

Proposed Title: Certificate of Proficiency in Psychology

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2020

I. Justification

The Certificate of Proficiency in Psychology provides students outside the psychology major with the opportunity to earn a certificate acknowledging their instruction in psychology. This certification enhances students' employment opportunity in a wide-range of areas from nursing to social work to criminal justice to human resources and integrates well with many majors and employment fields.

II. Preliminary Needs Assessment

The psychology minor currently has 91 students enrolled; this is partially because, employers in many occupational areas search for applicants with "soft" skills, and psychology helps students understand people and the causes of their behavior. Consequently, the certificate will appeal to students and employers in a broad array of occupations including business, political science, pre-law, health care and pre-med, counseling, criminal justice and engineers working in areas like cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. This certificate will allow students to present to potential employees a credential in psychology while earning a major in other areas.

III. Curriculum

Student will complete:

PSY 2003 – General Psychology

PSY 2053 or PSY 2063 or, with approval, Research/Statistic substitutes from other majors.

9 Hours from:

PSY 3003 – Abnormal Psychology

PSY 3063 or PSY 3813 – Developmental or Lifespan Developmental

PSY 3053 – Physiological Psychology

PSY 3073 – Psychology of Learning

PSY 3093 – Industrial Psychology

PSY 3153 – Theories of Personality

PSY 4013 – History of Psychology

PSY 4033 – Psychological Tests and Measurements

PSY 4043 – Social Psychology

PSY 4073 – Cognitive Psychology

PSY 4053 – Psychology of Perception

PSY 4133 – Psychopharmacology

PSY Electives – 9 Hours

IV. Cost

Since this certificate is drawn from current ATU classes, and it is expected to draw from current psychology minors, no new faculty positions or costs should be incurred.

V. Enrollment and Marketing

Currently (Feb 2019) there are 91 students with psychology minors enrolled at ATU. We estimate 60 to 80 of these would choose to pursue the certificate; this should translate into 10 to 20 students graduating with the certificate each year. Given the current enrollment in the minor, no additional marketing plan should be necessary.