

Program Assessment Report

Department or Unit Name: Psychology

Individual Completing Form: David Grilly

Program Name: Undergraduate

Date: Sept. 15, 2005

Goal # 1 Majors will develop a broad knowledge of the fundamental areas of psychology (as defined by the outline of a typical introductory psychology textbook).

Outcome Measures	Research Completed	Findings	Review	Actions	Improvements
#_1_ Majors must complete minimum of 36 CR Psychology courses with "C" or better	Major requirements have been compared with other state supported universities	Curriculum requirements have been found to be comparable to or exceed those of most other Ohio state supported universities	Undergraduate Program Comm. (UPC) has discussed findings	Requirements have been retained	Not applicable
#_2_ Majors will take courses in a wide variety of areas that form the traditional core taught at most universities	Comparisons of required and typical electives taken by CSU students with items on Advanced GRE have been made	Majority of GRE items are covered by required and elective courses taken by most majors	Department has discussed findings	Major advisors are informed that students should be advised to take a wide variety of traditional psychology courses if applying to grad schools	Not applicable
#_3_ Graduating majors will demonstrate significantly greater (Cohen's d >0.8) knowledge of fundamental areas than students who have not taken psychology courses	Department exam has been administered to majors and to introductory psychology students	Majors with > 9 CSU psychology courses demonstrate significantly more knowledge (Cohen's d > 2) in psychology than introductory students	Department has been informed of findings and UPC has discussed implications	None taken	Not applicable Goal achieved
#_4_ Students completing psychology courses will display significantly more knowledge/skills in area (Cohen's d > 0.8) than students starting the course	All full time faculty are conducting pre-test vs post-test evaluations of students in their courses	Pre-test, post-test results have been obtained so far in 16 courses; all have demonstrated significant learning or enhanced skills	UPC has discussed implications.	Full time faculty have been requested to document changes made to courses based on the outcome of tests.	Goal achieved for courses for which we have test results.

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Goal # 2 Majors will acquire advanced knowledge in at least three core-areas of psychology (Abnormal/Social/Personality, Biological Bases of Behavior and Learning/Cognition/Perception/History).

Outcome Measures	Research Completed	Findings	Review	Actions	Improvements
#_1_ Students must complete at least one course in each of these areas with "C" or better	Major requirements have been compared with other state supported universities	Curriculum requirements have been found to be comparable to other state supported universities	UPC has discussed findings	Requirements have been retained	Not applicable
#_2_ Graduating majors will demonstrate significantly greater knowledge (Cohen's d > 0.8) in a minimum of three core areas in psychology	Department exam has been administered to majors and to introductory psychology students	Majors with > 9 CSU psychology courses demonstrate significantly more knowledge (Cohen's d > 1) in all core areas than introductory students	Department has been informed of findings and UPC has discussed implications	None taken	Not applicable Goal achieved
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Goal # 3 Majors will learn basic methodological and statistical procedures typically used in conducting psychological research.

Outcome Measures	Research Completed	Findings	Review	Actions	Improvements
#_1_ Majors must complete courses in Behavioral Science Statistics and Laboratory Procedures with a "C" or better.	Major requirements have been compared with other state supported universities	Requirements have been found to be comparable to those of other state supported universities	Undergraduate Program Comm. (UPC) has discussed findings	Requirements have been retained	Not applicable
#_2_ Students completing statistics course will display significantly more knowledge/skills in area than students starting the course	Several faculty are conducting pre-test vs post-test evaluations of students in their statistics course	Results from one section have been obtained.	Undergraduate Program Comm. (UPC) has discussed findings	None taken	Not applicable
#_2_ Students completing statistics course will display significantly more (Cohen's $d > 0.8$) knowledge/skills in area than students who have not taken course.	Department exam has been administered to majors and to introductory psychology students	Students who have taken statistics demonstrate significantly more knowledge (Cohen's $d > 2$) in statistics than introductory students	Undergraduate Program Comm. (UPC) has discussed findings	None taken	Not applicable

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Goal # 4 Majors will learn how to write APA style conceptual and empirical research reports.

Outcome Measures	Research Completed	Findings	Review	Actions	Improvements
#_1_ Majors must write a minimum of one empirical APA style report in PSY 412 at a level of "C" or better.	None	None	None	Requirement presently in effect	Not applicable
#_2_ Majors will demonstrate proficiency in writing APA style conceptual and empirical reports	Representative student papers from psychology WAC courses and from PSY 412 have been collected and have been evaluated for quality via standardized assessment forms	Preliminary analyses of papers suggested that significant improvement in writing skills is needed	UPC has discussed findings	A specific course (Writing in Psychology) that utilizes WAC criteria has been designed to enhance writing skills of majors	Faculty have determined that writing skills of students taking Writing in Psychology course are improved
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Goal # 5 Majors will acquire information and skills from their psychology curriculum experience that result in tangible benefits, e.g., to obtain employment related to their training and/or to be accepted into post-baccalaureate training programs.

Outcome Measures	Research Completed	Findings	Review	Actions	Improvements
#_1_ At least 50% of majors will obtain jobs related to their psy. training or be accepted into post-BA training programs	Surveys have been sent to recent grads asking about their getting psy.-related jobs and/or getting accepted into post-BA training programs	>50% grads report obtaining jobs in which psy. training is relevant or have been accepted into post-BA training programs	Department has been informed and UPC has discussed implications	None. Goal has been met	Not applicable
#_2_ At least 90% of psychology students will be personally satisfied with their psy. coursework and believe the faculty were successful in meeting their educational needs	All psychology courses are evaluated by way of Student Evaluation of Instruction forms at the end of each semester	Mean SEIQ course and instructor ratings >4.2, which means >90% of students report their courses & instructors to be fair to excellent	Dept. chair informs individual faculty of dept. and individual ratings	None. Goal has been met	Not applicable
#_3_ At least 75% of psy. grads will be satisfied that their psychology educational experience has provided them with tangible benefits.	Surveys have been sent to recent grads asking about their degree of satisfaction with their experience as a major.	Approx. 79% of students reported satisfaction with the experience as a major	Department has been informed and UPC has discussed implications	None. Goal has been met	Not applicable
#_4_ At least 75% of psy. grads will be satisfied that the psychology faculty were successful in meeting their educational needs.	Surveys have been sent to recent grads asking about the degree to which the psychology faculty met their educational needs.	Approx. 73% of students reported that psychology faculty met their educational needs	Department has been informed and UPC has discussed implications	None as yet	