

PSYCHOLOGY ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFER (BCCAT)

Meeting Date: May 5-6 2017

University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George

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1. Departmental Changes/Updates

- Students/Enrollments & Section Allocations: No significant changes
 - In the psychology undergraduate program there are currently 135 psychology majors, 56 minors, and 7 honours students. At convocation 2016 we had 20 graduates; 6 of whom were honours students.

- Department Staffing Changes:
 - Two new tenure-track faculty have been hired for July 1 2017:

Dr. Heath Matheson: Dr. Matheson is an experimental psychologist interested in testing hypotheses of embodied cognition, in particular within the domain of human conceptual knowledge. Current research employs neuroimaging techniques to investigate how motor-related neural regions support knowledge about tools.

Dr. Annie Duchesne: Her research explores how hormones influence the brain and behaviour, with a particular focus on stress and ovarian hormones, using various behavioral, neurophysiological and neuroimaging approaches. Dr. Duchesne is studying the long term effects of oophorectomy, the surgical removal of the ovaries, on women's brain and cognition.

- Now 7 full-time faculty members.
- First Professor Emeritus for Psychology granted to Dr. Ken Prkachin (founding Chair of UNBC Psychology Department)
- Issues:
 - Curriculum review will commence in the 2017/2018 academic year.
 - Current faculty shortfall – one fulltime professor

2. Program/Course Update

- Curriculum Developments: No changes this year
- Changes Approved or Pending: None

3. Other Items of Interest

- UNBC again ranked highest in MacLeans' ratings of primarily undergraduate institutions (2017)
 - Nevertheless, urbanization forces continue to create enrollment challenges for the university.
- In a meeting with senior administrators, the Department of Psychology reported on members activities related to research, teaching, community and university service, and response to Truth and Reconciliation calls to action. We also discussed the adverse impact on enrolments of poor transition planning around retirement.
- Institutional Changes:
 - New Registrar Bert Annear – March 1, 2017
 - New Deputy Registrar Shelley MacKenzie – March 1, 2017
 - Dean of Graduate Studies position deleted and now comes under VP Research/Graduate Programs Geoff Payne - 2016
 - New Manager of Graduate Programs – Jill Mitchell Nielsen – March 27, 2017
 - Search for VP Academic – Provost

4. Issues to address at 2017 meeting

- PSYC 101: course syllabus (attached)
- Department or university policy on instructor qualifications
 - Full-time Faculty must have a PhD in Psychology
 - No written university or department policy for contract instructors, PhD students with a master's degree often teach undergraduate courses.
 - We do not screen transfer credits for instructor credentials.
- Advanced Placement:
 - Your institutional cut-off AP mark for transfer: **4.**
 - The number of students who bring AP courses to your institution – **not available**
 - For what course(s) do they receive credit – **PSYC 101 and PSYC 102**
 - Their performance in the next level of their psychology courses – **not available**

Psyc 101: Psychology as a Science
Winter 2017
Department of Psychology
University of Northern British Columbia

Required Text and Readings:

- Lilienfeld, S. O., Lynn, S. J., Namy, L. L., Woolf, N. J., Cramer, K. M., & Schmaltz, R. (2015). *Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding, Second Canadian Edition with MyPsychLab – THIRD EDITION*. Pearson: Toronto.
- Cosmides & Tooby (2000): <http://www.psych.ucsb.edu/research/cep/primer.html>. You will be responsible for all the material included BEFORE the “Understanding the Design of Organisms” section.

Optional Readings:

- Lilienfeld, S. O., Lynn, S. J., Namy, L. L., Woolf, N. J., Cramer, K. M., & Schmaltz, R. (2014). *Grade Aid for Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding, Second Canadian Edition*. Pearson: Toronto.

Tentative Psyc 101 Lecture Schedule (Subject to Change)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Jan 5 (TH)	Review syllabus; Psychom mythology; Tips on studying	Lecture notes; Ch 7 (pp. 264-273)
Jan 10 (T)	Psychology and scientific thinking	Chapter 1
Jan 12 (TH)	Psychology and scientific thinking	Chapter 1
Jan 17 (T)	Research methods	Chapter 2
Jan 19 (TH)	Research methods	Chapter 2
Jan 24 (T)	MIDTERM EXAM #1	
Jan 26 (TH)	Science or pseudoscience in psychology: Exceptional human experience	Lecture notes
Jan 31 (T)	Biological psychology	Chapter 3
Feb 2 (TH)	Biological psychology	Chapter 3
Feb 7 (T)	Sensation and perception	Chapter 4
Feb 9 (TH)	Sensation and perception	Chapter 4
Feb 14 (T)	Mid-Semester Break – No Class	
Feb 16 (TH)	Mid-Semester Break – No Class	
Feb 21 (T)	MIDTERM #2	
Feb 23 (TH)	Consciousness	Chapter 5
Feb 28 (T)	Consciousness	Chapter 5
Mar 2 (TH)	Learning	Chapter 6
Mar 7 (T)	Learning	Chapter 6
Mar 9 (TH)	Memory	Chapter 7
Mar 14 (T)	Memory	Chapter 7
Mar 16 (TH)	MIDTERM #3	
Mar 21 (T)	Language	Chapter 8
Mar 23 (TH)	Embodied Cognition	Lecture notes
Mar 28 (T)	Evolutionary theory	Lecture notes
Mar 30 (TH)	Evolutionary psychology	C&T, Lecture notes
April 4 (T)	Evolutionary psychology: Pregnancy sickness	Lecture notes
April 6 (TH)	Importance of scientific thinking: Autism	Lecture notes