



University Council

March 10, 2023

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2022-2023

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Public Health – Pamela Orpinas

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Veterinary Medicine – Shannon Hostetter

Graduate School – Christof Meile

Ex-Officio – Provost S. Jack Hu

Undergraduate Student Representative – Kate Lindgren

Graduate Student Representative – Yehia Abdelsamad

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to offer a new minor in Educational Psychology will be an agenda item for the March 17, 2023, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR MINOR PROGRAM OF STUDY

1. **School/College:** Mary Frances Early College of Education
2. **Department/Division:** Educational Psychology
3. **Minor Name:** Educational Psychology
4. **Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2023
5. **Which campus(es) will offer this program:** Athens
6. **CIP:** 42280600

7. Program Description:

The minor in Educational Psychology is designed to support students' advanced understanding and application of knowledge of the cognitive, sociocultural, emotional, and moral development of children and adolescents to developmental issues presenting in a wide range of educational contexts. Students will gain in-depth understanding of the psychological theory, research, and principles of motivation as applied to instruction in informal and formal educational contexts. Development and motivation are examined through a cultural lens within a global multicultural context. Through required and elective coursework, students will learn how to use developmental science to better understand the foundations of child and adolescent development. The minor in Educational Psychology is a natural complement for students interested in education, positive youth development, human services, various therapeutic and professional careers, and post-baccalaureate degree programs in disciplines such as psychology, education, and social services.

Educational Objectives

- Demonstrate understanding of current theories and research in child and adolescent development;
- Describe how development theories and research apply in various educational contexts;
- Identify developmental patterns in individual children/adolescents;
- Describe the implications of developmental research in the design of educational programs and settings;
- Work collaboratively with others to investigate specific applied problems related to human motivation;
- Think critically about development experiments, how these relate to developmental theory, and how experimental results provide insight into psychological principles and processes;
- Develop and apply testable hypotheses theory for a research project and learn to communicate the results, orally and through written work;

Student Demand

The faculty in Educational Psychology have proposed this minor based on student demand for and inquiries about the undergraduate courses. For example, since fall 2019, numbers of students in EPSY 4061, Motivational Foundations for Education, have risen from 10 per semester to 40 per semester. Students in social science programs across the university who have taken that advanced course, as well as non-educator preparation majors in the department's global service course, have requested additional educational psychology course options to serve as electives for their programs of study. In addition, faculty within the unit have witnessed a recent increase in the number of CURO and Honors students seeking research-intensive experiences to better prepare themselves for graduate programs in educational psychology, school psychology, and clinical psychology. Since spring 2020, 28 undergraduates have completed coursework in Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research courses. In addition, the popularity of the Personal Health and Well-Being minor since its launch in August 2023 includes 61 students in the one semester since its inception.

8. Program of Study:

- *A minor must contain at least 9 hours of upper division course work (numbered 3000 or above).*
- *Courses taken to satisfy Core Areas I through V may not be counted as course work in the minor.*
- *Courses taken in Core Area VI may be counted as course work in the minor.*
- *A grade of "C" (2.0) or better must be earned in each course that is to be counted toward the minor.*

Required Courses (6 hours)

- EPSY 3200, Child Development and Teaching in the Sciences (3 hours)
- **or**
- EPSY 4011/6011, Foundations of Human Development for Education (3 hours)
- EPSY 4061, Motivational Foundations for Education (3 hours)

Elective Courses (9 hours)

Choose 9 hours from the following (3 hours must be upper-division coursework). Only 6 hours of research (i.e., EPSY 4960R-EPSY 4990R) can count towards the 15 hours in the Educational Psychology minor.

- EPSY 2001S, Critical Thinking and Creative Problem-Solving for Life (3 hours)
- EPSY 3010, Child and Adolescent Development for Education (3 hours)
- EPSY 3500, Psychology of Habit (3 hours)
- EPSY 3600-3600L, Science and Practice of Health and Well-Being (3 hours)
- EPSY 4010, Research-Based Experiences in Educational Psychology (3 hours)
- EPSY 4020/6020, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) in the Classroom and Beyond (3 hours)
- EPSY 4070/6070, Prevention and Intervention with School-Age Youth (3 hours)
- EPSY 4170/6170, Educational Psychology of Race and Racism (3 hours)

- EPSY 4240, Abnormal Child Psychology (3 hours)
- EPSY 4310/6310, Prevention and Remediation of Classroom Behavior Problems (3 hours)
- EPSY 4960R, Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research I (1- 6 hours)
- EPSY 4970R, Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research II (1-6 hours)
- EPSY 4980R, Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research III (1-6 hours)
- EPSY 4990R, Undergraduate Research Thesis (or Final Project) (1-6 hours)
- ERSH 4200/6200, Methods of Research in Education (3 hours)
- ERSH 4300/6300, Applied Statistical Methods in Education (3 hours)
- ERSH 4600/6600, Applied Educational Assessment (3 hours)

Total Hours Required for Minor - 15 hours

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Create a new minor in Educational Psychology

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Educational Psychology

Proposed Effective Term: Spring 2024

Approvals:

- Communication Sciences and Special Education Department Head, Dr. Amy Reschly, 2/16/23
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 2/16/23
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 2/16/23