

SSNS CC Minutes
Wednesday, November 29, 2017
2:00-3:30 GHH 301

Members: Bonita Cade (SS), Judith Platania (SS, left at 3:03 pm), Lauren Rossi (MNS, Chair), Roxanna Smolowitz (MNS), Laura Turner (SS), Adria Updike (MNS), Lindsey Gumb (Library)

1. **Committee Business**

- minutes-taker AU
- Minutes of 11/8/2017 SSNS CC meeting Approved JP/LR 6-0-0
- New chronological Courses/Programs Pending in queue: Psych 500, 518, 522, 529, 536, 543.

2. **Second Reading**

none

3. **First Reading**

Minor School Course Modification BIO 250 Intro Biostatistics (8/25/2017) Tabled (9/27/2017)
Need to add 'BIO 104' under Requisites tab.

Approve: BC/AU: 6-0-0

Overall Psych graduate courses comments:

- **Will vote upon six graduate Psych courses as a block.**
- Discussion- Graduate courses are A/B/F; grading scheme currently under discussion in Graduate Council.
- Discussion- Graduate class designation (Finance, Visual Arts have 500 classes that appear to be undergraduate). Do we have a policy for undergrads taking graduate level classes, in particular when 500 level course does not have prerequisites? Graduate Council matter?
 - Follow up information provided on page 47 of current University catalog

Course Numbering

Courses at Roger Williams University are numbered as follows:

- 100–199 Introductory courses
- 200–299 Intermediate courses
- 300–499 Advanced courses
- 500–599 Fifth-year undergraduate courses; first year graduate courses
- 600–699 Second-year graduate courses
- 700–799 Third-year graduate courses

- Not all faculty members in Psychology have signed the sign-off form for the proposed courses. Please redistribute sign off to ensure all members of that department are notified/ approve of proposed course/changes.
- References within the courses are to alternative titles to the programs and tracks (different than catalog or website references), which led to some confusion of CC members. Please be consistent and clear as to which track/ program the courses are to be required/ electives towards.

New Course: PSYCH 500 - Methods and Evaluation (11/13/2017)

- Required class for licensing track of the MA Clinical Psychology program. A minor program change is to be done to address this (and to include the other courses that are proposed as electives).
- Clarify Fulfillment information- the course is to be required for the two tracks of the 60-credit graduate MA Psychology program.
- See above common comments for the Psych courses under review

New Course: PSYCH 518 - Psychological Trauma: Treatment and Intervention (11/13/2017)

- Clarify Fulfillment information- the course is to be required for the two tracks of the 60-credit graduate MA Psychology program. Specific to 60 credit MA only (no electives in the 45 credit program).
- Course description: “In mental health” change to “In the mental health field”.
- This proposal refers to the upcoming names for the programs, not the names in the 2017 catalog.
- See above common comments for the Psych courses under review

New Course: PSYCH 522 - Biological Perspectives in Mental Health (11/14/2017)

- Under Units/Hours, remove check marks next to ‘fall’ and ‘spring’, which indicates the course would be offered every semester and as special offering. Leave as ‘special offering’.
- What does the requisite comment ‘Necessary background on major mental illnesses’ mean? Is this statement the rationale for having 521 as a prerequisite. Please clarify- if the PSYCH 521 provided that necessary background, then this rationale statement is not needed within the prerequisite information listed with the course in the catalog.
- PSYCH 521 is not required within the program tracks (one of two possible electives-PSYCH 520 or 521), but PSYCH 522 is and has it as a pre-requisite?
- Will there be a need to hire another faculty to offer this course? 4 faculty listed as credentialed to teach.
- The course title, description, learning outcomes, and syllabus uses ‘biological’, ‘neurobiological’, ‘anatomy’ and ‘mechanisms’- these are specific terms within the physical/ natural sciences. Will the course address the advanced topics described by these words? Questions as to whether the course will cover these topics and whether a required background (prerequisite) for the students should be included. Please revise. Should these classes claim to have a neuro/biological basis without having a biology or chemistry background required?
- Please provide fulfillment information within the corresponding field.
- See above common comments for the Psych courses under review

New Course: PSYCH 529 - Health Psychology Interventions (11/13/2017)

- Clarify Fulfillment information- the course is to be an elective for the two tracks of the 60-credit graduate MA Psychology program or to both 45 and 60 credit programs.
- Summer I is checked – should it be?
- Typo under ‘fulfillment information’, ‘the’ as ‘thew’.
- ‘biopsychosocial’ is misspelled a few times (missing the second s).
- Check grammar in course description.
- See above common comments for the Psych courses under review

New Course: PSYCH 536 - Proseminar in Cognitive Psychology (11/13/2017)

- States course should be taken the second year, but no pre-requisites? Require second-year graduate standing- 600 level course?
- Please clarify if course is an elective or requirement, and within which programs/ tracks.
- Learning outcomes – last one, change ‘an ability to apply’ to simply ‘apply’.
- Learning outcomes – ‘demonstrate ability to synthesis’ instead of ‘synthesize’
- See above common comments for the Psych courses under review

New Course: PSYCH 543 - Substance Abuse Counseling (11/14/2017)

- Grade option hasn't been entered. (Letter?)
- No fulfillment information is listed. Which program/s will course count toward?
- Should this class have pre-requisites?
- The course description, learning outcomes, and syllabus uses ‘neurobiological’ and ‘mechanisms’- specific terms within the physical/ natural sciences. Will the course address the advanced topics described by these words? Questions as to whether the course will cover these topics and whether a required background (prerequisite) for the students should be included. Please revise. Should these classes claim to have a neuro/biological basis without having a biology or chemistry background required?
- See above common comments for the Psych courses under review

Motion to approve at first reading, pending edits to the above six courses (PSYCH 500, 518, 522, 529, 536, 543) as a block: AU/BC 5-0-0.

Motion to adjourn LR, BC: 3:30PM