December 8, 2016

To: Dean Van Galen, Chancellor
    116 North Hall
    University of Wisconsin-River Falls

From: Mialisa Moline, Chair
      Faculty Senate
      University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Re: UWRF Faculty Senate Motion 2016-17/57

The following motion was approved unanimously, with 21 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, by the Faculty Senate on December 7, 2016:

A motion from the AP&P Committee (Ian Williams, Chair) to approve program change proposal for the major in Psychology (attached)

Approved

Disapproved

Dean Van Galen, Chancellor

Date
Undergraduate Program Change

Preparer(s): Travis Tubré  
College: CAS  
Department: Psychology  
Date: 12/5/2016

Program Title: Psychology Major  
Implementation Term: Spring 2017  
Nature of Proposal: An existing program

Have all courses been approved? Yes

Requested changes (select all that apply):  
- Name change  
- Credits change  
- Curriculum change  
- Change in major  
- Change in minor  
- Change in option/emphasis  
- Other

Reviewed and approved by:  
Department: Psychology  
Approval date: 12/5/2016  
Signature of Chair/Dean: Digitally signed by Travis Tubré  
Date: 2016.12.05 12:22:55 -06'00'

College Curriculum Committee: CAS  
Dean of: CAS  
University Curriculum Committee  
Acad. Policy & Program Committee  
Faculty Senate  
Provost/Vice Chancellor  
Chancellor

Approval date: 12/5/2016  
Signature of Chair/Dean: Digitally signed by Melanie Ayres  
Date: 2016.12.05 12:22:01 -06'00'

Approval date: 12/5/2016  
Signature of Chair/Dean: Digitally signed by Ian Williams  
Date: 2016.12.05 12:21:48 -06'00'

Approval date: 12/12/16  
Signature of Chair/Dean: Digitally signed by Travis Tubré  
Date: 2016.12.12 12:05:42 -06'00'

Revised: Fall 2015
### Signatures of Additional Departments and Colleges Affected

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Narrative Justifying Program Change for Psychology Major

Historically, our curriculum (see attachment) has consisted of 36 credits of required and elective coursework with an additional 6 credits of supporting psychology coursework (PSYC 101: General Psychology and PSYC 201: Behavioral Statistics) that did not count in the 36 credits required for the major unless students did not use those courses in general education. Because most of our majors would count PSYC 101 in the general education Social and Behavioral Sciences category and PSYC 201 in the general education Mathematics category, our major was effectively 42 credits for most students. During the approval process for our new Neuroscience program, we heard from the committees that it would be preferable to just incorporate these sort of hidden, supporting courses in the major. In that spirit, we would like to include PSYC 101 and PSYC 201 as required courses in the major.

Also, with the recent changes to allow courses to double count across general education and the major, we are concerned that some of our students may graduate with fewer courses in psychology leaving them less prepared for graduate study (including for standardized exams needed to enter graduate school) and careers in the field. Coupled with the opportunity presented by the elimination of required minors, the recent changes to general education present more flexibility to increase the educational foundations of our majors.

Thus, we would like to require the proposed new curriculum (see attachment). As you can see in the document, PSYC 101 and PSYC 201 have been moved from the Supporting Courses area (which has been eliminated) to the Required Courses area. The Psychological Foundations courses are left as they currently appear in the major. Students choose three courses each from the Experimental Foundations and Social Foundations areas. Finally, the Psychology Electives area has been increased from 9 credits to 12 credits. As indicated in the document, the Electives area includes credits for Semester Abroad (PSYC 378), Internship (PSYC 379), and Independent Study (PSYC 490). Thus, students will be able to complete international experiences, internship experiences, and research experiences for credit without sacrificing course content that increases their breadth of knowledge in the field.

Although this represents an upward change in the required minimum credits for our major, many of our majors are already exceeding the new threshold. For instance, 73 students graduating in spring semester 2015 and spring semester 2016, the average number of Psychology credits earned was 44.2.
Current Psychology Major – 36 credits (42 including supporting courses)

Required Courses: 6 credits

PSYC 110: Careers in Psychology
PSYC 216: Research Methods
PSYC 450: Senior Seminar in Psychology

Advanced Methodology (choose 1): 3 credits

Choose one course from the following:
PSYC 315: Psychological Measurement and Evaluation OR
PSYC 316: Advanced Research Methods

Psychological Foundations - Experimental: 9 credits

Choose 3 courses from the following:
PSYC 305: Learning and Motivation
PSYC 310: Memory and Thinking
PSYC 340: Animal Behavior
PSYC 350: Sensation and Perception
PSYC 355: Physiological Psychology

Psychological Foundations - Social: 9 credits

Choose 3 courses from the following:
PSYC 320: Psychology of Personality
PSYC 325: Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 335: Developmental Psychology: Childhood and Adolescence
PSYC 336: Developmental Psychology: Adulthood and Aging
PSYC 360: Social Psychology

Elective Psychology Courses: 9 credits
In addition to completing the course area requirements, the student must take additional psychology courses to achieve the required 36 credits for the major. The electives can be selected from the areas above or any other Psychology courses.

Required Supporting Courses
PSYC 101: General Psychology 3 cr.
PSYC 201: Behavioral Statistics 3 cr.
If PSYC 101 and/or PSYC 201 are not used in General Education, they may be used as elective courses in the psychology major. Note that this is no longer valid under the General Education Changes
Proposed Psychology Major – 45 credits

Required Courses: 15 credits

PSYC 101: General Psychology
PSYC 110: Careers in Psychology
PSYC 201: Behavioral Statistics
PSYC 216: Research Methods
PSYC 315: Psychological Measurement and Evaluation
PSYC 450: Senior Seminar in Psychology

Psychological Foundations - Experimental: 9 credits

Choose 3 courses from the following:
PSYC 305: Learning and Motivation
PSYC 310: Memory and Thinking
PSYC 340: Animal Behavior
PSYC 350: Sensation and Perception
PSYC 355: Physiological Psychology

Psychological Foundations - Social: 9 credits

Choose 3 courses from the following:
PSYC 320: Psychology of Personality
PSYC 325: Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 335: Developmental Psychology: Childhood and Adolescence
PSYC 336: Developmental Psychology: Adulthood and Aging
PSYC 360: Social Psychology

Elective Psychology Courses: 12 credits

In addition to completing the course area requirements, students must take additional psychology courses to achieve the required 45 credits for the major. The electives can be selected from the areas above or any other Psychology courses except for PSYC 220 and PSYC 245. Elective courses may include PSYC 378 (Semester Abroad Research), PSYC 379 (Internship in Psychology), and/or PSYC 490 (Independent Study in Psychology). Courses may not double count across areas of the Psychology major (e.g., a course cannot count as both an elective and a required course).
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, March 9, 2016

Present: Chair: Travis Tub. Faculty: Todd Wilkinson, Lisa Isenberg, Melanie Ayres, Rik Seefeldt, James Cortright, Dan Linwick, Cyndi Kernahan. Notes: Jody Sather.

Discussion Items

I. Staffing/budget updates and fall schedules
   a. Review handouts of Fall 2016 courses and submit any corrections or changes

II. Major emphases and other curricular issues
   a. Prerequisites are currently being reviewed by administration
   b. Emphases:
      i. Travis Tubré provided copies of the proposed emphases — General Psychology, I/O Psychology, Health Psychology, Social Justice and Mental Health (all working titles)
      ii. Motion to pass them all made by Melanie Ayres and seconded by Richard Seefeldt.
      iii. Discussion/Concerns:
          1. Need to find a way to present the different areas/emphases to students
          2. Add PSYC 310 and PSYC 250 to supporting psychology electives in the Social Justice emphasis
          3. Department would like to refer to them as emphases and need to have consistency in the naming of the individual emphases.
          4. Travis calls the vote - motion approved unanimously by all present. In favor: 8; Opposed: 0.

Reminders/Updates/Announcements

Banquet: 4/11
Twins: 4/18

Future Agenda Items
Updates on conference planning (Travis and Rik will work on this)
Continuing discussion of recruitment/retention planning
Continuing discussion of assessment activity, coordinator
Alumni outreach/fundraising
Internships

Next Meeting: 3/30 (summer registration planning; recruiting ideas for 16/17 AS; advising updates)
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Present: Chair: Travis Tubré. Faculty: Melanie Ayres, James Cortright, Cyndi Kernahan, Daniel Linwick, Richard Seefeldt, Todd Wilkinson. Notes: Jody Sather

Check-in: Lisa’s party – gift made to the foundation office for a scholarship for academic achievement in the amount of $250. Gift receipt will be in Lisa’s name.

Discussion Items

I. Cognitive search updates/timelines
   a. Interview questions were approved at the last meeting.
   b. Print ads are visible this month in the Observer and the Monitor. The online ad for the Monitor is not showing – follow up.

II. HLC Graduate Faculty qualification (UG will come later)
   a. Psychology department does not have to define graduate faculty qualifications unless there is interest for someone to be graduate faculty to serve on committees.
   b. There is interest in the department to keep graduate faculty status. Travis will meet with them to talk about defining qualifications.

III. Projector in lab
   a. CSH 156 projector was not replaced after it quit working last spring. IT services asked if we’d like to replace it $800 - $1500 or a refurb projector for $150 - $500.
   b. Portable projector is a possibility. There is department interest in purchasing a portable projector. Travis will follow-up with IT services.

IV. Updates on prerequisites for foundations courses and changes to emphases
   a. Before submitting the emphases documents there is interest in adding PSYC 379 Internship and PSYC 490 Independent Study to supporting electives for all the emphases.
   b. Motion: Richard Seefeldt makes a motion to add PSYC 379 and PSYC 490 to the emphases as possible supportive electives in the major emphases. Motion is seconded by Cyndi Kernahan. Discussion: none. Call the question: Aye - 7; Opposed – 0. Motion carries.
   c. Prerequisites: The course proposal forms will be updated for the HLC visit and there may be some fast track options to remove the prerequisites at that time.

V. Updates on active learning classroom
   a. CSH 152 is scheduled to be converted into an active learning classroom for use primarily by the Physics Department.
   b. Department raises concerns about schedule flexibility and use of larger classrooms in the building.

VI. Curricular issues pertaining to cohort sections, careers colloquium, etc. courses – moved to next meeting.

Reminders
PDAT for PSYC 101

Future Agenda Items
Next steps with HLC stuff
Curricular revisions pertaining to cohort sections, careers/colloquium, etc.
Continuing discussion of recruitment/retention planning (maybe get Psi Chi/Peer Mentors involved)
Continuing discussion of assessment activity, coordinator
Alumni outreach/fundraising
Internships
Next Meeting: 9/28