From: Steele, Rachel
To: Paulsen, Alisa

Cc: Roup, Christina; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette; Cody, Emily; Hilty, Michael; Steele, Rachel

**Subject:** Psychology 1375

Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:38:50 PM

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## Good morning,

On Tuesday, October 18th, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new course proposal for Psychology 1375.

The Panel unanimously approved the request with **three contingencies**, seven recommendations, and two comments:

- 1. **Contingency:** The Panel asks that the department obtain a concurrence from the Department of Sociology.
- 2. Contingency: The Panel asks that the department clarify what is meant by "miniquizzes". These are mentioned on pg. 9 of the syllabus and on the course calendar (syllabus pg. 15) but the length and format of the quizzes are not explained. Additionally, the Panel notes that students will need to know whether quizzes are given in class or must be completed prior to a class meeting, and if quizzes will be given on Carmen or in an "analog" format.
- 3. **Contingency:** The Panel asks that the department include more information about the exams including their length, format, and position within the grading structure of the course. While pg. 8 of the syllabus mentions that there will be 3 exams, they are not a part of the grading scale (pg. 9 of the syllabus) and the do not appear on the course calendar (pg. 15 of the syllabus). Additionally, the Panel asks that the department clarify for students what devices they can and cannot use to take exams, as Ohio State no longer provides iPads to students.
- 4. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department revise the technology requirement section of the syllabus (pg. 10) to reflect all types of devices that are acceptable for in-class participation (Top-Hat) and completion of mini-quizzes and/or exams.
- 5. Recommendation: The Panel notes and appreciates the clear "late work" policy on pg. 9 of the syllabus but recommends that the department provide more information to students about how missed or late quizzes and exams will be handled.
- 6. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department provide clarity for students regarding the "syllabus survey" (worth 3 points as noted on pg. 9 under "grading scale") and its relationship to the extra credit that can be earned for reading the syllabus (syllabus pg. 9 under "Bonus Points").
- 7. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the Department amend the statement regarding the course's GEN status on the bottom of pg. 12 which reads "PSY1375 fulfills the Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity Foundation for the College of Arts and

- Sciences at The Ohio State University" to "Psychology 1375 fulfills the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity GEN Foundation requirement" or similar, as the course will fulfill this requirement for students in all colleges, not only the College of Arts and Sciences.
- 8. Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department replace the Title IX statement found on pg. 13 of the syllabus with the most up-to-date version, which can be found here: <a href="https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements">https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements</a>.
- 9. Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department replace the Disabilities Services statement on pg. 13 of the syllabus with the most up-to-date version, which can be found here: https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements.
- 10. Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department replace the Mental Health and Stress statement on pg. 14 of the syllabus with the most up-to-date version, which can be found here: <a href="https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements">https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements</a>.
- 11. Comment: Most panelists expressed that they found the syllabus difficult to read and understand due to its unusual format. They kindly note that some variations in text format and color may be difficult for some students to navigate, especially those with certain disabilities.
- 12. Comment: The Panel offers a friendly note that opening the syllabus with a quote that uses "man" for the human universal (syllabus pg. 2) may run counter to the themes of a course exploring identity, social position, and implicit biases.

I will return Psychology 1375 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Christina Roup (faculty Chair of the SBS Panel; cc'd on this e-mail), or me. Best,

Rachel



## Rachel Steele, MA

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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