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NEW DEGREE PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Sponsoring Campus: University of Missouri-Columbia
Program Title: Psychology
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Option: None
CIP Classification: 420101
Emphasis areas: None
Implementation Date: August, 2013
Cooperative Partners None
Expected Date of First Graduation: May, 2014

Authorization

 Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs 3/28/13
Name/Title of Institutional Officer Signature Date

Steve Graham, Senior Assoc. Vice President for Academic Affairs 573-882-6396
Person to Contact for More Information Telephone Number

Introduction

The Department of Psychological Sciences at MU has approximately 1300 majors pursuing the B.A. in Psychology. These majors have a wide range of interests and post-graduate plans. Consistently, however, 20% of our students report an interest in attending graduate school in psychology or a related field, or in attending medical school. We believe that offering these students a more rigorous, science-intensive degree program will make them more attractive candidates for post-graduate admission and more likely to succeed once they begin.

All faculty can identify graduate students who have "hit the ground running" when they began in the graduate program. Students who have earned the B.S. will be better prepared to begin using statistical analysis on the data they collect. Medical students will have a thorough background in science to allow them to successfully undertake courses in medical science.

Of note, the Medical College Aptitude Test (MCAT) has been revised to include a much larger component devoted to knowledge in the social and behavioral sciences. As a result, an undergraduate degree in psychology will be an even more viable preparatory program for medical school, especially if students have the opportunity for the coursework available in the proposed B.S. degree.

Form SE STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	25	35	40	40	40
Part Time	5	5	5	5	5
Total	30	40	45	45	45

Evidence of Market Demand / Societal Need Supported by Research

When we have surveyed our majors a small, but stable, number of them have expressed an interest in a more science-intensive option. By creating this major we are attempting to provide a service to our current students. Requiring a higher-level statistics course and a 12-hour science track will better prepare our students who plan to attend graduate school in psychology or a related field, or medical school.

In this current era, students graduating from university are projected to have several careers. Gone are the days when students graduate, get a job, and remain in place until retirement. Correspondingly, our goal as educators is to best prepare students for the endeavor they are undertaking immediately after graduation. This new degree,

then, will better prepare a portion of our students, those going on to graduate and medical school.

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PROGRAM STRUCTURE

A. Total credits required for graduation: 120

B. Residency requirements, if any:
At least 30 of last 36 hours must be in MU coursework.

C. General education: Total credits: 50-53

Courses (specific courses OR distribution area and credits):

English 1000 3cr.
Foreign Language 12-13cr.
Math 1100 3cr.
Math 1300 or 1320 or 1400 or 1500 3-5cr.
Statistics 2500 3cr.
Behavioral Sciences 5cr.
Social Sciences 9cr.
Humanities 12cr.

D. Major requirements: Total credits: 42

Psych 1000 3cr.
Psych 3020 3cr.
Psych 3010 3cr.
Psych Capstone Lab 3cr.
Four distribution courses 12cr.
Two elective courses 6cr.
Required Science Track 12cr.

E. Free elective credits: 25-28 (Sum of C, D, and E should equal A.)

F. Requirements for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:
Senior Capstone Lab required

G. Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:
B.S. students complete a required science track of 12 credit hours of coursework offered by the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, or Statistics.

Please provide a brief description of the nature of the state aid. Is "new" money requested or is "old" money going to be used? What is the nature of the "old" money?

This degree will create no additional cost, nor add additional revenue to the university. We anticipate that a portion of our existing students who are currently pursuing the B.A. degree will switch to this new degree. We do not expect to recruit new students to the university with this degree. No new faculty are needed.

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PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

(Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below. Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.)

Student Preparation

Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.

None

Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.

Students interested in pursuing a graduate degree in psychology or a related field and students wishing to attend medical school

Faculty Characteristics

Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate. We already have the faculty we need to offer the B.S. degree in psychology. All faculty members possess the Ph.D.

Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty.

Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.

100%

Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.

Many of the students pursuing the B.S. will participate in independent study and participate in laboratory research under the supervision of a faculty member. Further, many of these students will conduct a senior honors thesis and present their research at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association.

Enrollment Projections

Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.

42 Student FTE

Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.

90% full time; 10% part time

Student and Program Outcomes

Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.

Approximately 1300 students are currently pursuing the B.A. in psychology. Over the last 10 years we have graduated an average of 267 students per year. We expect that after three years 20 of these students will graduate with the B.S. instead of the B.A. and after 5 years it will be 40 students per year.

Special skills specific to the program.

Students will have developed a better understanding of probability and statistics and will have a broader exposure to theory and research in the sciences.

Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.

N/A

Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests.

Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.

N/A

Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.

Our students have a broader set of interests than students of any other major. As a result, it is impossible for us to determine placement rates.

Transfer rates, continuous study.

N/A

Program Accreditation

Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide reasons.

N/A, though the university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

Alumni and Employer Survey

Expected satisfaction rates for alumni, including timing and method of surveys.

Currently, graduating seniors are asked to complete an exit survey. Once the new degree is in place we will add questions to the survey to assess the degree to which students who earned the B.S. think it will be valuable. In addition, we will follow these students to measure satisfaction rates 5 years later.

Expected satisfaction rates for employers, including timing and method of surveys.

N/A

Institutional Characteristics

(Demonstrating why our institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program)
The Department of Psychological Sciences has long been the highest-rated graduate program in the UM system. We have a large faculty comprised of scientists with international reputations. Each of our tenure-track faculty members oversees a laboratory where data are collected, analyzed and reported. These faculty members are ideally suited to supervise students undertaking a rigorous science-oriented curriculum.

In addition, we have enlisted the cooperation of the faculty in the Division of Biological Sciences and the Departments of Statistics and Chemistry. These relationships offer tremendous opportunities for students to earn degrees that are collaborative in nature. Finally, we have faculty members with appointments in the medical school and the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

No other public institution in the state has a Department of Psychology comprised of such research-oriented faculty. We are ideally suited to offer the Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology.