



ACADEMIC ALERT #2008-05

DATE: February 2008

DECISION: College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)

Revised B.A. Psychology; Concentrations Replace Tracks

Rationale

Tracks are not listed on students' transcripts, whereas the concentrations will be listed. This addresses a concern that students have expressed for some time regarding having some way to validate their specialty area. In addition, the concentrations give students more flexibility in terms of the courses they can take to fulfill the concentration requirement. Concentrations eliminate the need for the large number of waivers that the department has had to approve over the past few years so that students could graduate with a track. Whereas the tracks require specific courses, the concentrations include a menu of courses from which the student chooses any six courses.

Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: February 14, 2008

Faculty Senate Approval: Not required; Point of Information

Provost Approval: Not required; Point of Information

Program Authorizations: The B.A. Psychology Program is authorized to be offered in the following Illinois Regions: Chicago; North Suburban; West Suburban; and South Metropolitan.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Fall Term, 2008

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SIGNATURE

Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.

Vice Provost

Concentrations for the B.A. in Psychology Program

In addition to fulfilling the required core courses in psychology, each psychology major must choose a 30 QH concentration in psychology. Students may choose a Developmental Psychology Concentration, Organizational/Community Psychology Concentration, or a General Psychology Concentration.

Eliminate three tracks in the B.A. Psychology program:

Track I: Emphasis on Developmental Psychology

Track II: Emphasis on Family and Community Psychology

Track III: Emphasis on Social and Organizational Psychology

Developmental Psychology Concentration

Students must take a minimum of 30 quarter hours from the following developmental coursework.

Course Code	Course Title	Quarter Hours
LAP200	Psychology of Development in the Infant/Toddler Years	5
LAP201	Psychology of Early Childhood	5
LAP202	Psychology of Middle Childhood and Adolescence	5
LAP204	Psychology of Adolescence and Early Adulthood	5
LAP300	Adult Development and Learning Assessment	5
LAP303	Introduction to Psycholinguistics	5
LAP320	Psychological Assessment of the Young Child – Part I	2
LAP321	Psychological Assessment of the Young Child – Part II	3
LAP325	Psychology of Play and Therapeutic Applications	5
LAP411	Psychology of Exceptional Children and Adolescents	5
LAP490	Independent Study in Psychology (approval of advisor)**	2-5
LAP495	Special Topics in Psychology (approval of advisor)**	2-5

*This course can only be used if it has not been used to satisfy the core requirement.

** Only two of the free electives may be independent study or special topic courses.

Organizational/Community Psychology Concentration

Students must take a minimum of 30 quarter hours from the following organizational/community coursework.

Course Code	Course Title	Quarter Hours
LAP200	Psychology of Development in the Infant/Toddler Years	5
INT310	Research Methods in the Behavioral Sciences*	3-5
LAP310	Introduction to Industrial/Organizational Psychology	5
LAP320	Psychological Assessment of the Young Child – Part I	2
LAP321	Psychological Assessment of the Young Child – Part II	3
LAP340	Effective Interpersonal Relationships	3-5
LAP342	Interpersonal Helping Skills	3-5
LAP348	Cross-Cultural Communication	5
LAP352	Children and Families Under Stress	5
LAP402	Experimental Psychology*	5
LAP443	Managing Interpersonal Communication in Organizations	5
LAP451	Industrial Psychology	5
LAP490	Independent Study in Psychology (approval of advisor)**	2-5
LAP495	Special Topics in Psychology (approval of advisor)**	2-5

*This course can only be used if it has not been used to satisfy the core requirement.

** Only two of the free electives may be independent study or special topic courses.

General Psychology Concentration

Students must take a minimum of 30 quarter hours from the following general coursework.

Course Code	Course Title	Quarter Hours
LAP200	Psychology of Development in the Infant/Toddler Years	5
LAP201	Psychology of Early Childhood	5
LAP202	Psychology of Middle Childhood and Adolescence	5
LAP204	Psychology of Adolescence and Early Adulthood	5
LAP300	Adult Development and Learning Assessment	5
LAP303	Introduction to Psycholinguistics	5
LAP 305	Memory and Cognition*	5
LAP320	Psychological Assessment of the Young Child – Part I	2
LAP321	Psychological Assessment of the Young Child – Part II	3
LAP325	Psychology of Play and Therapeutic Applications	5
LAP310	Introduction to Industrial/Organizational Psychology	5
LAP340	Effective Interpersonal Relationships	3-5
LAP342	Interpersonal Helping Skills	3-5
LAP348	Cross-Cultural Communication	5
LAP352	Children and Families Under Stress	5
LAP401	Psychology of Learning*	5
LAP403	History and Systems of Psychology	5
LAP411	Psychology of Exceptional Children and Adolescents	5
LAP443	Managing Interpersonal Communication in Organizations	5
LAP451	Industrial Psychology	5
LAP490	Independent Study in Psychology (approval of advisor)**	2-5
LAP495	Special Topics in Psychology (approval of advisor)**	2-5

*This course can only be used if it has not been used to satisfy the core requirement.

** Only two of the free electives may be independent study or special topic courses.

IMPLEMENTATION

All changes need to be entered in Banner and CAPP.

Marketing materials need to be developed for the revised program, and the revisions for the program need to be added to NLU's website.

The new catalog copy will be written and submitted to the Vice Provost and Assistant Registrar for Schedules and Catalogs to ensure that catalog copy is prepared and ready for the next catalog 2008-2009.