

Curriculum Change Form
(Present only one proposed curriculum change per form)
(Complete only the section(s) applicable.)

Part I.

(Check one)	Department Name	Psychology
<input type="checkbox"/> New Course (Parts II, IV)	College	Arts and Sciences
<input type="checkbox"/> Course Revision (Parts II, IV)	*Course Prefix & Number	
<input type="checkbox"/> Course Dropped (Part II)	*Course Title (30 characters)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Program (Part III)	*Program Title	M. S. General Psychology
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Revision (Part III)		(Major <u>X</u> , Option __; Minor __; or Certificate __)
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Suspended (Part III)	*Provide only the information relevant to the proposal.	
Proposal Approved by:	Date	Date
Departmental Committee	2/13/04	Graduate Council* 03/17/04
College Curriculum Committee	03/15/04	Council on Academic Affairs
General Education Committee*	N/A	Approved <u>X</u> Disapproved __. 04-15-04
Teacher Education Committee*	N/A	Faculty Senate**
		Board of Regents**
		Council on Postsecondary Edu.***
*If Applicable (Type NA if not applicable.)		
**Approval needed for new, revised, or suspended programs		
***Approval/Posting needed for new degree program or certificate program		

Completion of A, B, and C is required: (Please be specific, but concise.)

A. 1. Specific action requested: To establish a new Master's of Science in General Psychology degree program
A. 2. Effective date: Fall, 2004
A. 3. Effective date of suspended programs for currently enrolled students: (if applicable) N/A

Part II. Recording Data for New, Revised, or Dropped Course

(For a new required course, complete a separate request for the appropriate program revisions.)

1. For a new course, provide the catalog text. 2. For a revised course, provide (a) the current catalog text and (b) the proposed text, reflecting the exact changes being proposed. For a dropped course, provide the current catalog text.
Current Catalog Text
New or Revised* Catalog Text (*Use strikeout for deletions and <u>underlines</u> for additions. Also include Crs. Prefix, No., and description, limited to 35 words.)

Part III. Recording Data for New, Revised, or Suspended Program

1. For a new program, provide the catalog description as being proposed. 2. For a revised program, provide (a) the current program requirements and (b) the revised program, reflecting the exact changes being proposed. For a suspended program, provide the current program requirements as shown in catalog. List any options and/or minors affected by the program's suspension.
Current Program Requirements as Shown in Catalog
New or Revised* Program (*Use strikeout for deletions and <u>underlines</u> for additions.)

B. The justification for this action: The proposed Master's of Science in General Psychology offers students advanced course work in the core areas of psychology and provides an opportunity to gain research training and experience. One aim of the program is to prepare students for doctoral studies in nonapplied areas of psychology, particularly those students whose GRE scores are such that they are not strong doctoral program applicants. There are also a number of career options for students who complete the M.S. but choose not to pursue the doctorate (e.g., data analysis, statistical work, research design, in public and private research agencies; research and development in corporate settings; management, sales, and administrative positions; and community college faculty). Students will work closely with a faculty mentor to develop an area of interest and to plan and carry out appropriate research.

A second aim of the program is to address a difficulty encountered by students in our Psy.S. School Psychology program. After two years of course work and practica, the Psy.S. students do a full-time, year-long internship. Some have had problems securing an internship or getting paid for one because a number of states make those decisions based on the applicant having a master's degree and hours earned beyond the masters. All of the students in the School Psychology program would meet the requirements for the M.S. General Psychology degree by the end of their second year of study. They already complete all of the courses that would be required for the M.S. They would use school psychology courses to satisfy M.S. program elective and thesis requirements. The students would then have a master's degree in hand when they begin their internship.

The M.S. in General Psychology program would not require any additional resources. All of the courses are currently being offered as requirements for our existing degree programs (I/O, School, or Clinical). We would not add a single course or offer any course more often than currently offered. In fact, the additional General Psychology students would help boost enrollment in existing low enrollment courses. The Department envisions this as a small program. The typical enrollment in General Psychology master's programs nationally (including similar programs at Murray State, Western, and Morehead State Universities) is between 3-5 new students a year. We anticipate admitting no more than four students to the M.S. program per year. However, the students who will earn the General M.S. on the way to earning the Psy.S. in School Psychology (that program typically enrolls 10 full-time students per year) will ensure sufficient degree production to sustain the program.

C. The projected cost (or savings) of this proposal is as follows:

Personnel Impact: No new faculty will be required to offer the degree. All of the courses comprising the degree program are already being offered as requirements for our existing master's degree programs. Courses will not be offered any more often than they are currently being offered.

Operating Expenses Impact: None.

Equipment/Physical Facility Needs: None.

Library Resources: No additional library resources will be required.

The Department of Psychology offers the Master of Science degree in clinical psychology, industrial and organizational psychology, and general psychology, and the Specialist in Psychology degree in school psychology. A certification-only program in School Psychology is available for students with related master's degrees. Clinical Psychology students may elect to complete a program for providing services to the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing in cooperation with the Department of Special Education. The department also cooperates with the College of Education in offering course work for the Master of Arts in Education with an option in psychology. Requirements for this degree may be found in the College of Education sections of this Catalog.

Master of Science and Specialist in Psychology

Candidates must satisfy the following special requirements.

Admission – A minimum of five undergraduate courses in psychology: general psychology, statistics, and experimental psychology are required, as well as two other courses acceptable to the departmental admissions committee. An undergraduate course in industrial and organizational psychology or related course is required for the industrial and organizational psychology program. A minimum overall undergraduate grade point average of 2.5, or 2.75 for the last 60 hours, is a Graduate School requirement. Satisfactory performance on the general sections of the Graduate Record Examination is required prior to admission. A minimum combined score of 750 (V&Q) on the GRE is required for full consideration to all graduate programs in the Department of Psychology. Admission is competitive and limited to available space. Meeting the minimum requirement, therefore, does not guarantee admission. Candidates must arrange for submission of three letters of recommendation directly to the department, two related to the undergraduate major, with at least one from psychology faculty.

Applications should be received by March 15. Notification regarding admission normally will be made in April. Students applying later may be accepted as space is available.

Admission to Candidacy - Students in the clinical, industrial and organizational, general, and school psychology programs will normally be evaluated for candidacy at the end of the second or third semester. Candidacy evaluations are scheduled by the department faculty during December and April. Performance at or above the minimum level of academic achievement does not guarantee a student's admission to candidacy. Manifestation of satisfactory personal, professional, and social adjustment are factors which enter into the department faculty's evaluation for the graduate degree in psychology. Refer to the General Academic Information section of this catalog for complete degree completion requirements.

Comprehensive Examination – Candidates for the degree will take written and oral examinations in the area of study in which they seek the master's or specialist degree.

Internship – Students in both the clinical and school psychology programs must perform satisfactorily in PSY 899 or PSY 898 in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree.

General Psychology Program

A total of 33 credit hours is required of candidates for the Master of Science in General Psychology. In addition to 18 credit hours of required courses, 9 credit hours of electives approved by the student's graduate advisor are required. A total of 6 credit hours of master's thesis is required (students enrolled in the Specialist in School Psychology may substitute 6 credit hours of electives approved by the coordinator of the School Psychology Program).

Psychological Foundations	18 hours
<u>PSY 820, 837, 840, 847, 853, 862</u>	
Electives	9 hours
Thesis (or additional electives for School Psychology students)	6 hours
Total Requirements	33 hours