EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION  
May 29, 2012  

To be adopted:  

Proposal for Change in Psychology B.S. major  

PRESENT:  

2. Upper-division requirements for the B.S. (37-43 units)  
   a) PSYC 109  
   b) PSYC 110 or CBNS 106  
   c) PSYC 140, PSYC 150  
   d) PSYC 132 or PSYC 134  
   e) PSYC 160  

PROPOSED:  

2. Upper-division requirements for the B.S. (37-43 units)  
   a) PSYC 109  
   b) PSYC 110 or CBNS 106  
   c) PSYC 140, PSYC 150  
   d) PSYC 132 or PSYC 134  
   e) PSYC 160 or PSYC 161 or PSYC 162 or PSYC 163  

f) Any two of the following: CBNS/PSYC 120L, PSYC 180, PSYC 181, PSYC 182 (E- Z), PSYC 195, PSYC 197 (for a total of 4 units, letter grade required), PSYC 199H  

JUSTIFICATION:  

Justification: At present, the department requirement of one developmental course for the major is fewer than the requirement in the other areas of psychology. Given that PSYC 161, PSYC 162, and PSYC 163 all cover material that would be appropriately considered as core knowledge in Developmental Psychology, approval of these courses as core will allow our faculty to teach introductory developmental psychology from any of these perspectives. Additionally, student interest in psychological development and their future goals may be met better by enrolling in PSYC 161, PSYC 162, or PSYC 163 rather than PSYC 160, which is a sweeping survey course of the entire lifespan. By adding these courses as options for the area’s core,
our area can provide a greater number and variety of core courses for our majors. Finally, this plan will not only reduce demand on PSYC 160, it will also help shrink its size (which is currently quite large) and more evenly distribute our upper division majors across a range of developmental courses that would best fill their learning needs. In summary, if these 4 courses (160, 161, 162, and 163) were all on the list of developmental courses that majors could take to satisfy graduation requirements, it would distribute the students more evenly in the 4 courses, help students graduate in a more timely fashion, and allow the Developmental Area of the Psychology Department to contribute more than one undergraduate course to satisfy majors’ core requirements. All the courses on the proposed side are verified active and in the catalog.

**APPROVALS:**

Effective: Upon approval by the Academic Senate
Approved by the faculty of the Department of Psychology: February 1, 2012
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences: March 7, 2012
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: April 2, 2010