# http://www.ric.edu/webcommunications/images/SealWithText_Small_Black.pngUNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC)PROPOSAL FORM

## Cover page scroll over blue text to see further important [instructions](#instructions): [if not working select “COMMents on rollover” in your Word preferences under view] **please read these.**

**N.B. ALL numbered categories in section (A) must be completed. Please do not use highlight to select choices within a category but simply delete the options that do not apply to your proposal (e.g. in A.2 if this is a course revision proposal, just delete the creation and deletion options and the various program ones, so it reads “course revision”) Do not delete any of the numbered categories—if they do not apply leave them blank. If there are no resources impacted please put “none” in each A. 7 category.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A.1. [Course or program](#Proposal) | **PSYC 331, 332, 335, 339, 341, 344, 345, 347, 360, 421, 422, 423, and 425** |  |
| [Replacing](#Ifapplicable)  |  |
| A. 1b. Academic unit | **Faculty of Arts and Sciences**  |  |
| A.2. [Proposal type](#type) | **Course: revis****e prerequisites**  |  |
| A.3. [Originator](#Originator) | **Chris Marco** | [Home department](#home_dept) | **Psychology** |
| A.4. [Context and Rationale](#Rationale) Note: Must include additional information in smart tip for all [new programs](#type) | **As discussed in the program proposal form, the BA in Psychology is being updated to reduce bottlenecks and provide students more flexibility in completing the program, without loss to the depth or breadth of coverage. This proposal addresses updates in prerequisites to support those goals while ensuring students are prepared for success in the program.****RESEARCH METHODS I & II COURSES****These two foundational research methods courses are being updated to include the college Writing and Math competencies as prerequisites. These courses require intensive writing (PSYC 221W – Research Methods I: Foundations) and require basic math skills (PSYC 320: Research Methods II: Behavioral Statistics), and are at risk of higher DFW grades. Students can find these research courses among the more difficult ones in the program. Prior to taking the PSYC 221W course, we will now require that students have completed the College Writing competency so that they have a foundation in writing and rhetoric before taking this WID course. Similarly, the PSYC 320 (statistics) course will require completion of the College Math Competency as a prereq. Having students complete these courses and demonstrating that they have these foundational skills can aid in reducing DFW rates in these courses. Since these are prereqs for later courses (especially PSYC 221W which is the gateway course to all of the upper level courses), reducing the DFW rates can aid in more timely completion of the program.** **UPPER LEVEL COURSES** **The previously rigid structure of prerequisites for upper-level courses created some bottlenecks in completion because many required students to complete more than one specific course prerequisite for each upper level course. Students sometimes could not take those prereqs due to the courses being filled or not being offered at times that matched their availability, and they would have to wait another semester to take the prereq, which meant waiting a year to take that upper-level course. The faculty determined that having a specific content course was less relevant to student success; rather, having broad exposure to college-level work and some Psychology courses (including the Research Methods I course) was more critical to success in the upper level courses. This is in line with many Psychology programs throughout the country.** **Therefore, the proposed prerequisite structure for the upper level courses is that students will be required to complete: (a) at least 45 total credits to ensure they are at least second-semester sophomores, and (b) these credits will include PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W and 8 additional credits in Psychology which reflects a minimum of one semester’s worth of study in Psychology before taking upper level Psychology courses (one exception is PSYC 332 which needs to keep PSCY 230 as an additional prerequisite, so that will only need 4 additional PSCY credits).** **This prerequisite structure is less restrictive while ensuring that students have the basic PSYC Research Methods I course to be able to evaluate research articles and to have a reasonable exposure to other topics in psychology as a foundation for upper-level courses. They also will have a broad exposure across both Psych and other courses (e.g., Gen Ed) where they’ll have acquired multiple experiences in reading, writing, and evaluating information, all of which provides a good foundation for the upper level courses.**  |
| A.5. [Student impact](#student_impact)Must include to explain why this change is being made? | **Students will experience fewer bottlenecks in completion that may be related to missing specific prereq courses; specifically, they will not have to wait for a semester or two to complete the currently-rigid prerequisite structure for upper level courses.**  |
| A.6. [Impact on other programs](#impact)  | **None. The courses continue to be taught as they’re currently taught.**  |
| A.7. [Resource impact](#Resource) | [*Faculty PT & FT*](#faculty):  | **None** |
| [*Library*:](#library) | **None** |
| [*Technology*](#technology) | **None** |
| [*Facilities*](#facilities): | **None**  |
| A.8. [Semester effective](#Semester_effective) | **Fall 2023** | A.9. [Rationale if sooner than next Fall](#Semester_effective) |  |
| A.10. INSTRUCTIONS FOR CATALOG COPY: Use the Word copy versions of the catalog sections found on the UCC Forms and Information page. Cut and paste into a single file **ALL the relevant pages from the college catalog that need to be changed.** Use tracked changes feature to show how the catalog will be revised as you type in the revisions. If totally new copy, indicate where it should go in the catalog. If making related proposals a single catalog copy that includes all changes is preferred. Send catalog copy as a separate single Word file along with this form. |
| A.11. List here (with the relevant urls), any RIC website pages that will need to be updated (to which your department does not have access) if this proposal is approved, with an explanation as to what needs to be revised: |
| A. 12 **Check to see if your proposal will impact any of our** [**transfer** **agreements,**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccmarco%5CDropbox%5CDept%20Curriculum%5C2022%20Curriculum%20revisions%5Ctransfer%20agreements) **and if it does explain in what way. Please indicate clearly what will need to be updated.** |
| A. 13 Check the section that lists “Possible NECHE considerations” on the UCC Forms and Information page and if any apply, indicate what that might be here and contact Institutional Research for further guidance. |

B. [NEW OR REVISED COURSES](#delete_if)  **Delete section B if the proposal does not include a new or revised course. As in section A. do not highlight but simply delete suggested options not being used. Always fill in b. 1 and B. 3 for context. NOTE: course learning outcomes and topical outlines only needed for new or substantially revised courses.**

|  | Old ([for revisions only](#Revisions))ONLY include information that is being revised, otherwise leave blank.  | NewExamples are provided within some of the boxes for guidance, delete just the examples that do not apply. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.1. [Course prefix and number](#cours_title)  | **See below** |  |
| B.2. Cross listing number if any |  |  |
| B.3. [Course title](#title)  | **See below** |  |
| B.4. [Course description](#description)  |  |  |
| B.5. [Prerequisite(s)](#prereqs) | ***RESEARCH METHODS COURSES*****PSYC 221W: PSYC 110****PSYC 320: PSYC 221W*****UPPER LEVEL COURSES*****PSYC 331 Child Psychology: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.)****PSYC 332 Adolescent Psychology: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.****PSYC 335 Family Psychology: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.****PSYC 339 Psychology of Aging: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.****PSYC 341 Perception: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W or equivalents.****PSYC 344 Learning: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W or equivalents.****PSYC 345 Physiological Psychology: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W or equivalents.****PSYC 347 Social Cognition: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W or equivalents.****PSYC 360 Seminar in Current Topics: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W and consent of department chair.****PSYC 421 Behavior Modification: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.****PSYC 422 Psychological Testing: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.****PSYC 423 Psychology and the Law: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.****PSYC 425 Community Psychology: PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and PSYC 230 or equivalents.** | ***RESEARCH METHODS COURSES*****PSYC 221W: PSYC 110 and completion of the College Writing Competency milestone****PSYC 320: PSYC 221W and completion of theCollege Math Competency milestone*****UPPER LEVEL COURSES******Note: Courses with separate proposal forms list the updated prereqs on those proposal forms.*****PSYC 331 Child Psychology: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 332 Adolescent Psychology:** **PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, PSYC 230 and 45 completed credits that include 4 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 335 Family Psychology: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 339 Psychology of Aging: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 341 Perception: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 344 Learning: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 345 Physiological Psychology: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 347 Social Cognition: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 360 Seminar in Current Topics: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 421 Behavior Modification: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 422 Psychological Testing: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 423 Psychology and the Law: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.****PSYC 425 Community Psychology: PSYC 110, PSYC 221 or PSYC 221W, and 45 completed credits that include 8 additional PSYC credits.** |
| B.6. [Offered](#Offered) |  |  |
| B.7. [Contact hours](#contacthours)  |  |  |
| B.8. [Credit hours](#credits) |  |  |
| B.9. [Justify differences if any](#differences) |  |
| B.10. [Grading system](#grading)  |  |  |
| B.11. [Instructional methods](#instr_methods) |  |  |
| B.11.a [Delivery Method](#instr_methods) |  |  |
| B.12. CATEGORIES 12. a. [How](#required) to be used |  |  |
|  12 b. Is this an Honors  course? | **NO** | **NO** |
|  12. c. [General Education](#ge) N.B. Connections must include at  least 50% Standard Classroom instruction. | **NO** | **NO** |
|  12. d. Writing in the  Discipline (WID) | **NO** | **NO** |
| B.13. [How will student performance be evaluated?](#performance) |  |  |
| B.14 [Recommended class-size](#class_size" \o "Check appendix XVIII in the UCC Manual for Best Practices) |  |  |
| B.15. [Redundancy statement](#competing) |  |  |
| B. 16. Other changes, if any |  |

| B.17**.** [**Course learning outcomes**](#outcomes)**: List each one in a separate row** | [**Professional Org.Standard(s)**](#standards)**, if relevant** | [**How will each outcome be measured**](#measured)**?** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Click Tab from here to add rows |

| B.18. [**Topical outline**](#outline)**: DO NOT INSERT WHOLE SYLLABUS, JUST A TWO-TIER TOPIC OUTLINE suitable for the contact hours requested. Proposals that ignore this request will be returned for revision.** |
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## D. Signatures

* **Changes that affect General Education in any way MUST be approved by ALL Deans and COGE Chair**.
* Changes that directly impact more than one department/program MUST have the signatures of all relevant department chairs, program directors, and their relevant dean (e.g. when creating/revising a program using courses from other departments/programs). Check UCC manual 4.2 for further guidelines on whether the signatures need to be approval or acknowledgement.
* Proposals that do not have appropriate approval signatures will not be considered.
* Type in name of person signing and their position/affiliation.
* Send electronic files of this proposal and accompanying catalog copy to curriculum@ric.edu to the current Chair of UCC. Check UCC website for due dates. Do NOT convert to a .pdf.

##### D.1. Approvals: required from programs/departments/deans who originate the proposal. THESE may include multiple departments, e.g., for joint/interdisciplinary proposals.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#_Signature" \o "Insert electronic signature, if available, in this column) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tom Malloy | Chair of Psychology | \*approved by e-mail | 3/2/2023 |
| Earl Simson | Dean of FAS  | \*approved by e-mail | 3/2/2023 |

##### D.2. [Acknowledgements](#acknowledge): REQUIRED from OTHER PROGRAMS/DEPARTMENTS (and their relevant deans if not already included above) that are IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSAL. SIGNATURE DOES NOT INDICATE APPROVAL, ONLY AWARENESS THAT THE PROPOSAL IS BEING SUBMITTED. CONCERNS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE UCC COMMITTEE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION; all faculty are welcome to attend.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#Signature_2) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| George Ladd | Program Director of Behavioral Health Studies | \*acknowledged by e-mail | 3/2/2023 |
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