

Rationale for Change: Psychology 662 to 462

Psychology 662 was introduced more than 15 years ago by Dr. Philip Clark, now an emeritus faculty of the Psychology Department. When the course was originally developed the subfield of creativity research was just emerging in psychology and Dr. Clark was one of its founders. His course was developed partially as a response to that research and was offered in a combined lecture/seminar format at the 600 U/G level. Course readings were limited to a few classic sources; publications describing research-based developments and theories were lacking.

In recent years the field has formally developed and has grown to such an extent that there are now a number of standard psychology textbooks available which summarize a very large database of basic and applied research, theories, and methods. The Psychology Department and the current instructor would like to reformat the course to reflect this change. This reformatting leads to two specific modifications:

1. A introduction to the field can no longer be adequately covered in a 3 CH course. During the last two times the course has been offered, the instructor has increased the amount of in-class time to two 2-hour classes and the out-of-classroom requirements have been increased by a factor of about 1.5. We believe that a change to 5 CH is appropriate.
2. The course has not enrolled graduate students in any meaningful numbers for some time and the course content presented in current textbook choices and outside readings are more appropriate for an intermediate rather than an advanced undergraduate course. Hence, we request a change in numbering from 662 to 462.