

Memorandum

TO: Curriculum Committee
FROM: William Gabrenya, Chair, School of Psychology Undergraduate Programs
THRU: Mary Beth Kenkel, Dean
RE: Change in curriculum
DATE: November 7, 2004

The School of Psychology Undergraduate Program would like to make minor changes in the curricula of two programs: BA. in Psychology (7144), B.S. in Psychology (7141).

We would like to eliminate the required Senior Seminar (PSY4400), a one-credit reading seminar. The one credit would be returned to Free Electives until needed to, potentially, fulfill the requirements of the QEP program.

This change is requested for the following reasons:

1. The Senior Seminar, as originally conceptualized, was to provide a graduate school-like experience involving reading and discussing primary sources. Our now-considerable experience with the course has showed that most undergraduates are not yet prepared for this level of intellectual activity.
2. Seminars, by their nature, must be conducted in small groups. As the size of the psychology undergraduate programs increases, more sections are required. If and until considerably greater faculty resources are available to the undergraduate programs, a course of this kind cannot be adequately staffed.
3. A seminar conducted at this level may be more appropriate to an honors program that selects only the best students.

Summary of degree programs with this change:

	Program	General Education	Psychology	Free Electives
Current Curriculum	B.A. Psych (7144)	54	48	18
	B.S. Psych (7141)	52	48	20
Proposed Curriculum	B.A. Psych (7144)	54	47	19
	B.S. Psych (7141)	52	47	21