June 3, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregory Ball  
   Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

FROM: Elizabeth Beise  
   Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Modify the Bachelor Programs in Psychology (PCC Log No. 15081)

The proposal to modify the Bachelor Programs in Psychology has been administratively approved. A copy of the proposal is attached.

The change is effective Fall 2016. Please ensure that the change is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, including the undergraduate program’s four-year plan (contact Lisa Kiely at lkiely@umd.edu for more information).

MDC/
Enclosure

cc: Andrew Harris, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
    Barbara Gill, Office of Enrollment Management  
    Reka Montfort, University Senate  
    Chip Denman, Division of Information Technology  
    Pam Phillips, Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment  
    Anne Turkos, University Archives  
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
    Cynthia Stevens, Office of Undergraduate Studies  
    Katherine Russell, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
    Jack Blanchard, Department of Psychology
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

• Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

• Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

PCC LOG NO. 15081

College/School: BSOS - 01201800
Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits:
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hyperion.umd.edu/reports/units.htm

Department/Program: PSYC - 1282501
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits:

Type of Action (choose one):
X Curriculum change (including informal specializations) □ New academic degree/award program
X Curriculum change for an LEP Program □ New Professional Studies award iteration
□ Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration □ New Minor
□ Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration □ Request to create an online version of an existing program
□ Suspend/delete program

Italicics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:

1. Change calculus requirement for B.S. degree from 'MATH 140 only' to 'MATH 120 or MATH 140 (highly recommended). This has been reviewed and approved by MATH.

2. Because of BSCI has divided BSCI 105 into lecture (BSCI 170) and lab (BSCI 171) courses, revise course numbers in B.A. and B.S. requirements: replace 'BSCI 105' with 'BSCI 170 plus BSCI 171.' The content and total number of credits is unchanged.

3. Because MATH has changed course numbers, revise course numbers in B.A. and B.S. requirements: replace 'MATH 220' with 'MATH 120.' The content and number of credits is unchanged.

4. At the request of MATH and BSCI, add clarification to B.A. and B.S. requirements regarding the role of MATH 130. MATH 130 is removed from the lists of acceptable MATH courses, and the following text is added: 'MATH 130 is acceptable only for declared PSYC/BSCI double majors and for students who have taken the course prior to becoming a PSYC major.'

Departmental/Unit Contact Person for Proposal: Dr. David Yager, Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies
APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair: David Yager 02/24/16
2. Department Chair: Jack Blanchard 02/29/16
3. College/School PCC Chair: Karl Zetlan
4. Dean: Kathleen Russell 3/24/16
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)
6. Chair, Senate PCC: Andrew Harris 5/6/16
7. University Senate Chair (if required)
8. Senior Vice President and Provost: Elizabeth J. Beine 6/3/16
Curriculum Change Proposal - Department of Psychology

Summary:

1. Change the calculus requirement for B.S. degree from 'MATH 140 only' to 'MATH 120 or MATH 140 (highly recommended).’ This has been reviewed and approved by the MATH Department.

Minor changes:

2. Because BSCI has divided BSCI 105 into lecture (BSCI 170) and lab (BSCI 171) components, revise course numbers in B.A. and B.S. requirements: replace ‘BSCI 105’ with ‘BSCI 170 plus BSCI 171.’ The content and total number of credits is unchanged.

3. Because MATH has changed course numbers, revise course numbers in B.A. and B.S. requirements: replace ‘MATH 220’ with ‘MATH 120.’ The content and number of credits is unchanged.

4. At the request of MATH and BSCI, add clarification to B.A. and B.S. requirements regarding the role of MATH 130. MATH 130 is removed from the lists of routinely acceptable MATH courses, and the following text is added: ‘MATH 130 is acceptable only for declared PSYC/BSCI double majors and for students who have taken the course prior to becoming a PSYC major.’

Current Undergraduate Catalog:

Admission to the Major

In accordance with University policy, the Department of Psychology has been designated a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). All first-time freshman who request psychology as a major will be directly admitted into the major. Other first-time freshman who wish to declare psychology as a major prior to the last day of classes of their first semester in residence will be allowed to do so.

In order to remain a psychology major, newly admitted freshman will be required to meet an academic performance review on or before the end of the semester in which they attempt 45 University of Maryland credits. This standard includes:

a. Completion of PSYC100 with a grade of "B-" or higher (if the student has Advanced Placement credit for PSYC100, the student must complete PSYC221 with a grade of "B-" or higher)

b. Completion of MATH130, 140, or 220 with a grade of "C-" or higher. (Students pursuing a BS in Psychology must take MATH130 or 140).

c. Completion of BSCI105 with a grade of "C-" or higher.

d. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all coursework taken at the University of Maryland.
All other students, including both internal and external transfer students, will be admitted to the program only if they have met the above LEP requirements and also have a minimum cumulative GPA based on all previous college-level coursework of 2.70 or higher.

For a more detailed discussion of LEP policies visit [www.lep.umd.edu](http://www.lep.umd.edu) and then call 301-405-5866 to consult with one of our academic advisors.

Any student denied admission or dismissed from the major may appeal to the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Psychology ([http://psychology.umd.edu](http://psychology.umd.edu)).

Internal transfer students may appeal to the Office of the Dean for Behavioral and Social Sciences ([www.bsos.umd.edu](http://www.bsos.umd.edu)).

External transfer students may appeal to the Office of Admissions ([www.umd.edu/admissions/](http://www.umd.edu/admissions/)).

**Requirements for the Major**

All students must complete at least 35 credits (11 courses) in Psychology. The required courses include:

- **PSYC100** – Introduction to Psychology
- **PSYC200** – Statistical Methods in Psychology
- **PSYC300** – Research Methods in Psychology (4 credit lab)
- A minimum of 2 courses from each of the following three thematic areas:
  - Mind, Brain, & Behavior
  - Mental Health & Interventions
  - Social, Developmental, & Organizational Processes
- Two 400 level, 3 credit PSYC courses
- One additional 4 credit PSYC lab course

A grade of "C-" or better must be earned in all 35 credits of psychology courses used for the major, except for PSYC100 (or PSYC221, if AP credit was earned for PSYC100), in which the grade must be "B-" or higher. No course may be used as a prerequisite unless a grade of "C-" is earned in that course prior to its use as a prerequisite.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Science degree option must complete a minimum of 5 courses/17 credits in mathematics and science. At least three courses must be advanced and at least two courses must contain a lab. The 5 courses/17 credits must be completed with at least a 2.0 average. MATH130, MATH140, and BSCI105, may be used to satisfy part of the requirement for the B.S. degree. Students should consult the following website for a list of approved advanced math and science courses for the Bachelor of Science in psychology:

[http://ter.ps/psycbs](http://ter.ps/psycbs)
Proposed revisions to the Undergraduate Catalog:

Admission to the Major

In accordance with University policy, the Department of Psychology has been designated a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). All first-time freshman who request psychology as a major will be directly admitted into the major. Other first-time freshman who wish to declare psychology as a major prior to the last day of classes of their first semester in residence will be allowed to do so.

In order to remain a psychology major, newly admitted freshman will be required to meet an academic performance review on or before the end of the semester in which they attempt 45 University of Maryland credits. This standard includes:

a. Completion of PSYC100 with a grade of "B-" or higher (if the student has Advanced Placement credit for PSYC100, the student must complete PSYC221 with a grade of "B-" or higher)

b. Completion of MATH 120 or MATH 140 with a grade of "C-" or higher. MATH 140 is highly recommended for students pursuing a B.S. in Psychology. (MATH 130 is acceptable only for declared PSYC/BSCI double majors and for students who have taken the course prior to becoming a PSYC major.)

c. Completion of BSCI 170 (Principles of Biology I) and BSCI 171 (Principles of Biology I Lab) with a minimum grade of C- in both courses.

d. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all coursework taken at the University of Maryland.

All other students, including both internal and external transfer students, will be admitted to the program only if they have met the above LEP requirements and also have a minimum cumulative GPA based on all previous college-level coursework of 2.70 or higher.

For a more detailed discussion of LEP policies visit www.lep.umd.edu and then call 301-405-5866 to consult with one of our academic advisors.

Any student denied admission or dismissed from the major may appeal to the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Psychology (http://psychology.umd.edu).

Internal transfer students may appeal to the Office of the Dean for Behavioral and Social Sciences (www.bsos.umd.edu).

External transfer students may appeal to the Office of Admissions (www.umd.edu/admissions/).

Requirements for the Major

All students must complete at least 35 credits (11 courses) in Psychology. The required courses include:

- PSYC100 – Introduction to Psychology
- PSYC200 – Statistical Methods in Psychology
- PSYC300 – Research Methods in Psychology (4 credit lab)
- A minimum of 2 courses from each of the following three thematic areas:
  - Mind, Brain, & Behavior
  - Mental Health & Interventions
  - Social, Developmental, & Organizational Processes
• Two 400 level, 3 credit PSYC courses
• One additional 4 credit PSYC lab course

A grade of "C-" or better must be earned in all 35 credits of psychology courses used for the major, except for PSYC100 (or PSYC221, if AP credit was earned for PSYC100), in which the grade must be "B-" or higher. No course may be used as a prerequisite unless a grade of "C-" is earned in that course prior to its use as a prerequisite.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Science degree option must complete a minimum of 5 courses/17 credits in mathematics and science. At least three courses must be advanced and at least two courses must contain a lab. The 5 courses/17 credits must be completed with at least a 2.0 average. MATH 140 (highly recommended) or MATH 120 and BSCI 170 plus BSCI 171, may be used to satisfy part of the requirement for the B.S. degree. (MATH 130 is acceptable only for declared PSYC/BSCI double majors and for students who have taken the course prior to becoming a PSYC major.) Students should consult the following website for a list of approved advanced math and science courses for the Bachelor of Science in psychology:
http://ter.ps/psycbs

Explanation:

MATH 140 is the introductory calculus course recommended for physical science, engineering, and mathematics majors. BSOS, MATH, and PSYC worked together over the summer and fall to assess the appropriateness of this course for PSYC majors. Last year, ca. 40% of all PSYC majors taking MATH 140 received grades of D or F or never completed the course. In Fall'15, all students enrolled in MATH 140 took an evaluative test on the first day of class, and ca. 50% of the PSYC majors had scores that predicted unsatisfactory performance in the course. They were advised to drop MATH 140, but this precluded their pursuing a B.S. in Psychology.

MATH 120 (formerly MATH 220) is the introductory calculus course recommended for students not in physical sciences, engineering, or mathematics majors. (MATH 130 previously listed as an option is an introductory calculus course offered only to BSCI majors.) Given the results above, the Department of Psychology Undergraduate and Executive Committees decided that MATH 120 is the appropriate introductory calculus course for all PSYC majors.

The MATH Department has signed off on the change. See included email from the MATH Department Chair, Dr. Scott Wolpert.

The rationales for the minor wording changes are given in the summary.

Additional consequences of the proposed change:

The proposed change will have no effect on students' progression through the major, on their semester-by-semester course plans, or on completion of prerequisites for upper level courses. Like MATH 140, MATH 120 is taught every semester. Both are very large courses that can easily accommodate the projected 30-40 PSYC majors each year (based on the numbers collected in Fall '15). MATH 140 remains
highly recommended for PSYC major pursuing a B.S. degree because it broadens their opportunities for additional science and math courses. However, B.S. students taking MATH 120 will have more than adequate numbers of courses available to fulfill their requirement for five math and science courses. There are ca. 150 courses across eight departments acceptable for fulfilling the B.S. requirements, of which ca. 120 do not require MATH 140.

Approval from MATH Department:

[Note: MATH has changed course numbers so that MATH 220 = MATH 120.]

From: Scott A. Wolpert swolpert@umd.edu
Subject: RE: Psychology majors in Math 140 01xy
Date: February 5, 2016 at 3:53 PM
To: David D. Yager ddyager@umd.edu, Doron Levy dievy@umd.edu, Katherine Ford Russell krussell@umd.edu
Cc: dgulick-contact dng@math.umd.edu

Dear David Yager,
I am writing with the Math Department’s support for the proposed changes to the Psychology major. In particular we support the proposal to include a calculus requirement of Math 140 or Math 220 as part of the major requirements for a B.S. in Psychology. We will be able to meet the expected need for calculus seats. We also approve of the proposed major requirement wording:

Therefore, all majors or prospective majors must demonstrate an acceptable level of mastery by earning at least a C- in MATH 140 or 220 (MATH 130 is acceptable only for declared PSYC/BSCI double majors and for students who have taken the course prior to becoming a PSYC major).

Sincerely,
Scott Wolpert
Chair

Effects of the requirement change on students already enrolled in program:

The proposed change does not impose a new requirement, and actually gives students more flexibility. In addition, it relates to admission to the major rather than completion. Therefore, the change can take effect when it is approved without adversely affecting existing majors. The situation will be the same for transfer students. However, current PSYC majors who have satisfactorily completed MATH 120 (formerly Math 220) will now have the option of pursuing the B.S. degree. Academic advisors in PSYC and in BSOS will be notified as soon as feasible so that they can provide the updated requirements and options to students.