

Date: January 24, 2007

Subject: Proposed Undergraduate Statistics Minor

From: Jay Hobgood (Subcommittee C chair)

Subcommittee C discussed the proposed undergraduate minor in Statistics extensively during several meetings during autumn quarter. There was some initial confusion about the courses included in the minor, the prerequisites for students who wanted to do the minor and the rationale for some parts of the minor. When the subcommittee was unable to resolve the significant issues with the minor through email, a representative of Statistics was invited to meet with the subcommittee. Mike Fligner attended a meeting of Subcommittee C and addressed the concerns of the subcommittee. The subcommittee voted unanimously to approve the minor with corrections on November 28, 2006.

The principal foci of questions and discussion about the minor were:

1. Which courses are included in the *Core Required Courses* and in the *Electives*? Should Statistics 528 be listed as a *Core Required Course*? Should Statistics 451 be included in the *Electives*, or should it be Statistics 461 or 651?
2. Are the prerequisites for Statistics 529 too confusing? Note 1 in the proposal originally read
 1. *Students who receive an A in Stat 245, have done well in the AP Statistics course, or have done top A work in Stat 145 may start in Stat 529 (rather than 528). All of these courses essentially cover the same material as Stat 528.*
3. Does the structure of the minor make it too difficult for students in some fields to do the minor? Some departments require Statistics courses that are not included in the *Core Required Courses* and that may make it difficult for their interested students to fit the minor in their curriculum.

The response from Statistics to the main concerns of Subcommittee C is to:

1. Submit a course change request revising the prerequisites for Statistics 528 to make them consistent with the minor.
2. To begin offering Statistics 451 in Autumn 2007, since the course appears in the list of *Electives*.
3. To examine if there are alternatives that might make it easier for students in some departments to do the minor.

Date: January 24, 2007

Subject: Proposed Revisions to the Psychology Major

From: Jay Hobgood (Subcommittee C chair)

Subcommittee C discussed the proposed revisions to the major requirements for the B.A. and B.S. degrees offered by the Department of Psychology on November 28, 2006. After a discussion the subcommittee voted unanimously to approve the revised major requirements for both the B.A. and the B.S. degrees.

The principal revisions to the major are:

1. The *Core Requirements* categories are expanded from five to six by subdividing the current "Cognition/Attention/Performance" category into two categories called "Perception and Action" and "Memory, Decision-Making, and Language". Students will be required to take one course in each of the categories. The justification for this change is that it will better reflect the current character of the discipline of Psychology.
2. Psychology 320 is renumbered as Psychology 220 and will be required along with Psychology 100 and Psychology 300 of all B.A. and B.S. students. Psychology 320 is currently only required for the B.S. degree. The justification for this change is to ensure that the core features of psychological methods and statistics are better integrated and provide students with the level of knowledge necessary for advanced work within the Psychology major.
3. The *Advanced Requirements* categories are reduced from five to three and the list of courses in those categories is reduced from a total of 59 to 35. Students are required to choose "at least one course from each of the three categories" which is a change from the current requirement to choose "one course from two of the five categories". The justification for this change is that it will ensure that students achieve breadth as well as depth in their exposure to advanced coursework in Psychology .
4. These changes will increase the total hours required for the Psychology major from 48 hours to 58 hours.

The principal foci of questions and discussion during the Subcommittee's meeting were:

1. Since Psychology 313 is the only course in the "Psychobiology" category of the *Core Requirements* , will there be enough sections offered to meet demand? The answer was that there are enough sections.
2. Will the additional requirements affect time to graduation? The answer was that students currently take enough *Elective Courses* in Psychology that the new requirements should not negatively affect time to graduation for most students.

3. How do the additional requirements affect "Pre-med" students? This issue will be examined by Psychology.
4. What are the differences between the B.S. and the B.A. requirements? B.S. will be required to take Psychology 321 and one advanced methods class (either Psychology 500, 510 or 520). These courses will be allowed to count toward the other requirements for the major. B.A. and B.S. students will be required to take the same total number of hours in the major.
5. Current students were offered an opportunity to give feedback on the proposed revisions and the feedback was positive overall.