DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

CURRICULUM CHANGE

Name of Program and Degree Award: Psychology Major, BA

Hegis Number: 2001.00

Program Code: 34033 - PSY-BA

Effective Term: Fall 2026

1. **Type of Change**: Change in Degree Requirements

2. From: Strikethrough the changes

Major Requirements - Overall Type: Completion Requirement

Earn at least 35 credits

Major Requirements - Required Courses

Type: Completion Requirement

Earn at least 14 credits from the following:

- PSY 166 General Psychology
- PSY 226 Statistical Methods in Psychology
- PSY 305 Experimental Psychology I
- PSY 348 History of Psychology

The pre-requisite for PSY 226 is MAT 132 (4 credits), or MAT 172 (4 credits) or MAT 174 (4 credits) or MAT 175 (4 credits), any of which can be used to fulfill General Education requirements. Students who complete the pre-requisite before declaring the major may complete the major in less than 42 credits. MAT 135 cannot be used to satisfy the pre-requisite for PSY 226.

Major Requirements - Distribution Block 1

Type: Completion Requirement Complete Two (2) Courses

Fulfill ALL of the following requirements:

Option 1

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 217 Child Psychology
- PSY 218 Psychology of Adolescence
- PSY 219 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging

Option 2

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 234 Abnormal Psychology
- PSY 255 Theories of Personality

Option 3

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 240 Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- PSY 260 Social Psychology

Major Requirements - Distribution Block 2

Type: Completion Requirement

Complete Two (2) Courses

Fulfill ALL of the following requirements:

Option 1

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 310 Psychology of Learning
- PSY 245 Psychological Testing and Assessment

Option 2

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 314 Cognitive Psychology
- PSY 317 Psychology of Sensation and Perception

Option 3

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 316 Physiological Psychology
- PSY 366 Clinical Neuropsychology

Major Requirements - Elective Courses

Type: Completion Requirement

Earn at least 9 credits from the following:

Psychology Electives 200 to 400 Level

Students must complete at least THREE Psychology electives which may include any 200-, 300-, or 400-level Psychology course not completed to satisfy a required or distribution area previously listed. This area may include PSY 200 which was formerly PSY 165. PSY 485 may be used once as a Psychology Free Elective. PSY 495 cannot be used as a Psychology Free Elective.

Major Requirements - Departmental Honors

Type: Completion Requirement

Complete ALL of the following Courses:

- PSY 485 Independent Study in Psychology
- PSY 495 Honors Research in Psychology

Additional Comments:

Students who wish to qualify for Departmental honors are required to complete PSY 485 and PSY 495.

PSY 485: May be used to fulfill the requirements of the major as a Psychology Free Elective.

3. To: Underline the changes

Major Requirements - Overall Type: Completion Requirement

Earn at least 35 credits

Major Requirements - Required Courses

Type: Completion Requirement

Earn at least 14 credits from the following:

- PSY 166 General Psychology
- PSY 302 Research Methods I
- PSY 303 Research Methods II
- PSY 348 History of Psychology

The pre-requisite for <u>PSY 302 is PSY 226 (4 credits) or MAT 132</u> (4 credits) or MAT 172 (4 credits) or MAT 174 (4 credits) or MAT 175 (4 credits), <u>many of which can be used to fulfill General Education requirements</u>. Students who complete the pre-requisite before declaring the major may complete the major in less than 42 credits. MAT 135 cannot be used to satisfy the pre-requisite for PSY <u>302</u>.

Major Requirements - Distribution Block 1

Type: Completion Requirement

Complete Two (2) Courses

Fulfill ALL of the following requirements:

Option 1

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 217 Child Psychology
- PSY 218 Psychology of Adolescence
- PSY 219 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging

Option 2

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 234 Abnormal Psychology
- PSY 255 Theories of Personality

Option 3

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 240 Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- PSY 260 Social Psychology

Major Requirements - Distribution Block 2

Type: Completion Requirement

Complete Two (2) Courses

Fulfill ALL of the following requirements:

Option 1

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 310 Psychology of Learning
- PSY 245 Psychological Testing and Assessment

Option 2

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 314 Cognitive Psychology
- PSY 317 Psychology of Sensation and Perception

Option 3

Complete ANY of the following Courses:

- PSY 316 Physiological Psychology
- PSY 366 Clinical Neuropsychology

Major Requirements - Elective Courses

Type: Completion Requirement

Earn at least 9 credits from the following:

Psychology Electives 200 to 400 Level

Students must complete at least THREE Psychology electives which may include any 200-, 300-, or 400-level Psychology course not completed to satisfy a required or distribution area previously listed. This area may include PSY 200 which was formerly PSY 165. PSY 485 may be used once as a Psychology Free Elective. PSY 495 cannot be used as a Psychology Free Elective.

Major Requirements - Departmental Honors

Type: Completion Requirement

Complete ALL of the following Courses:

- PSY 485 Independent Study in Psychology
- PSY 495 Honors Research in Psychology

Additional Comments:

Students who wish to qualify for Departmental honors are required to complete PSY 485 and PSY 495.

PSY 485: May be used to fulfill the requirements of the major as a Psychology Free Elective.

4. Rationale (Explain how this change will impact learning outcomes of the department and Major/Program):

The suggested changes represent a re-design of the core course sequence for the Psychology major. The goal of the re-design is not to change the learning outcomes of the major/department, but to better meet them. The re-designed course sequence is meant to streamline the related topics of statistics and research methods, which will now be taught through a sequential, integrated approach rather than as two separate topics. This will more readily link core concepts and avoid non-sequential overlap that is disjointed in our current curriculum. A new course, PSY 302, will serve as the first of two integrated Research Methods courses. The second course in the integrated sequence, a new course proposed as PSY 303, will be designated as writing-intensive since it is the culminating course in the core sequence (PSY 305 serves that role now). As such, PSY 226 and PSY 305 will no longer be required courses for the Psychology major. They will be replaced with PSY 302 and PSY 303, which will become required courses for the Psychology major.

5. Date of departmental approval: 04/07/2025

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. Type of change: New Course

2.

Department(s)	Psychology
Career	[X] Undergraduate [] Graduate
Academic Level	[X]Regular []Compensatory []Developmental [] Remedial
Subject Area	Psychology
Course Prefix & Number	PSY 302
Course Title	Research Methods I
Description	Theory practice and ethics of empirical research in Psychology. Topics include literature review, research design, variables and measurement concepts, sampling, descriptive statistics and hypothesis testing.
Pre/ Co Requisites	PSY 166 and one of the following options: PSY 226 or MAT 132 or MAT 172 or MAT 174 or MAT 175 or MAT 108 and MAT 171
Credits	4
Hours	4
Liberal Arts	[X]Yes []No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	
General Education Component	X_ Not Applicable Required English Composition Mathematics Science
	Flexible World Cultures US Experience in its Diversity Creative Expression Individual and Society Scientific World

3. Rationale:

This new course is part of a re-design of the core course sequence for the Psychology major. The goal of the re-design is not to change the learning outcomes of the major/department, but to better meet them. The re-designed course sequence is meant to streamline the related topics of statistics and research methods, which will now be taught through a sequential, integrated approach rather than as two separate topics. This will more readily link core concepts and avoid non-sequential overlap that is disjointed in our current curriculum. PSY 302 will now serve as the first of two integrated Research Methods courses. The second course in the integrated sequence, a new course to be proposed as PSY 303, will be designated as writing-intensive since it is the culminating course in the core sequence (PSY 305 serves that role now).

4. <u>Learning Outcomes (By the end of the course students will be expected to)</u>: Students successfully completing this course will:

- Become informed consumers of research in academia, media, and policy.
- Be able to distinguish between the scientific method and other ways of knowing.
- Conduct effective literature searches for peer-reviewed articles using online tools (PsycINFO)
- Read, summarize and analyze primary research articles in the field of Psychology, including identifying strengths and weaknesses of various research designs.
- Understand and demonstrate an awareness of ethical and moral concerns involved in scientific research.
- Be able to identify, design and critically evaluate experimental, quasiexperimental and correlational research designs.
- Be able to distinguish among sampling techniques used in Psychological research.
- Be able to operationalize concepts for measurement in research.
- Be able to identify and work with different types of data and scales of measurement.
- Be able to create and interpret statistical tables and graphs.
- Be able to calculate and interpret measures of central tendency and variability.
- Understand the purpose and logic of hypothesis testing.
- Be able to test hypotheses with z-score tests and one-sample t-tests:
 - Know when to use each of these tests
 - o Be able to form hypotheses for each of these tests
 - Be able to calculate each test step-by-step
 - o Be able to determine if the test is significant
 - o Be able to calculate and interpret measures of effect size
 - Be able to report the test results in APA style
 - Be able to communicate the research results
- Be able to interpret and generalize appropriately from research results.
- Understand what statistical power is and what affects it.
- Be introduced to a statistical software package.
- Communicate effectively and appropriately through written reports that use APA style.

5. **Date of Departmental Approval**: 04/07/2025 (Changes approved 09/08/2025)

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. Type of change: New Course

2.

Department(s)	Psychology
Career	[X] Undergraduate [] Graduate
Academic Level	[X] Regular [] Compensatory [] Developmental [] Remedial
Subject Area	Psychology
Course Prefix & Number	PSY 303
Course Title	Research Methods II
Description	Quantitative and qualitative research methods including various research designs, participant observation, confidence intervals, surveys, nominal data, and data analysis.
Pre/ Co Requisites	PSY 302
Credits	4
Hours	4 (2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab)
Liberal Arts	[X]Yes []No
Course Attribute (e.g. Writing Intensive, WAC, etc)	Writing Intensive
General Education Component	X_ Not Applicable Required English Composition Mathematics Science Flexible World Cultures US Experience in its Diversity Creative Expression Individual and Society Scientific World

3. Rationale:

This new course is part of a re-design of the core course sequence for the Psychology major. The goal of the re-design is not to change the learning outcomes of the major/department, but to better meet them. The re-designed course sequence is meant to streamline the related topics of statistics and research methods, which will now be taught through a sequential, integrated approach rather than as two separate topics.

This will more readily link core concepts and avoid non-sequential overlap that is disjointed in our current curriculum. PSY 303 will serve as the second of two integrated Research Methods courses and will be designated as writing-intensive since it is the culminating course in the core sequence (PSY 305 serves that role now).

4. <u>Learning Outcomes (By the end of the course students will be expected to)</u>: Students successfully completing this course will:

- Read, summarize and analyze primary research articles in the field of Psychology, including identifying strengths and weaknesses of various research designs.
- Be able to identify, design and critically evaluate experimental, quasiexperimental and correlational research designs, as well as qualitative and single-subject research designs.
- Be able to test hypotheses with the following statistical tests: independent and paired samples t-tests, one factor between and within subjects ANOVA, two factor ANOVA, correlation, regression, and chi-square.
 - Know when to use each of these tests
 - Be able to form hypotheses for each of these tests
 - Be able to calculate each test step by step (except two-factor ANOVA)
 - Be able to determine if the test is significant
 - o Be able to calculate and interpret measures of effect size
 - Be able to report the test results in APA style
 - Be able to communicate the research results
- Be able to construct and interpret confidence intervals
- Communicate effectively and appropriately through written reports that use APA style.
- 5. <u>Date of Departmental Approval</u>: 04/07/2025 (Changes approved 09/08/2025)

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. Type of Change: Withdrawal of course

2. **Description**:

PSY 306 – Experimental Psychology II. - Continuation of PSY 305, including such areas as sensation and perception, with emphasis on independent research on selected topics. PREREQ: PSY 305.

3. Rationale (Explain why this course/program is no longer needed in the Department):

The Department of Psychology has submitted a proposed re-design of the core course sequence for the Psychology major. The goal of the re-design is not to change the learning outcomes of the major/department, but to better meet them. The re-designed course sequence is meant to streamline the related topics of statistics and research methods, which will now be taught through a sequential, integrated approach rather than as two separate topics. This will more readily link core concepts and avoid non-sequential overlap that is disjointed in our current curriculum. A new course, PSY 302, will serve as the first of two integrated Research Methods courses. The second course in the integrated sequence, a new course proposed as PSY 303, will be designated as writing-intensive since it is the culminating course in the core sequence (PSY 305 serves that role now). PSY 302 and PSY 303 will, thus, replace PSY 226 and PSY 305 as required courses for the Psychology major. Since PSY 305 will no longer be a required course, its continuation – PSY 306 – will not need to be offered.

4. Date of departmental approval: 04/07/2025