New Program/Major or Minor/Concentration Proposal Form

(2017)

1.0 Degree Title
Please specify the two degrees for concurrent degree programs

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

1.1 Major (Legacy = Subject) (30-char. max.)

Psychology

1.2 Concentration (Legacy = Concentration/Option)
If applicable to Majors only (30 char. max)

Behavioural Neuroscience

1.3 Minor (with Concentration, if Applicable) (30char. max)

2.0 Administering Faculty/Unit

Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS)

Offering Faculty/Department

SC - Psychology

3.0 Effective Term of Implementation
(Ex. Sept. 2004 = 200409)
Term

201809

4.0 Rationale and Admission Requirements for New Proposal

Psychology poses far-reaching and foundational questions about mind and behaviour in human and non-human animals. A major subdivision of Psychology, Behavioural Neuroscience (BNS), targets the physical underpinnings of behavior by investigating neurobiological processes in behaving organisms. Our department's long-standing strengths in BNS recently have been enhanced by new hires into BNS and other areas of Psychology (clinical, cognitive, social). Because of this expanding focus, demand from our students, and methodological and conceptual advances in the discipline of BNS, we now propose to expand and formalize our training in this area with a BNS concentration. This concentration is directed at any student in Psychology who wishes to obtain advanced training in BNS. The BNS concentration thus capitalizes on our department's current strengths, and will coalesce a critical mass of faculty and students at the intersection of brain and behaviour. Our Department has reviewed existing programs, and the MSc (A) in Psychology (Non-Thesis) will be retired.

5.0 Program Information

Please check appropriate box(es)

5.1 Program Type

- ☐ Bachelor's Program
- ☐ Master's
- ☐ M.Sc. (Applied) Program
- ☐ Dual Degree/Concurrent Program
- ☐ Certificate
- ☐ Diploma
- ☐ Graduate Certificate
- ☐ Graduate Diploma
- ☒ Ph.D. Program
- ☐ Doctorate Program (Other than Ph.D.)
- ☐ Private Program
- ☐ Off-Campus Program
- ☐ Distance Education Program (By Correspondence)
- ☐ Other:

Please specify

5.2 Category

- ☐ Faculty Program (FP)
- ☐ Major
- ☐ Joint Major
- ☐ Major Concentration (CON)
- ☐ Minor
- ☐ Minor Concentration (CON)
- ☐ Honours (HON)
- ☐ Joint Honours Component (HC)
- ☐ Internship/Co-op
- ☒ Thesis (T)
- ☐ Non-Thesis (N)
- ☐ Other:

Please specify

5.3 Level

- ☐ Undergraduate
- ☐ Dentistry/Law/Medicine
- ☐ Continuing Studies (Non-Credits)
- ☐ Masters & Grad Dip & Certs
- ☒ Doctorate
- ☐ Post-Graduate Medicine/ Dentistry
- ☐ Graduate Qualifying
- ☐ Postdoctoral Fellows

5.4 FQRSC (Research) Indicator
(For GPS)

☐ Yes ☒ No

5.5 Requires Resources
(financial, personnel, space)

☐ Yes ☒ No

6.0 Total Credits

0

7.0 Consultation with

Related Units ☒ Yes ☐ No

Financial Consult ☐ Yes ☒ No

Attach list of consultations.

8.0 Program Description (Maximum 150 words)

The Behavioural Neuroscience (BNS) concentration emphasizes modern, advanced theory and methodology aimed at the neurobiological underpinnings of behaviour in non-human and human animals. It requires that students replace two of their normally required area seminars with BNS Special Topics (PSYC 781) and BNS Advanced Seminar (PSYC 782), and that they complete a dissertation that addresses Behavioural Neuroscience themes as determined by the graduate program director. Complementary courses will be chosen by the student in consultation with the supervisor and graduate program director. The Behavioural Neuroscience concentration is intended for graduate students in any area of Psychology who wish to obtain unique, intensive training at the intersection of Psychology and Neuroscience, thereby enhancing their expertise, the interdisciplinary potential of their dissertation research, and enabling them to compete successfully for academic or commercial positions in either field alone, or their intersection.

9.0 List of proposed program for the New Program/Major or Minor/Concentration

If new concentration (option) of existing Major/Minor (program), please attach a program layout (list of courses) of existing Major/Minor.

Proposed program (list course as follow: Subj Code/Crse Num, Title, Credit weight, under the heading of: Required Courses, Complementary Courses, and Elective Courses).

Existing Ph.D. in Psychology

Required Course:
- PSYC 701 Doctoral Comprehensive Examination

Complementary Courses (12-24 credits):

12 credits (one course per term in Year 2 and Year 3) chosen from ~~the following list:~~
- ~~PSYC 710 Comparative and Physiological Psychology 1 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 711 Comparative and Physiological Psychology 2 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 712 Comparative and Physiological Psychology 3 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 713 Comparative and Physiological Psychology 4 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 714 Comparative and Physiological Psychology 5 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 715 Comparative and Physiological Psychology 6 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 718 Learning and Motivation (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 722 Personality and Social Psychology (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 723 Personality and Social Psychology (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 724 Personality and Social Psychology (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 725 Personality and Social Psychology (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 727 Personality and Social Psychology (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 728 Ethics and Professional Issues (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 729 Theory of Assessment (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 730 Clinical Neuroscience Methods (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 732 Clinical Psychology 1 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 733 Clinical Psychology 2 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 734 Developmental Psychology and Language (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 735 Developmental Psychology and Language (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 736 Developmental Psychology and Language (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 740 Perception and Cognition (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 741 Perception and Cognition (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 742 Perception and Cognition (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 743 Perception and Cognition (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 744 Perception and Cognition (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 746 Quantitative and Individual Differences (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 747 Quantitative and Individual Differences (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 748 Quantitative and Individual Differences (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 749 Quantitative and Individual Differences (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 752D1 Psychotherapy and Behaviour Change (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 752D2 Psychotherapy and Behaviour Change (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 753 Health Psychology Seminar 1 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 754 Health Psychology Seminar 2 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 755 Health Psychology Seminar 3 (3 credits)~~
- ~~PSYC 756 Health Psychology Seminar 4 (3 credits)~~

0-12 credits from the following (students without a master's degree from McGill need to take all 12 credits):
- PSYC 650 Advanced Statistics 1 (3 credits)
- PSYC 651 Advanced Statistics 2 (3 credits)
- PSYC 660D1 Psychology Theory (3 credits)
- PSYC 660D2 Psychology Theory (3 credits)

9.0 List of proposed program for the New Program/Major or Minor/Concentration

If new concentration (option) of existing Major/Minor (program), please attach a program layout (list of courses) of existing Major/Minor.

Proposed program (list course as follow: Subj Code/Crse Num, Title, Credit weight, under the heading of: Required Courses, Complementary Courses, and Elective Courses).

Proposed Behavioural Neuroscience Concentration Option in the Psychology Ph.D. program

Required Courses (6 credits):
- PSYC 701 Doctoral Comprehensive Examination
- PSYC 781 Behavioural Neuroscience Special Topics (3 credits)
- PSYC 782 Behavioral Neuroscience Advanced Seminar (3 credits)

Complementary Courses (6-18 credits):

6 credits (one course per term in Year 2 and Year 3) chosen from relevant 700-level courses in consultation with the supervisor and graduate program director.

0-12 credits from the following (students without a master's degree from McGill need to take all 12 credits):
- PSYC 650 Advanced Statistics 1 (3 credits)
- PSYC 651 Advanced Statistics 2 (3 credits)
- PSYC 660D1 Psychology Theory (3 credits)
- PSYC 660D2 Psychology Theory (3 credits)

AC-17-10 (REV'2)

10.0 Approvals

Routing Sequence	Name	Signature	Date
Department	John Lydon		
Curric/Acad Committee			21 Nov 2017
Faculty / Science	Josie D'Amico		5 Dec 2017
Faculty 2			
Faculty 3			
CGPS			
SCTP			
APC			
Senate			

Submitted by

Name	
Phone	
Email	
Submission Date	

To be completed by ARR

CIP Code

Approval by Faculty of Science, 5 Dec., 2017

Josie D'Amico

Psychology Response to
Consultation Reports from Biology and the Integrated Program in Neuroscience

November 9, 2017

RESPONSE TO IPN:

The IPN noted that there is no significant overlap between the proposed BNS courses and the IPN core or elective courses. Their objection stems from the fact that these courses would be of interest to IPN students, but that we had proposed restricting PSYC 718 and PSYC 782 to Psychology students. We agree that these courses may also be of relevance to IPN students, as well as to graduate students in Biology, Physiology, Education, etc..

In response to this concern, we have removed this restriction. Thus, in the revised course proposals, we now indicate that any McGill graduate student could potentially enroll in these courses, by instructor permission, with the provision that Psychology graduate students will have enrollment priority for up to 12 out of the 15 spots in the course.

RESPONSE TO BIOLOGY:

The Biology Department raised no objections to our proposal, and offered a few comments/suggestions.

With regard to access to PSYC 781 and PSYC 782 for Biology students whose research dovetails with neuroscience, as discussed above we will make these courses open to all students, though enrolment priority will be for Psychology students up to 12 spots our of 15 total spots per course.

We agree that BIOL 530 could be an appropriate complementary course for BMS students, and we note that we already routinely grant substitutions to Psychology students to allow them enroll in courses outside of Psychology. Therefore we will implement this suggestion through advising rather than officially amending our course list.

With respect to having psyc781 be considered as overlapping with neur631, as indicated in the IPN consultation form, there is minimal overlap between the two courses.

Guidelines for the New Course Proposal Form

APPENDIX A

CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE COURSE PROPOSALS

DATE: November 6/2017

TO: Debra Titone,Graduate program Director, Dept. of Psychology

FROM: Joseph Rochford, Graduate Program director, Integrated Program in Neuroscience (IPN)

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum/Academic Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Course Subject Code + #, Title, Credit Weight:

PSYC 781 Behavioural Neuroscience Special Topics (3 cr)
PSYC 782 Behavioral Neuroscience Advanced Seminar
Concentration in Behavioural Neuroscience

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal.

_____ **NO OBJECTIONS** __X__ **SOME OBJECTIONS**

COMMENTS:

Re courses: The proposed courses do not overlap significantly with any of the IPN-core or approved electives available to students registered through our program. There is some overlap with some of the content in NEUR 631, Principles of Neuroscience II (PN II), but the overlap is less than 10% of the PN II content. Further, the material proposed for coverage in PSYC 781 and 782 will no doubt be more detailed and extensive relative to the coverage in PN II.

As the IPN covers all aspects of neuroscience, including behavioural neuroscience, it would benefit our program if our students had access to the material covered in the 2 proposed courses. I can think of two mechanisms through which this could be accomplished:

1. **Lift the psychology-only restriction on the courses, to allow IPN-registered students (independent of whether their thesis supervisor is a psychology faculty member) to register for the courses. In the case of IPN-registered students, these would be considered electives (not core or required courses).**
2. **Incorporate 781 and 782 into our NEUR 602 course, Selected Topics in Neuroscience, as 2 new sections for this seminar-based course. NEUR 602 is open to IPN registered students, and we have no restrictions on registration, meaning that psychology-registered students pursuing behavioral neuroscience training would also have access to the content via the NEUR 602 option.**

Guidelines for the New Course Proposal Form

Signature:

Date: November 6/2017

APPENDIX A

CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE COURSE PROPOSALS

DATE: 3 November 2017

TO: Debra Titone, Graduate Program Director, Department of Psychology

FROM:Frederic Guichard, Graduate Program Director, Department of Biology

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum/Academic Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Course Subject Code + #, Title, Credit Weight: Behavioral Neuroscience Concentration, Psyc 781 (Behavioural Neuroscience Special Topics) and Psyc 782 (Behavioral Neuroscience Advanced Seminar).

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal.

X
_____ NO OBJECTIONS _____ SOME OBJECTIONS

COMMENTS:

The proposed concentration and courses will not impact teaching in the biology department. In fact, the new proposed courses could potentially benefit neuro students in the Department of Biology.

Some suggestions:
- BIOL 530 (seminar in Neuroethology) could be listed as a complementary course. It provides a systems neuroscience approach to understand behavior.
-The Psychology department might want to assess if PSYCH 781 should be considered as overlapping with Principles of Neuroscience 2 (NEUR 631), offered to graduate students by the IPN.

Signature: _____

Date: **3 November 2017**_____