

# Program Review Year 2010 – 2011

## Name of Program:

Liberal Arts: Psychology Option

### Program Review Team Members

#### Name

#### Title

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DATE: April 2011

## SECTION SIX: SUMMARY

### I. CONCLUSIONS: PROGRAM STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

A. List and describe the program's major strengths, based on information obtained in the Program Review. Cite evidence for each identified strength.

AREA OF STRENGTH	EVIDENCE
Three full time faculty from different areas of sub-disciplines.	See Chart 6
We serve a large number of students both within and outside the program who take advantage of our courses.	Curriculum sheets for most majors at the college require at least one Social Science course and Psychology is often the course(s) selected.
Students have and probably always will be interested in learning about Psychology.	By looking at the numbers summarized by Institutional Research and being a professor of Psychology for more than 15 years, Psychology is a popular course of study among students.
We have a large number of Hispanic Students who are enrolled in the program.	See Chart 3. We were pleased to see a large number of Hispanic students in our program and hope we continue to see strong enrollments in this population.
We have a large number of students who transfer to a four year school both with and without a degree.	See Charts 2 and 4.
We have seen a large increase in applicants from AY 2007-AY2010	See Chart 1.
Our faculty are members of international societies and make every attempt to stay current in their field.	See Chart 6's.
Given the recent technology upgrades in the Spurk Building and across campus, we as faculty are more able to integrate these tools bringing our classroom into the 21 <sup>st</sup> century.	There is a significant increase in the use of sites such as Youtube and TED for short video clip presentation, an increase in Powerpoint presentations and the use of document cameras so handwritten information or non-scanned items can be projected in the classroom.

**B. List and describe the program’s weaknesses or areas in which improvement is desirable, based on information obtained in the Program Review. Cite evidence for each identified weakness or area for improvement.**

<b>WEAKNESS OR AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>EVIDENCE</b>
Lack of advanced courses available in psychology	Looking at our curriculum map as well as our course offerings we very heavily represent the developmental and clinical aspects of psychology, but lack any biological or experimental design course offerings.
We have lower numbers of males showing interest in the program.	By looking at Chart 4 it is obvious that we are lacking male students in our program. This is an overall trend in higher education as a whole and is seen at the College as well.
Students prefer to transfer without obtaining their degree.	Chart 4 would indicate that students prefer to transfer rather than finish their degree.
Students are taking longer to complete the program than 2 years.	Chart 4 suggests that students are taking longer than 2 years to complete their degree. This may reflect a number of reasons such as competing time commitments and personal finances.
Inadequate number of full time faculty in comparison with the number of DCE faculty.	Chart 5 shows that we have an extreme imbalance between full and part time faculty. We certainly recognize the importance of our part time faculty, but if we are concerned about student success then we need more full time faculty who have a vested interest in the college.
We have a requirement of Math 120 or higher, but don’t specify which course.	Perhaps students may be encouraged to take Math 125, which is, Statistics, to further reinforce their quantitative reasoning skills and better prepare them for their four year program. Another option is to develop and offer a course entitled Statistics for the Social Sciences.
There is a decrease in the number of students utilizing their advisor since the option of registering on-line began.	Students who are allowed to register on-line should receive a PIN or access code they would receive from their advisor after they had met. They still have the ease of registering on-line and the benefit of making sure they are on track and taking the right courses to graduate and transfer.

## II. ACTION PLAN

**For each identified weakness or area in which improvement is desirable, submit an Action Plan.** (When designing the Action Plan, a suggested plan would include the elements of Process Management using a Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycle.) (Note: Add as many of the following tables as necessary.)

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Lack of diversity in the advanced courses available in psychology	Create additional sophomore level courses such as a Behavioral Neuroscience, Group Dynamics, Drugs and Behavior and Statistics for the Social Sciences.	Department members, Deans, Curriculum Committee	AY 2011-2012	

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
We have lower numbers of males showing interest in the program.	Survey a representative male population at the college and determine their interest and knowledge of the field. It may be the perception that employment opportunities are low or psychology is a helping profession and is more appealing to women, so this image needs to be addressed.	Department, deans, academic affairs, institutional research	AY 2011-2013	

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Students prefer to transfer without obtaining their degree.	Survey students as to why they are leaving the college without obtaining their degrees.	Department chair, deans, academic affairs, institutional research	AY 2012-2014	

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Inadequate number of full time faculty in comparison with the number of DCE faculty	Add at least one new full time faculty in the next one to two years.	Department, Deans, Academic Affairs.	AY 2011-2012	

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Students are taking longer to complete the program than 2 years.	Survey students as to the factors involved in the increased length of time spent at the college	Department chair, deans, academic affairs, institutional research	AY 2012-2014	

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Students are required to take Math 120 or higher.	Suggest students take Statistics (Math 125) or develop a Statistics for the Social Sciences course.	Department chair, deans, academic affairs	AY 2012-2013	

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
We have seen a decrease in the number of students utilizing their advisor since on-line registration has been made available.	Perhaps students would be required to obtain a PIN or access code from their advisor once they met and discussed their plans for the following semester.	Department, Deans, Academic Affairs, and Advising.	AY 2012-2013	

### III. RESOURCES REQUESTED

Complete the following chart, including quotes from vendors, diagrams for requested space, and draft postings as appropriate. (Note: Add rows, increase row height, etc., as needed.)

1. EQUIPMENT				
Item	Justification	Vendor (include contact information)	Cost	Date Needed
2. PERSONNEL				
Position (identify as faculty, staff, etc.)	Justification	Credentials/area of content expertise related to curriculum	Salary	Date Needed
Faculty	Given that approximately 70% of our courses are taught by DCE faculty, we would like to see the addition of one new full time faculty member. Plus, we have one current faculty member that may retire in the next few years.	Ph.D. in psychology preferred, but Master's would be acceptable. Their sub-discipline could be in Clinical/Counseling Psychology or Social Psychology	\$50,000	Fall 2012
3. SPACE				
Type of space requested	Justification	Description (include square feet, construction requirements, e.g., plumbing, electricity, data ports)	Cost	Date Needed