- Vision and Space Lab
	PSYC 350-Personality Lab
	PSYC 363 - Developmental Psych Lab
	PSYC 379- Clinical Psychology Lab
	PSYC 429 - Hum Comp Interaction Lab
	PSYC 437- Advanced Psychology Lab
	PSYC 489- Neural Network Modeling Lab
	PSYC 490 - Meas and Test Dev Lab
12	Supporting course work outside psychology that will complement the core program. These courses must be approved by an academic adviser. These courses could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A declared minor • A second major • Pre-law interest courses • Pre-health courses • Graduate school preparatory courses • Courses from varying departments having a common theme

Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

All foreign language requirements must be satisfied.

A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your adviser.


Some areas of interest in psychology

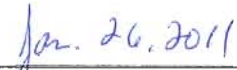
- Biological psychology is the study of the biological mechanisms underlying behavior. Biological psychologists generally are interested in the brain and the nervous system, in the endocrine system, and in other organismic processes.
- Clinical psychology is the study of problems encountered by individuals, groups, and families — especially problems involving psychopathology. Clinical psychologists are interested in the application of psychological knowledge and techniques for the alleviation of these problems.

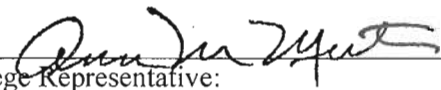
- Cognitive neuroscience is concerned with understanding the neuroscientific bases of cognition. Various methods are employed to assess the roles of different brain systems in psychological functions such as memory, attention, language, executive control, decision making, response processing, and emotion.
- Cognitive and neurobiological aging examine how the aging process affects memory, thought, and brain function, as well as how life experiences affect cognitive function.
- Developmental psychology is the study of intellectual development, emerging personality, and the acquisition of language, as well as psychophysiological and social development processes as individuals develop from birth through old age.
- Community psychology is the study of social processes and problems of groups, organizations, and neighborhoods, and the development and evaluation of progress for social change and social policy based on psychological understanding.
- Engineering psychology is the study of human behavior in the context of interactions between humans and machines.
- Cognitive psychology is the study of basic behavioral and cognitive processes, including learning, memory, problem-solving, motivation, and language.
- Language processing and psycholinguistics focus on how humans acquire and use language and how these processes are related to neural organization.
- Measurement and mathematical psychology specialists develop mathematical models of psychological processes and devise methods for quantitative representation and analysis of data about behavior. These are used in the study of differences between individuals in ability, personality, preferences, and other psychological phenomena.
- Personality psychology focuses on individual behavior. It is the study of ways to understand and describe an individual's behavior and to predict an individual's future behavior.
- Personnel psychology is the application of techniques of assessment, prediction, and intervention to areas of human resources in organizations, including, but not limited to, standard personnel selection and training, attitude assessments and interventions, and program evaluations.
- Social psychology is the study of attitudes, social perception and cognition, interpersonal relations, interpersonal interactions, and social and cultural factors affecting human behavior.
- Visual cognition is the study of attention, visual perception, visual memory, and human performance. Visual cognition research uses tools drawn from cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience to better understand how visual information is perceived and remembered.

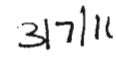
CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval) - - These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges, add lines.)

Signatures:


Unit Representative:


Date:


College Representative:


Date:

Provost Representative:

Date:

Educational Policy Committee Representative:

Date:

**Senate Educational Policy Committee
Proposal Check Sheet**

PROPOSAL TITLE (Same as on proposal): Revisions to the BSLAS in Psychology

PROPOSAL TYPE (Please select all that apply below):

A. Program and degree proposals

1. This proposal is for a graduate program or degree

Yes No

2. **Degree** proposal (e.g. B.S.A.E., M.S.C.E.)

New degree — please name the new degree: _____

Revision of an existing degree — please name the existing degree to be revised:

3. **Major** proposal (disciplinary focus, e.g., Mathematics)

New major — please name the new major: _____

Revision of an existing major — please name the existing major to be revised:
BSLAS in Psychology

4. **Concentration** proposal (e.g. Financial Planning)

New concentration — please name the new concentration: _____

Revision of an existing concentration — please name the existing concentration to be revised: _____

5. **Minor** proposal (e.g. Cinema Studies)

New minor — please name the new minor: _____

Revision of an existing minor — please name the existing minor to be revised: _____

6. Proposal for renaming an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

degree major concentration minor

Please provide the current name: _____

Please provide the proposed new name: _____

7. Proposal for terminating an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

Please name the existing degree, major, concentration, or minor: _____

8. Proposal for a multi-institutional degree between Illinois (UIUC) and a foreign institution

Please name the existing Illinois degree or program: _____

Please name the partnering institution: _____

- B. Proposal for renaming existing academic units** (college, school, department, or program)

Please provide the unit's current name: _____

Please provide the unit's proposed new name: _____

- C. Proposal for reorganizing existing units** (colleges, schools, departments, or programs)

Change in status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department) — please indicate current unit name including status: _____

Transfer an existing unit

Please provide the current unit's name and home: _____

Please provide the new home for the unit: _____

Merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B)

Please provide the name and college of unit one to be merged: _____

Please provide the name and college of unit two to be merged: _____

Terminate an existing unit — please provide the current unit's name and status: _____

- D. Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Please indicate the nature of the proposal: _____

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



August 23, 2011

Gay Miller, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts & Sciences in Psychology.

This proposal has been approved by the Committee on Courses and Curricula in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kristi A. Kuntz'.

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: A. Elli
R. Wickesberg

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Dean

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
294 Lincoln Hall
702 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801-3631



RECEIVED
MAR 09 2011
OFFICE of the PROVOST

March 7, 2011

Kristi Kuntz
Assistant Provost
Swanlund Administration Building
MC-304

Dear Kristi:

On behalf of the Committee on Courses and Curricula, Dean's Cabinet, Executive Committee and the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, I administratively approve a revision to the BSLAS in Psychology. Please address all correspondence concerning this proposal to me. We ask for a proposed implementation of Fall 2011.

Sincerely,



Ann M. Mester
Associate Dean

enclosure

C: Professor Robert Wickesberg