

Psychology Academic Learning Compact

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF A PSYCHOLOGY AREA OF CONCENTRATION

Content Knowledge

- Demonstrate knowledge in four of five broad areas: Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Biological Psychology.
- Understand major concepts and principles used in the field of psychology.
- Demonstrate statistical literacy.
- Methodological literacy.

Communication Skills

- Write clearly.
- Exhibit persuasive, accurate, clear public speaking,
- Produce graphics to communicate ideas and data.
- Use current technology including word processing, spreadsheets, power point, web pages, etc. to communicate,
- Work effectively with a team.
- Prepare an APA-formatted paper.

Critical Thinking Skills

- Collect and analyze data.
- Critically evaluate research designs, results, and interpretations by knowing how to use basic statistical tests, how to formulate hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and draw conclusions.
- Summarize and evaluate published literature.
- Produce empirically based thesis.

Course Mapping: See attached Table

Measures to track student progress

Each semester, course evaluations track student progress in academic activities. At the 5th semester, students prepare a Provisional Area of Concentration form, listing additional academic activities needed to accomplish the psychology outcomes. Any requirements remaining are stated on the Thesis Prospectus form.

Specific measures to demonstrate each graduate's competencies:

All graduates will have passed research methods and statistics courses as well as courses in four of five broad areas in psychology. The Senior Thesis will be evaluated for writing clarity, effective graphic illustration, mastery of content, appropriate research design, data collection, statistical analysis, effective summarization and evaluation of published literature, use of APA style, and appropriate conclusions. The Baccalaureate exam will evaluate skill in oral communication and critical thinking in relation to the senior thesis and the entire undergraduate academic career. The Baccalaureate committee will record their evaluation of this oral exam on the Baccalaureate evaluation form.

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Outcomes	Content	Critical Thinking	Communication
Clear Communication – write clearly, exhibit persuasive, accurate, clear public speaking and graphic production			x
Demonstration of knowledge in four of five broad areas	x	x	x
Understanding of major concepts and principles used in the field of psychology	x	x	
Statistical Literacy	x	x	
Methodological Literacy	x	x	x
Course Mapping			
Introduction to Psychology	x	x	x
Psychology labs		x	x
Psychology Senior Seminar or its equivalent		x	x
Research Methods	x	x	x
Statistics	x	x	
Cognitive Psychology	x	x	x
Developmental Psychology	x	x	x
Social Psychology	x	x	x
Abnormal Psychology	x	x	
Biopsychology	x	x	x
Two advanced electives in psychology	x	x	
Senior Thesis in psychology	x	x	x
Baccalaureate exam	x	x	x