

THE DEANERY

ALBION COLLEGE
ACADEMIC NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 4
DECEMBER 14, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE NEXT DEANERY ARE DUE FEBRUARY 1, 2010.

I ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMITTEES

From Curriculum & Resources Committee:

C&RC approved the following changes from the Psychology Department:

Proposed New Name for the Department

The current Psychology Department requests that its name be changed to the Department of Psychological Science.

Rationale

Given that psychology is a natural science, a social science, and an applied science, we want our name to reflect the fact that, regardless of one's interests in the discipline, the scientific method is at the root of all areas of inquiry within the major. Indeed, the layout of our proposed new major requirements stresses this fact, and we want this fact reflected in our name. Furthermore, the 2008 National Conference on Undergraduate Education suggested that the name of "Department of Psychological Science" is a more valid reflection of what occurs in empirically-oriented departments such as the one at Albion than "Psychology Department." Such a change will paint a more valid picture of what students can expect as psychology majors. Indeed, some students who decide to major in our department because they "hate math" might be rightfully deterred from majoring in a discipline that history strongly suggests they will struggle with.

Proposed New Major for the Department of Psychological Science

Required of all Majors:

1. PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology
2. PSYC 204: Research Design and Analysis I
3. PSYC 206: Research Design and Analysis II
4. Plus take 2 courses from EACH ONE of the following three lists

List 1/Social Science

PSYC 236: Social Psychology
 PSYC 251: Child and Adolescent Psychology
 PSYC 265: Abnormal Psychology
 PSYC 267: Psychology of Personality

PSYC 336: Research in Social Psychology
 PSYC 351: Research in Developmental Psychology

List 2/Natural Science

PSYC 241: Neuroscience I
 PSYC 243: Psychology of Perception
 PSYC 245: Psychology of Learning
 PSYC 348: Research in Behavioral
 Neuroscience
 PSYC 378: Research in Cognitive Psychology

List 3/Applied Science

PSYC 304: Psychological Assessment
 PSYC 330: Health Psychology*
 PSYC 346: Industrial/Organizational Psychology*
 PSYC 353: Adolescence
 PSYC 354: Lifespan Developmental Psychology*
 PSYC 380: Introduction to Counseling
 PSYC 390: Neuropsychopharmacology
 PSYC 395: Forensic Psychology
 PSYC 396: History and Philosophy of Psychology
 PSYC 398, 399: Practicum
 PSYC 416: Senior Seminar
 PSYC 389s: Special topics (e.g., eyewitness testimony, behavioral finance)

NOTES

1. Students must complete a 200-level lecture class or attain junior status before starting the RDA course sequence.
2. Student must take 2 classes from each list, resulting in 9 units for the major.
3. All List 3 courses require at least PSYC 204 as a prerequisite.
4. One List 1 or one List 2 class must be a 300-level level lab course (capstone for research/quantitative emphasis of major).
5. Cognitive and Social labs offered once/year; Behavioral Neuroscience and Developmental labs offered every other year, with Cognitive or Social lab a prerequisite to the Behavioral Neuroscience and Developmental labs.
6. All List 3 classes must be 300-level (so a total of three upper-level courses will still be required); serve as a “thought-to-action” capstone experience.
7. Student wanting a second upper-level lab may substitute it for a List 3 course.
8. Practicum must be by permission of instructor only.
9. All majors must complete the department’s senior assessment exam.

*These courses are currently offered at the 200-level. However, based on student feedback and the nature of these courses, all of which involve significant out-of-class “real world” experiences, we requested, via the Course Change Committee, that they be renumbered as 300-level courses. These requests were approved by CCC.

#

Faculty Development Committee:

The Faculty Development Committee approved combined Small Grants to:

Drew Christopher (Psychology) to support workshop attendance at the Teaching of Psychology Conference in January 2010.

Holger Elischberger (Psychology) to support two research projects that will survey changes in students' knowledge about human development and students' logical reasoning skills.

Carol Moss (Physical Education) to support the purchase of an instructional video.

Molly Mullin (Anthropology/Sociology) to support workshop attendance at the American Anthropological Association meeting.

FDC approved a Large Grant to **Ken Saville** (Biology) to support his spring semester sabbatical.

II ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PROVOST'S OFFICE

The Conference Program and related information about the **2010 ASIANetwork Conference** to be held on April 9-11, 2010 at the Emory Conference Center Hotel in Atlanta, GA, are now posted on the web. Registration is only done on-line. Please go to the ASIANetwork website: www.asianetwork.org and click 2010 Conference under Quick Picks.

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) has announced its annual meeting to be held at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, MI, May 17-18, 2010. The SOTL Academy 2010 invites proposals for presentations of work in the area of the scholarship of teaching and learning. This conference seeks to bring together all members of the academy engaging in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL) and to provide a forum for presenting new SOTL work, for sharing reflections on SOTL and its role within the academy, and networking with others engaged in this enterprise.

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning seeks to restore teaching to its proper place of importance in the academy by building a scholarship around teaching and learning. The goal is to encourage faculty to use their own classrooms as sites for research to rigorously explore student learning, and then to go public in order to enable others to build on the work they are doing. Applications are encouraged from experts and novices in this field, at all career stages. SOTL is particularly interested in bringing new and future faculty into the SOTL community this year. **Deadline for proposal submissions is December 20, 2009.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS:

Apply to the Global Engagement Summit! April 14-18, 2010 - The Global Engagement Summit (GES) is a five-day training conference for students committed to global change.

Delegates come together to understand the challenges of and opportunities for their engagement; to hone the skills and mindsets that will enable them to better plan, execute, and participate in change-based projects; and to connect with like-minded peers from around the world.

The mission of GES is to build the capacity of the next generation of global change leaders. GES builds delegates' skills and capacities to engage in responsible, effective, and sustainable change around the world. In the past, the Summit has involved undergraduates and recent graduates from over 40 countries, 80 colleges and universities, and more than 50 global nonprofits for five days of exchange and capacity building at Northwestern University in Chicago, IL, USA. For additional information, see: www.theGES.org.

III SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Roger Albertson (Biology) reported last month that his manuscript was accepted for publication into the Journal of Cell Science. He is excited to announce that one of his images has been awarded the cover photo of the journal!

Danit Brown's (English) story "Rededication" was recorded by Susan Stamberg for NPR's annual Hanukkah Lights special; it is scheduled to air on various NPR affiliates around the country over the course of Hanukkah, although, naturally, not on Michigan Radio. Earlier this fall, Danit's short-short story "Jews at the Beach" was published on jbooks.com, where you can also hear a recording of it (http://www.jbooks.com/fiction/index/FI_Brown.htm).

Christopher Hagerman (History) has an article coming out in the International Journal of the Classical Tradition this month, "In the footsteps of the 'Macedonian Conqueror': Alexander the Great and British India," IJCT, Vol. 16, No. 3/4, September/December 2009, pp. 344-92.

Darren Mason (Mathematics & Computer Science) and members of his research group at MSU have been invited to submit a pre-proposal to the Department of Energy. Darren will be assisting with statistical analysis and mechanical theory on a consultancy basis. The title of the project is "Characterization and Modeling of Strain Localization and Creep Cavitation Damage in Superalloys." The budget estimate is \$1,200,000 over three years, and, if funded, the start date will be August 2010.

Martha O'Kennon (emerita, Mathematics & Computer Science) has been approached to participate in a multidisciplinary research grant proposal on localizing African languages with a colleague from Boston University. They are interested in at least one of the languages Martha has worked on (Pulaar-spoken in Senegal and widely under different names) and more generally in the process of writing a translator. Martha would consult in the machine translation phase of the project. If funding is approved, she will work two or three months over the next few years to translate what she's already written into the more modern statistical approach.

Ola Olapade (Biology) and Elizabeth A. Weage '08 will have their article titled "Comparison of Fecal Indicator Bacterial Populations in Surface Waters of the Kalamazoo River (USA)" appear

in Microbes & Environments, vol 25, no. 1, in January 2010. The study was partly supported by the Hewlett-Mellon Faculty Development fund and FURSCA.

Kyle Shanton (Education) recently published an article on leadership in literacy education, based on the Legacy Study which was commissioned by the National Writing Project: Shanton, K., McKinney, M., Meyer, T., & Friedrich, L. (2009), "Composing literacy leadership in professional development: New meanings of practice and process," 58th National Reading Conference Yearbook.