

**Proposal for a New/Revised
Major, Minor, Emphasis, Certificate**

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Prepare your proposal according to the following outline. (Hand written forms will not be accepted.)
 - Attach the new/current catalog copy with all affected changes clearly noted. List all courses and requirements, indicate new courses, deleted courses and/or course changes.
Note: A form must be submitted for each change.
 - Submit the signed proposal to the Office of Academic Affairs. All forms must be completed in full with appropriate signatures to be added to the agenda. You will be contacted by the Curriculum Committee Coordinator with a date and time to present the proposal.
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I. Identification of Department(s)/Program(s): Psychology Major

II. Is this a New or Revised Proposal? New Revised

Type of proposal: Major Minor Emphasis Certificate

Title of Proposal: *Revised Psychology Major Requirements*

III. Rationale for the proposal:

a. What research/evidence supports the need for the proposal?

The requested change in the Psychology Major requirements is to increase the number of required courses at the 3000 level or above. Across the country, psychology departments are reporting a drive to increase junior and senior level course requirements. We feel that requiring that students have at least half their courses at the junior and senior level would be desirable.

b. How will it support departmental philosophy/mission and existing curriculum? How will it support the philosophy/mission and existing curriculum of your School/College and the University?

The proposal will better enable to department to ensure that we are providing the best academic environment to facilitate student success. Increasing the number of required hours at the 3000 level or above will necessitate that students develop more depth in the field prior to graduation.

c. List the learning objectives/outcomes:

The learning objectives/outcomes will not change given this is just a change in the number of required courses.

d. How will these outcomes be assessed?

There will be no change in assessment strategies.

- e. Why is this being proposed?

The current major requires the following spread of courses:

A minimum of 42 credit hours must be selected from psychology. Within the required 42 hours, at least 12 hours must be at the 3000 level and 6 hours must be at the 4000 level.

The new distribution language would be as followed:

A minimum of 42 credit hours must be selected from psychology. Within the required 42 hours, students must complete a minimum of 21 credit hours at the 3000 level or above with at least 6 hours must be at the 4000 level.

This language reflects the 3 credit increase in required courses at the 3000 level or above. We felt it was important for students to take at least half of the courses in the major at the 3000 level or above. In addition, it provides more flexibility in that students could choose to take more than 6 credit hours at the 4000 level.

- f. Will this proposal have an impact on other Webster departments, schools/colleges or campuses (including overseas)? Yes No. If yes, please provide a brief explanation. Our extended campuses already offer a sufficient number of courses coded at the 3000 level or higher.
- g. What Campus(es) will offer this?
There will be no change in the number of campuses that offer the Psychology Major
- h. Does this proposal require a new course? Yes No. If yes, what course(s)?
- i. Does this proposal require a new prefix? Yes No. If yes, what prefix?

Note: A New Course Proposal Form and/or Course Change Form must be submitted with this proposal for any course(s) affected by this change (including those that are converting to the new prefix.)

IV. Staffing Information:




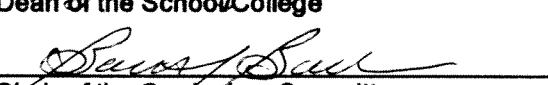
- a. What additions or changes in staffing are necessary for this proposal?
This change will not necessitate a staffing change given we currently offer enough 3000 level and above level courses.
- b. How will this be coordinated?
The BSS department at the main campus will coordinate implementation.
- c. Who will coordinate this program? (name, title and department)
Don Conway-Long, Chairperson, BSS Department

V. Feasibility information:

- a. What are the resources necessary for this proposal? (space, equipment, etc)
There is no change in needed space etc.
- b. What are the projections for enrollment and growth for this upon implementation?
We project an increase in students taking upper level courses.

Endorsements & Approvals:

Please have the Chair of the Department/Committee, Dean of each School/College and other programs that may be affected by this proposal, review prior to submission to the Office of Academic Affairs.

 _____ Petitioner	<u>1-12-10</u> _____ Date
 _____ Chair of the Department/Committee	<u>12 Jan 2010</u> _____ Date
 _____ Dean of the School/College	<u>12/1/10</u> _____ Date
 _____ Chair of the Curriculum Committee	<u>1-26-10</u> _____ Date

Distribution:

Academic Affairs
Registrar

Dean, School/College
Chair, Department

Chair, Committee
Academic Advising (UG)

? not sure what this means

A minimum of 42 credit hours must be selected from psychology. Within the required 42 hours, students must complete a minimum of 2 credit hours at the 1000 level or above with at least 6 hours must be at the 4000 level.

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Within the total credit hours students are required to complete the following courses:

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PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics	3 hours
PSYC 2825 Introduction to Research Methods	3 hours
PSYC 3550 History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 4900 Senior Seminar	3 hours

In addition, one course must be completed from four of the following six content areas.

Biological and Evolutionary Perspectives: The roles of biological processes, structures, and inherited tendencies in explaining human behavior.

PSYC 4300 Health Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 4400 Human Sexuality	3 hours
PSYC 4550 Drug and Chemical Dependency	3 hours
PSYC 4650 Physiological Psychology	3 hours

Clinical and Counseling Perspectives: The diagnosis and treatment of mental, behavioral disorders, and adjustment problems.

PSYC 3125 Abnormal Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 3775 Personality Theory	3 hours
PSYC 3900 Introduction to Counseling	3 hours

Lifespan Development Perspectives: Examination of how individuals grow, develop, and change throughout the lifespan.

PSYC 2200 Child Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 2250 Adolescent Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 2300 Lifespan Development	3 hours
PSYC 2950 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging	3 hours

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Learning and Cognitive Perspectives: Examination of the mental processes and environmental situations that underlie, shape, and control behavior.

PSYC 3325 Applied Learning Theory	3 hours
PSYC 3350 Cognitive Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 3725 Psychology of Judgment and Decision Making	3 hours

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Social and Cross-Cultural Perspectives: The roles of social and cultural influences on behavior.

PSYC 3575 Industrial/Organizational Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 3600 Social Psychology	3 hours
PSYC 4350 Cross-Cultural and International Psychology	3 hours

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Do we keep
Advanced Research Methods section?

Psychology

Degree Requirements

42 required credit hours

27 general education credit hours

59 elective credit hours

Courses in psychology (PSYC) are designed to provide the student with an understanding of the complexity and diversity of human behavior and the context for understanding the behavior of the individual.

Learning Goals for the Psychology Program:

The student learning outcomes for psychology majors are those established by the American Psychological Association for undergraduate education in psychology. The learning outcomes are broadly divided into two main categories, which are as follows:

1. Students will develop knowledge, skills, and values consistent with the science and application of psychology. Upon completion of the program, students should:

- Be able to demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
- Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
- Show respect for and use of critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.
- Be able to weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect on the value that a thorough understanding of psychology as a discipline

2. Students will demonstrate knowledge, skills, and values consistent with liberal arts education that are further developed in psychology. Upon completion of the program, students should:

- Be able to demonstrate information competence and the ability to use computer and other technology for many purposes.
- Be able to communicate effectively in a variety of formats.
- Recognize, understand, and respect the complexity of sociocultural and international diversity.
- Have developed insight into their own and others' behavior and mental processes and be able to apply effective strategies for self-management and self-improvement.
- Have realistic ideas about how to implement their psychological knowledge, skills, and values in occupational pursuits in a variety of settings.

2000 Level Courses: courses that would be taken by large numbers of non-majors in addition to majors. May fulfill a general education requirement.

ANSO 2000 Issues in Contemporary Society (1-4)

Acquaints the student with the various social and cultural issues of contemporary societies. Centers around concerns of living in industrialized urban societies. Compares complex societies to gain an understanding of issues that confront their members. Topics vary each semester. May be repeated for credit if content differs.

ANSO 2030 Culture and Communication (3)

Begins with the concept of culture as a means of communicating with others, not only language but with manners, etiquette, dress, rituals and ceremonies, gesture and movement—the entire system of symbols and signs that provide meaning for human behavior. Explores a variety of issues in cross-cultural communication, language use, and symbolic systems.

ANSO 2040 North American Indians (3)

Central to United States anthropology is the study of our indigenous populations, the five hundred nations of North America. This course explores the diversity of North American Indians, from foragers and hunters to intensive cultivators, prior to European colonization. We will examine adaptations to ecological settings, economic, religious and political structures, art and ritual, as well as their relations with other native populations and reactions to the European incursions.

ANSO 2073 Topics in Archaeology (3)

This course is designed to allow for focused study of special topics in archaeology, repeatable for credit with different subtitles. Different time periods and areas of the planet will be covered in each manifestation of the course (e.g. Ancient Greece, Dynastic Egypt, Cahokian Missouri and Illinois, etc.). ANSO 1075 is recommended but not required prior to enrollment.

ANSO 2100 Peoples and Cultures (3)

An introduction to ways in which diverse cultures or specific geographic regions respond to some of the stress points of the contemporary world. Issues we will examine include: violence and warfare, ethnic conflicts, environmental degradation, economic inequalities, cultural imperialism and social change, human rights and the role of governments, and the many conflicts between "traditional" values and modernity. The course is designed to broaden the student's understanding of the processes taking place in the contemporary world, utilizing the lenses provided by social sciences. May be repeated for credit if content differs.

ANSO 2375 Deviant Behavior (3)

An overview of concepts, issues, and research findings in the study of deviant behavior. We will examine the various theories that provide explanations of the nature, causes, and control of

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