

**Revision to Associate in Arts in Psychology**

**Writer:** Greg Bovasso & Heidi Braunschweig

**Facilitator:** Pete Watkins

March 28, 2012

Effective Fall 2012

Three changes to the Associate in Arts in Psychology are proposed to better prepare students for transfer into baccalaureate degree programs and to make CCP's Associate in Arts in Psychology meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC). The three changes are:

- A new course PSYC 167-Foundations of Statistical Methods for Social and Behavioral Sciences will be added in place of Math 251-Statistics for Science
- A new course PSYC 210 –Experimental Research Methods in Psychology will be added in place of a General Elective
- One existing course, PSYC 110, will be renamed and revised

The overall result of the three changes is that the credits required to graduate will decrease from 62 to 61. The rationale for each change is explained below.

***PSYC 167-Foundations of Statistical Methods for Social and Behavioral Sciences***

The newly developed course PSYC 167-Foundations of Statistical Methods for Social and Behavioral Sciences will replace MATH 251-Statistics for Science. The newly developed course is designed specifically for students in programs such as psychology and is necessary for the psychology degree to meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC).

The course being added (PSYC 167) is a three credit course and the course being replaced (MATH 251) is a four credit course. Therefore, this change will cause the number of credits required to graduate to decrease from 62 to 61.

Prior to this change, the Psychology curriculum required two semesters of Mathematics. With this change, one semester of mathematics will remain which will fulfill the Mathematics General Education requirement.

***PSYC 210 –Experimental Research Methods in Psychology***

The newly developed course PSYC 210 –Experimental Research Methods in Psychology will be added to the Program in place of one General Elective. This change will also help better prepare students for transfer and is necessary for the Program to meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC).

The courses are both 3 credit courses so this change will have no effect on the number of credits needed to graduate.

***PSYC 110-Descriptive Research Methods in Psychology***

Psychology 110, currently titled Introduction to Applied Psychology: Principles of Behavior in Everyday Life will be renamed Descriptive Research Methods in Psychology. This course already focuses on research methods, however the new title will signal more clearly to students, advisors and transfer institutions the connection between the two research methods courses-PSYC 110 and PSYC 210.

## Psychology

The Psychology degree program is for students planning to transfer to baccalaureate programs in psychology after study at Community College of Philadelphia and for students undecided about their long-term educational goals, but interested in the behavioral sciences. Because transfer institutions require specific courses to be taken prior to entry, it is highly recommended that students consult catalogues of schools to which they might transfer and transfer worksheets available in the Career and Transfer Center, as well as their advisors and mentors, in order to make appropriate selections for their elective courses.

The A.A. degree in Psychology is appropriate for students who wish to emphasize behavioral science fields, whether for personal interest or with goal of transfer to major in psychology or in related fields such as cognitive science, counseling, and educational psychology.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of psychology's major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and historical trends.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the principles of research design and an ability to apply them.
- Demonstrate the ability to think critically, creatively, and when possible, to use the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ways psychology is applied in the realms of work, personal life, education and other real-world situations.
- Demonstrate understanding of the career choices open to psychology students and of how to plan individual career goals.

### PROGRAM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Students are typically required to take the College's placement tests at their time of entry. Students identified as needing developmental course work must satisfactorily complete the appropriate English and mathematics courses as a part of their degree program.

### PROGRAM OF STUDY AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

To qualify for the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree in Psychology, a student must complete a minimum of 61 credit hours as prescribed and attain a grade point average of 2.0 ("C" average).

## Psychology Course Sequence

Course Number and Name	Prerequisites and Corequisites	Credits	Gen Ed Req.
<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>			
<u>ENGL 101</u> - English Composition I		3	ENGL 101
<u>Math 151</u> - Linear Mathematics (or higher)	<u>Math 118</u> with a C or better or <u>Math 161</u> placement	3	Mathematics
<u>CIS 103</u> - Applied Computer Technology		3	Tech Comp
<u>PSYC 101</u> - Introduction to Psychology		3	Soc Sciences
<u>SOC 101</u> - Introduction to Sociology or <u>ANTH 112</u> - Cultural Anthropology		3	
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>			
<u>ENGL 102</u> - The Research Paper	<u>ENGL 101</u>	3	ENGL 102 & Info Lit
PSYC 167-Foundations of Statistical Methods for Social and Behavioral Sciences	<u>Math 118</u> completed or <u>Math 161</u> placement	3	
Humanities Elective		3	Humanities
<u>PSYC 110</u> - Descriptive Research Methods in Psychology		3	
Lab Science: Biology recommended		4	Natural Science
<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>			

Humanities Elective		3	
<b><u>PSYC 205</u></b> - Psychopathology/Abnormal Psychology	<b><u>PSYC 101</u></b>	3	Writing Intensive
Science: Biology recommended		3/4	
<b><u>PSYC210</u></b> - Experimental research methods in Psychology	<b><u>PSYC 110</u></b>	3	
<b><u>PSYC 215</u></b> - Developmental Psychology	<b><u>PSYC 101</u></b>		Amer/Global Diversity

#### **FOURTH SEMESTER**

Psychology Elective	<b><u>PSYC 101</u></b>	3	
General Elective		3	

#### **MINIMUM CREDITS NEEDED TO GRADUATE: 61**

##### **GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:**

Sociology 101 fulfills the College's Interpretive Studies requirement. If a student does not take Sociology 101 then that student needs to fulfill the Interpretive Studies requirement through a Humanities Elective or General Elective. View the courses that fulfill all [degree requirements](#) and receive a more detailed explanation of the College's general education requirements to help in your selection.

##### **For More Information Contact:**

The Division of Liberal Studies Room BR-21, 1700 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130, Telephone (215) 751-8451; or the College Information Center (215) 751 8010.