



SACRAMENTO STATE

Program Proposal Form B



Academic Group (College): SSIS	Date of Submission to College Dean: 9-10-2008
Academic Organization (Department): PSYCHOLOGY	Requested Effective: Fall __ Spring <u>X</u> , 2009.
Department Chair: Dr. Bruce Behrman	Contact if not Department Chair: Dr. Caio Miguel
Title of the Program: Masters of Arts, Applied Behavior Analysis Option	
Type of Program Proposal:	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Modification in Existing Program:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Substantive Change</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Non-Substantive Change</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Deletion of Existing Program</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Programs</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Initiation (Projection) of New Program on to Master Plan</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> New Degree Programs</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Regular Process</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Fast Track Process</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Process</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Minor, Concentration, Option, Specialization, Emphasis</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> New Certificate Program</p>	
PLEASE NOTE: Form B is to be used only as a Cover Form. Additional information is requested for each of the above as noted in the corresponding procedure in the Policies and Procedures for Initiation, Modification, Review and Approval of Courses and Academic Programs found at http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/index.htm	

Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification.

New Program:

The five graduate courses in Behavior Analysis (plus practicum) offered by the Psychology department will be added as a specialized M.A. option. Currently the Graduate Behavior Analysis Track is not an official graduate option within the University, thus not listed in the catalog or student's transcripts. Students have, however, been unofficially taking the behavior analysis course sequence for years in order to sit for the Behavior Analysis National Certification Examination (BCBA).

Justification:

The *Behavior Analysis Certification Board* credentials masters' level practitioners as Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA). The Behavior Analysis Program at CSUS is approved by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. As an approved program, our course sequence allows students to complete the didactic requirement to sit for the national examination. The new task list issued by the Board (2006, third edition) includes 10 content areas that will need to be covered in graduate classes. The current classes offered at Sac State do not adequately cover all of the new content areas, thus putting our program at risk for re-approval by the board in December, 2008. For this reason, we have submitted two new course proposals (PSYC 272 and PSYC 274) that are currently pending approval. These classes are listed below as requirements for the new Masters of Arts in Psychology: Applied Behavior Analysis Option

Additionally, the *Association for Behavior Analysis International* (ABAI) accredits graduate programs to support the highest-quality education of behavior analysts. The Accreditation Board oversees this process and conducts regular reviews of accredited programs. Currently, there are two accredited programs in the state of California (CSU Stanislaus and CSU Los Angeles). The minimum standards for accreditation at the master's level consist of an educational program with instruction in behavior-analytic approaches to research and conceptual issues that includes: a) a curriculum topic in the principles of behavior; b) a curriculum topic in within-subjects research methodology and direct observation of behavior; c) a curriculum topic in conceptual issues; and d) a curriculum topic in behavioral interventions with such possible emphases as behavior therapy, behavioral teaching, and behavioral medicine. The standards further specify a thesis whose questions and methods are based on a behavior-analytic approach to problems or issues. The proposed program (below) meets the requirements above for future accreditation by the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI).

2. Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units. Attach a copy of correspondence with these units.

The programmatic impact of this change is positive in that this course sequence will allow students to have their ABA specialization recorded in their transcript. The new program does not require any additional fiscal resources.

3. Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes.

No fiscal impact is anticipated.

a. How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?

The proposed course sequence will be added into a 3-year course rotation for the Master's program track in Behavior Analysis. Instructors of this course will accommodate the course into their existing teaching loads through course rotation.

b. What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed? Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated.

No additional resources are required.

The Psychology Department submits the following new program

Masters of Arts Degree: Applied Behavior Analysis Option

Applied behavior analysis is a scientific approach aimed at 1) understanding environmental variables that reliably influence socially significant behavior and 2) developing behavior-change technologies based on this understanding.

Applied behavior analysis procedures have been used in many areas including developmental disabilities, education, rehabilitation, community psychology, self-management, child management, and sports psychology. The program at Sacramento State prepares students to practice as M.A. level board certified behavior analysts, as well as enter doctoral (Ph.D.) programs in Applied Behavior Analysis or Experimental Analysis of Behavior. Our graduates are extremely marketable in California and are typically employed by school districts, private schools or agencies providing services to individuals with learning, emotional or developmental disabilities.

Research and Clinical Opportunities

Our research facilities include human and animal (rats) operant laboratories and research rooms for data collection with children and adults. We have also established research partnerships with different schools and agencies in the region.

Clinical training is also an integral part of our program. There are numerous funded internships and job opportunities for behavior analysis students in Sacramento. Students may also obtain clinical experience working closely with the behavior analysis professors in one of these projects:

- UCP Autism Center for Excellence (A.C.E.) – This is an on-campus multidisciplinary program developed to promote community participation of children diagnosed with autism between ages 8-12.
- ABA Clinic – This is an on-campus clinic for assessment and treatment of behavior problems such as feeding disorders, stereotypy, aggression, and self-injury.
- Children's Hospital – UC, Davis - This is an off-campus multidisciplinary program serving children with feeding disorders and their families. Children served have been diagnosed as failure to thrive and/or are G-tube dependent.

Certification

The ABA track coursework should fulfill the new requirements to sit for the national certification exam in Behavior Analysis. For more information visit www.bacb.com.

NEW PROGRAM

REQUIRED CORE (10 units)

PSYC 200 Methods in Empirical Psychology (3 units)
PSYC 203 Experimental Design I (3 units)
PSYC 292 Laboratory (1 unit)

ELECTIVES (3 units minimum)

PSYC 209 Seminar in Systems of Psychology
PSYC 210 Theories of Personality
PSYC 216 Current Literature in Personnel and Organizational Psychology
PSYC 217 Current Literature in Personality and Social Psychology
PSYC 220 Psychopharmacology
PSYC 251 Developmental Processes
PSYC 262 Theoretical Foundations of Organizational Psychology
PSYC 253 Child Therapy
PSYC 268 Advanced Psychopathology
PSYC 296 Experimental Offerings
PSYC 299 Special Problems

REQUIRED AREA COURSES (18 units minimum)

PSYC 271 Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis (4 units)
PSYC 272 Research Methods in Behavior Analysis (3 units)
PSYC 274 Theoretical Foundations of Behavior Analysis (3 units)
PSYC 281 Advanced Experimental Analysis of Behavior (4 units)
PSYC 284 Assessment and Treatment of Behavior Problems (4 units)

REQUIRED FIELDWORK (3 units minimum)

PSYC 291 Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis (3 units)

CULMINATING EXPERIENCE (4-6 units)

PSYC 500A Culminating Experience (4 units)
PSYC 500B Continuing Culminating Experience (2 units)

Approvals:

Department Chair: _____

Date: _____



9/22/08

College Dean: _____

Date: _____



9-24-08

University Committee: _____

Date: _____

**Associate Vice President and Dean
for Academic Affairs:** _____

Date: _____