

January 10, 2011  
Psychology Transfer Model Curriculum (TMC)

*The Psychology TMC was initially developed at the October DIG meetings. Both the North and the South groups readily agreed upon the required core, with some slight differences in the specifics of some courses – such as whether or not a lab had to be required for Research Methods or whether or not Statistics had to be a discipline-based course. Shortly after the DIGs, the FDRG was convened and the TMC that was posted for vetting reflected the FDRG's effort to reconcile the slight differences in the initial DIG products. Online vetting was conducted, with the former IMPAC list-serv being used to reach discipline faculty, and CIAC, CCC Senate Presidents, and CCC Curriculum Chairs.*

C-ID	Course Title	Possible CSU GE	Units
<b>REQUIRED CORE:</b>			
	Elementary Statistics (Psychological, Behavioral, or Social Science Stats preferred)	B4	3-4
PSY 110	General Psychology	D9	3
PSY 200 or 205	Research Methods in Psychology (with or without lab)		3-4
	Total Core Units:		9-11
<b>List A</b>			
<b>Select one of:</b>			
	Introduction to Biology	B2	3-4
	Human Biology	B2	3-4
PSY 150	Introduction to Biological Psychology	B2	3-4
<b>List B</b>			
<b>Select one of:</b>			
	Any List A course not used above.		≥3
	Any course that has articulation as lower division major preparation for the psychology major at a CSU.		≥3
<b>List C</b>			
<b>Select one of:</b>			
	Any courses not selected above, *any CSU transferable psychology courses, and/or other courses that are lower division preparation for the psychology major at a university - in or outside of the discipline.	≥3	
			<b>Total Units: 18-21</b>

\*At least one course option under Category C must be articulated as general education or major preparation at the CSU.

The Psychology TMC was unchanged following the vetting period. Many of the comments and concerns are readily addressed with a clear explanation of the reasoning behind the courses selected for the TMC and other clarifications (e.g., a 4-unit Introduction to Biological Psychology course that includes a lab would be consistent with the TMC and Introduction to Abnormal Psychology, a course some CCC faculty were interested in including in the degree, could be an option under List C). Others suggested a lack of understanding of the

implementation of the TMC; a failure to understand that California community colleges (CCCs) were not obligated to develop degrees with all indicated course offerings and/or that a given CCC that seeks to develop a TMC-aligned degree could opt to be as restrictive or permissive as they choose within the parameters of the TMC. The TMC, with explanation, is presented and discussed below. Following this, samples of TMC-aligned degrees are provided. While C-ID descriptors have been referenced, CCCs do not need C-ID designations to develop and have a TMC-aligned degree approved. C-ID descriptors are referenced to ensure a common understanding of the course being referred to. Where no C-ID descriptor is available, a sample course description is provided. The units indicated in the TMC are semester units – and they are minimum units.

### **SAMPLE course descriptions:**

Required Core - Elementary Statistics

**Introductory Statistics for General, Business, and Social Sciences** - Psychology - TCSU  
STAT 120 (Description obtained from a descriptor developed by CSU as part of LDTP)

The use of probability techniques, hypothesis testing, and predictive techniques to facilitate decision-making. Topics include descriptive statistics; probability and sampling distributions; statistical inference and power; linear correlation and regression; chi-square and t-tests. Application of statistical software to data, including the interpretation of the relevance of the statistical findings.

### **PSYC B5 Elementary Statistics for the Behavioral and Social Sciences (5 units)**

Statistics as applied to the behavioral and social sciences. Emphasizes research design, the organization of data, measures of central tendency and variability, the normal curve, correlation and regression, hypothesis testing, parametric and nonparametric techniques, and one-way and two-way analysis of variance. **Prerequisites:** MATH BD. Introductory course in Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Economics or Political Science (may be taken concurrently).

**Recommended:** Reading Level 5 or 6, English Level 5. **Hours:** 90 lect.

*(Bakersfield College)*

List A – Introduction to Biology

### **BIO 11. Introduction to the Science of Living Organisms (4)**

Introductory level lecture and laboratory course covering the major fundamental concepts required for understanding biological processes, organismic structure and function, and an introduction to the principles of biotechnology. UC/CSU

*(City College of San Francisco)*

### **BIOL 10 INTRODUCTION TO THE SCIENCE OF BIOLOGY      4 UNITS**

Basic principles of biology dealing with the nature of living things, and the nature of scientific investigation and its bioethical impact in our modern world. Designed for non-majors in biology or the biomedical sciences. 3 hours lecture, 3 hours laboratory.

*(Las Positas College)*

## List A – Human Biology

### **BIO 9. Human Biology (4)**

Lec-3, lab-3

*Advise: ESL 140 (or placement in ESL 150), or ENGL 90 (or placement in ENGL 92)*

An introduction to scientific and biological principles through the study of humans as exemplary organisms. Lectures and laboratory exercises will examine the structure and functions of the human body and other organisms in relation to health and disease, genetics, biotechnology, evolution, and current scientific issues. UC/CSU  
(City College of San Francisco)

### **Biology 100. Human Biology (4)**

This course is an introduction to scientific and biological principles presented in a human context. Topics covered include the scientific method, cell structure and function, biochemistry, metabolism, nutrition, cell division, genetics, biotechnology, disease processes, evolution, ecology, and anatomy and physiology of the human body.  
(Mount San Jacinto)

## The Required Core

Many CCC respondents indicated that they did not or could not offer a Research Methods in Psychology course. The DIG attendees and the FDRG were all aware of this, but the consensus was that this course was a necessary part of a psychology core. Furthermore, although the option of offering a Research Methods course without a lab is indicated, and a general statistics course is acceptable in lieu of a discipline-focused one, Research Methods with a lab is preferred, as is a discipline-based statistics course. CCCs that seek to best prepare their students for the psychology major at a CSU statewide will want to offer the preferred courses. In addition, a statistics course that not only is appropriate for the psychology major, but also meets the CSU quantitative reasoning general education requirement (B4), is highly recommended.

The Psychology and Sociology FDRGs are in the process of developing descriptors for statistics and research methods courses that would work for both disciplines. The goal is to offer a model for a course that could serve the needs of both disciplines and have the necessary rigor and content expected of these two related disciplines. Currently, there are CCCs that offer a social sciences methods course that is articulated to fill the research methods requirement of a CSU psychology major. It is hoped that a course that serves dual purposes might permit some CCCs to add such a course to their curriculum.

## List A

It should be noted that the only required courses, courses that a CCC **must** offer in order to develop a TMC-aligned degree without developing new courses, are the “required core”. If a given CCC has only one course available in list List A and/or List B, they can develop a TMC-aligned degree with more limited options. If limiting options is more consistent with the views of the local faculty and/or the requirements of local universities, then such limits should be imposed. List A provides the CCC with a choice of courses – courses that likely meet the CSU life sciences general education requirement (B2) and are lower division major preparation at one

or more CSUs across the state. The need to understand biology is critical to a complete understanding of psychology – but there are a variety of courses that can serve this purpose. List A reflects this. It is expected that local CCCs will consider their existing articulation agreements with local CSUs as they expand or limit options under List A.

### **List B**

This component of the TMC elicited many comments from both CCC and CSU faculty. This is a list that consists solely of **courses that are articulated as lower division major preparation for the psychology major at a CSU**. The issue that many noted stems from inconsistencies across the CSUs – a course that is lower division major preparation at one CSU may be upper division at another. It is expected that CCCs will develop degrees that reflect existing articulation with their local CSUs as they make course selections for this component of the degree. Many CCCs, for example, may only offer students the option of Lifespan Development or Developmental Psychology under this list. The intent of making this list inclusive of all CSU major preparation courses was not to encourage development of new courses at the CCC, but to ensure that existing offerings that currently served a purpose for transfer students could be incorporated into TMC-aligned degrees.

### **List C**

List C is a more open list. This is where CCCs may place transfer-level psychology courses that do not fit elsewhere.

The following summary is meant to provide a general overview. Please see [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) for further information.

**\*Summary of Major Preparation Courses at the CSU – Extracted from LDTP Patterns**

Course	TMC	CSU	Number
Statistics	<b>Required</b>	CSUB, CSUDH, CSUEB, Fresno, CSUF, CSUH, CSULB, CSULA, CSUN, Cal Poly Pomona, CSUSB, SDSU, SFSU, SJSU, SLO, CSUSM, Stanislaus	17
Research Methods in Psychology	<b>Required</b>	CSUC, CSUDH, CSUEB, CSUF, CSUH, CSULB, CSUMB, Cal Poly Pomona, CSUSM, Stanislaus	11
<i>Biological Psychology</i>	<i>List A</i>	<i>Fresno, CSULB, CSULA, CSUN, Cal Poly Pomona, SDSU, SJSU</i>	8
Written Composition	List B	CSUH, Cal Poly Pomona, SFSU (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester), SJSU (2 <sup>nd</sup> semester), Sonoma	5
Developmental/Lifespan Psychology	List B	CSUCI, CSUSB, SDSU, SLO	4
<i>Intro to Biology</i>	<i>List A</i>	<i>CSUEB (w/lab), SDSU, Stanislaus</i>	3
Writing and Critical Thinking	List B	CSULA, CSUSB, Sonoma	3
Intro to Sociology	List B	Cal Poly Pomona, Stanislaus (and other non-psychology options)	3
College Algebra	List B	CSULA, SFSU	2
Biostatistics	List B	CSUCI	1
Cognition and Learning	List B	CSUCI	1
Theories of Personality	List B	CSUCI	1
<i>Human Biology</i>	<i>List A</i>	<i>SJSU</i>	1
Social or Family Psychology	List B	SLO	1
Learning	List B	SDSU	1

\*Introductory Psychology, courses of less than three semester units, and never-articulated courses have been excluded.

## SAMPLE TMC-Aligned Degrees

### **A - Prescriptive**

1. Elementary Statistics (Core)
2. General Psychology (Core)
3. Research Methods in Psychology (Core)
4. Introduction to Biological Psychology (List A)
5. Lifespan Development (List B)
6. Abnormal Psychology (List C)

*Students have no options within the major component of the degree. This may be due to limited curriculum, the requirements of the CSUs students commonly attend, or the philosophy of the CCC faculty.*

### **B – Options within Lists A and B, no List C**

1. Elementary Statistics (Core)
2. General Psychology (Core)
3. Research Methods in Psychology (Core)

Choose one of (List A):

Introduction to Biological Psychology  
Human Biology

Choose two of (List B):

Human Development  
Lifespan Development  
Biostatistics  
Introduction to Sociology

*In this example there is no “List C”. Instead, the student selects two courses from List B, which is limited to courses that are articulated as major preparation at a CSU.*

### **C – No options within List A**

1. Elementary Statistics (Core)
2. General Psychology (Core)
3. Research Methods in Psychology (Core)
4. Human Biology (List A)

Choose one of (List B):

Lifespan Development  
Introduction to Biological Psychology  
Introduction to Sociology

Choose one of (List C):

Abnormal Psychology  
Death and Dying  
Learning  
Social Psychology

*In this example, the student is given no choice from List A and options within Lists B and C.*