Proposal to Change a Course

NOTE: All gray text boxes must be completed (even if you just put N/A into them), otherwise the committee must consider the form incomplete.

1. Department: Psychology

2. Course Number and Title: PSYC464 - Advanced Behavioral Neuroscience with Lab

3. Semester and year when the course change(s) will go into effect: Fall 2010

4. Change(s) Desired (Note: if more than 2 items listed under “Typical changes handled by this form” in Guidelines for Planning to Change a Course, then a New Course form must be completed):

   Change course title to PSYC464 - Laboratory in Behavioral Neuroscience

5. Justification for Change(s):

   The title Physiological Psychology is a 1970’s style term to describe a set of restricted techniques for the study of the nervous system. The present course title refers to the development of theories that explain brain-behavior relationships; it does not speak to research that has translational value to humans.

   On the other hand, Behavioral Neuroscience is a broader term that encompasses molecular, cellular and systems level approaches to neuroscience with translational value. Students need to be exposed to all of these levels of neuroscience and the title of the course should reflect these levels of analysis. The title Physiological Psychology does not adequately accomplish this task.

   The title Behavioral Neuroscience is now more commonly used.

6. Is this course to be added to the Degree Requirements of a Major, Minor, Concentration or List of Approved Electives?
   a) ☐ yes  ☑ no

   b) If yes, complete the Change Degree Requirements form(s) and list the name(s) of the major, minor, concentration and/or list of approved electives here:

7. Is the course part of any other degree or program? If so, what department? A letter of support will be required from the affected department.
   No

(Form was approved by FCC on 9/1/08 and replaces all others.)
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8. Signature of Department Chair or Program Director:

________________________

Date: 4/22/09

9. Signature of Dean of School:

________________________

Date: 5/2/09

10. Signature of Curriculum Committee Chair:

________________________

Date: 5/2/09

11. Signature of Faculty Senate Secretary:

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Date Approved by Senate: ________________________

Completed form should be sent by the Faculty Senate Secretary to the Registrar. After implementation, information concerning the passed course and program changes will be provided by the Registrar to all faculty and staff on campus.

(Form was approved by FCC on 9/1/08 and replaces all others.)
MEMORANDUM

TO: College-wide Curriculum Committee

FROM: Psychology Department Curriculum Committee

SUBJECT: Course title changes to PSYC214 and PSYC464

We request that the titles of the following courses be changed:

- PSYC214 – Physiological Psychology TO PSYC214 – Behavioral Neuroscience
- PSYC464 – Advanced Physiological Psychology with Lab TO PSYC464 – Advanced Behavioral Neuroscience with Lab.

The goal of these title requests is to ensure that the names of these courses accurately reflect the content covered by the faculty teaching these classes; these faculty members were trained in Behavioral Neuroscience. Physiological Psychology is a dated term used to describe a set of restricted techniques for the study of the nervous system. The term was commonly used in the 1970’s and 1980’s. However, Behavioral Neuroscience is a broader term more commonly used since the 1990’s that reflects the current approach to the study of brain-behavior relationships.

The title change to PSYC214 is particularly important because revisions were made to the Neuroscience program last year (and approved by the Faculty Senate), making this course a “gateway” for students from other majors into the Neuroscience program.

Two additional courses are currently cross listed in the Biology and Psychology departments that cover similar, but much more advanced material. These courses, BIOL/PSYC351 – Introduction to Neurobiology and BIOL/PSYC352 – Neurobiology and Behavior, are required courses for the Neuroscience program. PSYC214 will still be a required course for the psychology major and its role in the Psychology curriculum will not change in any way.