

Faculty Consent Agenda Item

Request for Authorization to Implement a New Degree Program

<p>Program Name & Degree</p>	<p>BS in Psychological Science</p>
<p>Requested by</p>	<p>Psychology Department, School of Mind, Brain and Behavior College of Science</p>
<p>CIP Code</p>	<p>42.2704, Experimental Psychology</p>
<p>Purpose of Program</p>	<p>The BS in Psychological Science is a research-intensive degree that emphasizes critical thinking and analytic and quantitative skills involved in psychological research. The degree was developed to better prepare students for graduate study. Students will obtain in-depth knowledge in three research domains that mirror the expertise within the department – cognitive neuroscience, clinical science, and social-personality science. Training in advanced research methods and statistics will be combined with intensive hands-on research experiences that will provide students with the ability to execute and evaluate empirical studies.</p> <p>Currently, all Psychology majors have identical requirements. Although students can obtain a BA or BS in Psychology, the BS/BA designation is determined solely by the choice of courses outside the major (general education foundation math and foreign language requirements and electives). In order to create a separate research-intensive major, we have chosen to replace the current BS in Psychology with a BS in Psychological Science. The BS in Psychology will be disestablished once the new major is approved.</p> <p>Most psychology departments at major research universities, including Arizona State University, University of Texas Austin, University of Michigan, and the University of Washington now offer two separate degrees consistent with the current proposal, a general degree in Psychology and a research-intensive degree in Psychological Science. This designation has been widely adopted in the psychology field to identify degrees that emphasize advanced training in psychological research. The Psychological Science major is designed to serve undergraduates who plan to attend post-graduate programs that require in-depth knowledge of the field and advanced research methods and statistics, such as graduate programs in psychological research or clinical psychology, medicine, or social work. In addition, students considering a career in such areas as special education, occupational therapy, or rehabilitation will benefit from intensive training in the ability to read, interpret, and evaluate primary sources of psychological research. This group of students is distinct from those undergraduates in the Psychology major who will benefit from knowledge of psychological processes and concepts and their relevance to real world situations, but who do not require in-depth knowledge of research methods and statistics, including students entering the fields of law, business, education, human resources, and counselling psychology, among others.</p>

	5-year projected annual enrollment				
	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	4 th year	5 th year
	75	150	250	400	600
Source(s) of Funding	An Academic program fee of \$200 per semester will be paid by students in upper-division standing. Additional Graduate Teach Assistants will be funded through a combination of College of Science RCM allocations and program fees. No new faculty are required at this time as the department anticipates most of the students who will declare the B.S. in Psychological Science will move from the B.A. in Psychology.				

Approvals:

ABOR	February 5, 2016
Undergraduate Council	April 12, 2016
Graduate Council	N/A
CAAC	Pending April 26, 2016 meeting
Provost's Council	April 11, 2016
Faculty Senate	