

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 3714S

Date of Senate Approval 1/23/14

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 25

**Add new 3-Credit PSYC Non-lab Course, PSYC 311;
Add new 4-Credit PSYC Lab Course, PSYC 347**

Effective Date: Fall, 2014

1. Add: On page 254, new 3-credit non-lab PSYC course, **PSYC 311:**

311 Psychology of Prejudice (3)

An introduction to the psychology of prejudice, this course discusses stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. The course considers a variety of topics including the formation, use and consequences (both positive and negative) of stereotypes and prejudices, and how to cope with and respond to social inequality in ways that may reduce prejudice. Major categories of prejudice and stigma will be addressed, including but not limited to: race, gender, weight, class, age, and sexual orientation/identity. Prerequisites: PSYC 100, 201. Fall or Spring.

Impact: PSYC 313 (*Psychology and Law*) is being converted to a 4 credit-hour course. PSYC 311 will replace 313 as a 300-level, non-lab course in our menu of courses. It also represents an area of expertise held by our new assistant professor. Beyond the usual resources required to prepare a new course, we do not anticipate any significant changes in staffing or resources as a result of this course addition.

Rationale: We currently have a menu of ten 300-level, non-lab courses in the major, which are filled to capacity every semester. We anticipate the addition of 1-2 new non-lab courses in the near future, reflecting the expertise and interests of our new assistant professor and a hire expected by the fall of 2014. In the interim, we need to replace PSYC 313 with a new 300-level, non-lab course to meet ongoing student demand.

The Psychology of Prejudice is a highly recommended course for psychology curricula at the undergraduate level, and we expect it will generate a considerable interest among students.

2. Add: On page 255, new 4-credit PSYC lab, **PSYC 347:**

347 Psychological Testing (4)

An in-depth study of (1) the processes used in the construction of tests to assess personality and cognitive characteristics and (2) the issues encountered in the use of tests for evaluation and placement. Each student demonstrates mastery of the principles of test construction and analysis by developing, administering and validating a simple personality scale. Students may continue work on their scales through undergraduate research in a subsequent semester. Prerequisites: PSYC 100, 201. PSYC 202 is recommended. See department chair.

Impact: PSYC 347 will replace the deleted PSYC 332 (*Learning and Memory*) as a lab course option in our menu. For the past few semesters, this course has been offered as a Special Topics lab course to meet a demand that resulted from two faculty retirements in 2012. We do not anticipate any difficulty staffing this course, but we would prefer to insert “see department chair” for course offering patterns because the course is taught by a faculty member with reassignment outside the department. Departmental resources will be allocated for a new course preparation as needed.

Rationale: As a result of a curriculum revision that ended in 2009, the Psychology Department increased the number of required four-credit hour lab courses for majors from one to *two* lab courses, prompting a need for the faculty to develop additional lab courses for our students. We have been operating with a menu of six lab courses thus far, but trends in enrollment data for lab courses suggests we need to add one additional lab over time, and replace any lab courses deleted from the already-existing menu. Because PSYC 332 is being deleted, it must be replaced by another lab course.