

2007 MASTER PLAN/PROGRESS REPORT

Academic Program: BS Psychology

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Mission: The purpose of the Department of Psychology in offering the Bachelor of Science degree is fivefold:

- 1) to prepare students to enter the work force or to pursue additional training leading to professional careers
- 2) to teach basic content in the field of psychology, including a wide base of course material
- 3) to familiarize undergraduate students with the process of science as applied to psychology
- 4) to teach undergraduate students the skills to conduct research in psychology
- 5) to familiarize undergraduate students with the profession of psychology and the requirements for entry into professional training.

Institutional Mission Reference: The purpose of the Psychology Department follows the mission of McNeese State University, which is to provide a wide range of baccalaureate and carefully selected graduate curricula, distinguished by academic excellence. The undergraduate Program in Psychology specifically supports the Institutional Goal of encouraging undergraduate research.

Assessment Methods Utilized:

- Standardized Exam (nationally normed)
- Standardized Exam (state-normed)
- Major Field Examination
- Internally-developed Examination
- Student Opinion Survey (SOS)
- National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
- Employer Survey
- Graduate Survey
- Alumni Survey
- Exit Survey/Interview/Exam
- Program-specific Survey
- Scoring of Essay
- Portfolio Evaluation
- Capstone Project
- Presentation
- Research Paper
- Research Project
- Course Summary
- Excel Spreadsheet
- Access Database
- Other - Please describe:

Data Repository Location:

Faculty Files

Faculty Files

Faculty Files

Faculty Files

Faculty Files

Student Learning Outcome 1: Graduates apply critical thinking in academic and professional environments.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<p>≥ 60% of psychology majors in Psyc 427—Experimental Methodology—will answer questions 70% of questions correctly on research problems and design</p> <p>≥ 50% of psychology majors in Psyc 431—Abnormal Psychology—will make a grade of “C” or better on an analysis of a case study.</p>	<p><u>Test Items</u> D Students in Psyc. 427 are tested on their critical thinking in understanding problems and solutions to issues of research design through their responses to test questions on exams.</p> <p><u>Analysis of Case Study</u> D Students in Psyc. 431 complete an analysis and diagnosis of a case study. The grades on their analysis reveal their process of critically evaluating the given information and using it to make a diagnosis; the grades on this analysis will furnish data for this assessment.</p>	<p>D Identify or develop a set of questions for Psyc 427 on the topic of research design to be used as an assessment for this skill.</p> <p>D Develop a process for collecting data of grades for the case study analysis from students in sections of Psyc 431.</p>

Student Learning Outcome 2: Graduates formulate and express ideas effectively through oral, written, and/or technological communications in academic and professional environments.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<p>≥90% of students will score 70% or above on a term paper in Psyc 304 - History and Theories in Psychology</p>	<p><u>Term Paper</u> 96% of students who graduated in 2006 scored 70% or above on the term paper in Psyc 304</p>	<p>M This assessment seems to be successful, and data will continue to be collected.</p>
<p>≥70% of students will reference sources obtained through Internet/library database searches on their term paper in Psyc 304 – History and Theories in Psychology</p>	<p><u>Resources for Term Paper</u> D Data will consist of a Pass/Fail assessment for the adequacy of information sources obtained through Internet or database searches.</p>	<p>D Instructors for this course will begin to collect these data during the Fall, 2007 semester.</p>
<p>≥70% of students will score 70% or above on a laboratory report in Psyc 305 – Learning</p>	<p><u>Laboratory Report</u> D Data will be available when Psyc 305 becomes a required course in the curriculum</p>	<p>D Change curriculum to require Psyc 305 and use the grade on a laboratory report in Psyc. 305 as data for this goal.</p>
<p>≥70% of students will score 70% or above on a research report in Psyc 428 – Experimental Procedures in Psychology</p>	<p><u>Research Report</u> D Data will consist of the grade on writing competence and adherence to APA for on a research report that is a course requirements in Psyc. 428</p>	<p>D Begin to collect data from this report, which is already a requirement for this required course.</p>
<p>≥70% of students will score 60% or above on the written section of the final exam in Psyc 471 – Physiological Psychology</p>	<p><u>Written Responses to Test Items</u> D Data will consist of the grade on written answers to test questions on the final exam in Psyc. 471</p>	<p>D Begin to collect data from these questions, which are already a requirement for this required course.</p>
<p>≥80% of students will score 70% or above on the series of written assignments required in Psyc 499 – Advanced General Psychology</p>	<p><u>Written Essay Assignments</u> D Data consist of the average of grades on a series of written assignments that cover each topic in Psyc 499</p>	<p>D Data for this assessment are currently available and will appear in the 2008 Master Plan report.</p>

Student Learning Outcome 3: Graduates analyze the global community to make sound judgments in academic and professional environments.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<p>≥70% of students in Psyc 310/311- Child Psychology/ Adolescent Psychology - will answer 60% of questions correctly on the topic of diversity</p>	<p><u>Test Questions</u> D Data will consist of questions on the topic of cultural diversity embedded in exams in Psyc. 310 and 311 (same questions in both courses).</p>	<p>D Instructors for these courses will begin to collect these data during the Fall, 2007 semester.</p>
<p>≥50% of students in Psyc 431 – Abnormal Psychology – will answer 60% of questions correctly on the topic of diversity</p>	<p><u>Test Questions</u> D Data will consist of questions on the topic of cultural factors related to abnormal behavior and the diagnosis of psychopathology that will be embedded in exams in Psyc 431</p>	<p>D Instructors for this course will begin to collect these data during the Fall, 2007 semester for students who take this course. When Psyc 431 becomes a requirement, data will become available for all psychology majors</p>
<p>≥50% of students in Psyc. 461 – Social Psychology – will score 70% or more on an assignment on the topic of prejudice and discrimination.</p>	<p><u>Written Assignment</u> D Data will consist of the grade on a written assignment on the topic of prejudice and discrimination in Psyc 461</p>	<p>D Instructors for this course will begin to collect these data during the Fall, 2007 semester. When Psyc 461 becomes a requirement, data will become available for all psychology majors</p>

Student Learning Outcome 4: Graduates will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and classic as well as contemporary empirical findings in psychology.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<p>≥60% of graduating students will score in the 30th percentile or higher on the Major Field Test in Psychology.</p> <p>≥60% of students will answer 70% of items correctly on an exam on learning theories in Psyc 305 - Learning</p> <p>≥60% of students will demonstrate their knowledge of classic studies in psychology by scoring 70% or higher on an oral presentation of at least one such study in Psyc 499 – Advanced General Psychology</p>	<p><u>Major Field Test in Psychology</u> Data were not gathered for 2006 graduates for this assessment.</p> <p><u>Test Questions</u> D Data will consist of the number of items answered correctly on an exam on the topic of learning theories.</p> <p><u>Oral Presentation</u> Data will consist of the grade on an oral presentation of a classic study in psychology as part of the course requirements for Psyc. 499</p>	<p>D Scores for the Major Field Test were gathered during the Fall, 2006 semester and will be available for graduates from 2007 Spring and Fall semesters.</p> <p>D Action will be taken to add Psyc 305 as a required course in the BS in Psychology curriculum, allowing the implementation of this assessment.</p> <p>D This activity is part of the course requirement for Psyc 499, so data will be available for 2007 Spring and Fall semesters.</p>

Student Learning Outcome 5: Graduates will understand and apply basic research methods in psychology.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<p>≥80% of graduates will receive a grade of “C” or higher on a report of a research project they complete as part of Psyc 428, Experimental Procedures in Psychology.</p> <p>70% of students will receive a grade of “C” or higher on a research proposal that they prepare as part of Psyc 427 – Experimental Methodology</p> <p>≥60% of students will receive a grade of “C” or higher on a laboratory report of a research demonstration that they complete as part of Psyc 305 – Learning</p>	<p><u>Research Project</u> 100% of graduates in 2006 scored “C” or higher on the research report.</p> <p><u>Research Proposal</u> D Data will consist of the grade that students receive on a research proposal that they prepare for Psyc. 427</p> <p><u>Research Demonstration</u> D Data will consist of the grade that students receive on a laboratory report on a research demonstration.</p>	<p>M This assessment seems successful and data will be collected for future graduates.</p> <p>D This assessment is currently part of the course requirements for Psyc. 427, and instructors will begin to collect these data during the Fall, 2007.</p> <p>D Action will be taken to add Psyc 305 as a required course in the BS in Psychology curriculum, allowing the implementation of this assessment.</p>