

Utah State University
Department of Psychology
Undergraduate Program Data Based Decisions

1. Knowledge Base in Psychology
 - a. Reimplementation of Psychology 3450: Sensation and Perception course (Fall 2016)
 - i. Data from the Fall 2015 Major Field Test (MFT) indicated a need to add more training in sensation and perception to the major requirements.
 - ii. Course is scheduled to be taught, beginning Fall 2016
 - b. Additional Psychology Course Sections Created (Spring 2015, Fall 15)
 - i. Banner registration system was updated to allow for waitlists in course registration. These waitlists indicated a need for more sections of psychology required courses. In response to long waitlists in the registration system,
 - ii. Additional sections of required psychology courses have been added to alleviate scheduling and enrollment conflicts. These courses are offered in several formats; online, broadcast, and traditional face-to-face.
 - c. Change in major coursework (Fall 2013)
 - i. Although not directly related, psychology graduate programs are no longer requiring/suggesting History and Systems of Psychology as an undergraduate prerequisite course. Abnormal psychology is required by the majority of graduate psychology programs.
 - ii. In response, the major requirements have been changed to accommodate this change. Abnormal psychology is now a required Psychology Major course and History and Systems of Psychology has been moved to the Psychology Major Specialization area.
2. Scientific Inquiry and critical Thinking
 - a. Psychological Statistics Revised (Fall 2013)
 - i. Many institutions that our students transfer between offer the major statistics course as an upper division course worth 4 credits. Many also include a lab component.
 - ii. Psychological Statistics revised to be an upper division course to allow for more consistent transferability. This change also allows our students to accrue more upper division credits within the major to meet the university requirement of 40 minimum upper division credits.
 - iii. Psychological Statistics revised to be a 4-credit course with recitation / lab time allotted. Students receive more small-group instruction in this way.

3. Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World
 - a. Service Learning Option Added to Apprenticeship Course (Fall 2015)
 - i. To address social responsibility, the Psychology 4950 required apprenticeship course will provide an optional service learning designation to encourage students to be more socially aware and serving in their psychology related apprenticeship experiences.
 - b. Attitude Measures Implemented in Gender and Multicultural courses (Spring 2016)
 - i. Psychology 4240: Multicultural Psychology began implementing pre and post attitude measures. Data from these measures is listed in the outcomes data.
 - ii. Psychology 4230: Psychology of Gender will begin using a pre and post attitude measure Fall 2016.
4. Communication
 - a. Additional Communication Intensive (CI) courses (2016-)
 - i. As indicated in the outcome data, students are involved with research publications and presentations. To better prepare our students, CI designation is being explored for additional courses in the psychology major.
5. Professional Development
 - a. Behavioral Health Minor Added
 - i. The MCAT has added additional psychology related questions
 - ii. A new psychology minor, Behavioral Health, has recently been approved. This new minor will allow students from other majors to specialize in the courses needed to prepare them for graduate work in medicine while earning a minor. This minor packages/ groups the courses that will help to prepare students for various different careers in the medical field.