

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD5522S

Date of Senate Approval 4/28/2022

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 50 (PSYC):

Change to course description for PSYC 334

Effective Date: Fall 2022

1. Delete: On page 281, the description for **PSYC 334:**

334 Psychology of Women (4)

An introduction to a wide range of topics pertaining to women and their experiences. Interdisciplinary focus incorporating research and theory from multiple disciplines of psychology and social science. Topics include research methods, development of gender identity, gender comparisons and gender inequality, diversity among women, and psychological issues specific to females. Course contains a laboratory component in which students undertake empirical research projects, presenting findings at an on-campus symposium. Prerequisites: PSYC 100, 201. See department chair.

Add: On page 281, in place of deleted entry:

334 Psychology of Women (4)

An introduction to a wide range of topics pertaining to women and their experiences. Interdisciplinary focus incorporating research and theory from multiple disciplines **within** psychology and **other social sciences**. Topics include research methods, development of gender identity, gender comparisons and gender inequality, diversity **and intersectionality** among women, and psychological issues specific to females. Course contains a component in which students **apply course concepts through semester-long projects**. Prerequisites: PSYC 100, 201. See department chair.

Impact: This change will provide students with greater choice and opportunities in the focus of their semester project. They will have the option either to conduct a traditional, course-based research project or to engage in an instructor-facilitated service-learning project with a relevant community partner. The fundamental content and themes of the course will not change, and there is no expected impact on the department or university.

Rationale: This change was prompted for two reasons: First, the Department of Psychology currently offers no courses with a service-learning emphasis or designation. Including service learning as an option in Psychology of Women will allow psychology students greater access to this high-impact practice and will contribute to the Key Center's efforts to enhance UNC Asheville's standing as a civically engaged campus. The current instructor of the course is piloting a service-learning option for students this semester (Spring 2022) and believes it to be a valuable means for students to apply course content to real-world issues. This broadening of the semester project (worth 25% of the final course grade) could open the door to a future application for a service-learning designation of the course.

Second, changes to requirements of research involving human participants at the federal and local levels (now mandating that classroom-based research protocols be individually reviewed by the Institutional Review Board rather than being eligible for exemption), have affected the range of research activities that can feasibly be conducted within the confines of a one-semester class. This narrowing of research options created the need to broaden the semester project to encompass additional options beyond a traditional empirical research project.