

Marshall University

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Recommendations

Faculty Senate

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2-1-2022

### SR 21-22-25 UCC

Marshall University Faculty Senate

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## University Curriculum Committee RECOMMENDATION

### **SR 21-22-25 UCC**

Recommends approval of the listed **UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR ADDITION, DELETION, CHANGE** in the following college and/or schools/programs:

### **College of Arts and Media**

#### **Major Change: BA Art (AB-10)**

**Summary of Changes:** The addition of 1 credit hour for Art 299, Foundations Review .

**Rationale:** Art 299 has been redeveloped with rigorous standards. Art 299 is stacked with Art 298 and both student cohorts complete the same work. The request to change Art 299 from “0” to “1” credit will align the credit hours for BA and BFA students doing the same amount of work in the same class.

**Curriculum:**

**<https://livemarshall.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UniversityCurriculumCommittee/EUOyQhj9a31Kj0Xu tsTmakBW6cfXfeqqxf-QrO POTmA?e=JddPpR>**

#### **Major Deletion: Allied Arts AB20**

**Rationale:** AB20 was created before a group of alternative BA in the Arts curricula were created in the Schools of Music, Arts, and Theatre. With these newer curricula, all with a minor, the attraction of Allied Arts as an interdisciplinary curriculum is no longer compelling. Music’s NASM accreditation will not permit the major. CAM has not had a student in the major since 2017.

**Curriculum:**

**<https://livemarshall.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UniversityCurriculumCommittee/EQ5yVmNFdChFqwINgpv2kWkBG0yuXGO02agwfXKjg5X-Sw?e=rGoRx3>**

### **College of Liberal Arts**

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#### **Major Addition: B.S. Psychology (LP30)**

**Rationale:** A number of current and prospective psychology students hope to pursue graduate education in STEM fields, such as psychology, neuroscience, medicine, and various therapies (physical, occupational, etc.). However, the current B.A. requirements, in total, make it difficult for students to complete the necessary prerequisite courses needed for admission to many of those graduate programs. As a result, the Psychology Department, and therefore the College of Liberal Arts (Co LA), loses students each year to other departments outside of CoLA. We propose offering a B.S. option for those students who would benefit from a more science-focused curriculum. There are several other universities that offer both a B.A. and a B.S. in Psychology (e.g., WVU, Morehead State, and Radford University, which are some notable nearby and comparable institutions), and do so for

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many of the reasons given above. Several other schools offer only a B.S. in Psychology. This option will allow Marshall to be more competitive in its Psychology offerings and will allow us to offer degree programs in Psychology that will more fully meet the needs of our diverse Psychology majors. Many of our students have plans to further their education in graduate programs; most intend to pursue graduate degrees in psychology, but some hope to pursue graduate degrees in fields such as neuroscience and biomedical sciences, or professional schools such as medical school, physical therapy school, occupational therapy school, etc. Each year, we lose some of these more medically-oriented majors to the College of Science or the College of Health Professions because it is difficult for them to meet all of their science prerequisites while also completing the B.A. requirements for the College of Liberal Arts. However, it would be to their benefit to continue as psychology majors, as psychology is now a part of the MCAT, which is required for admission to some such programs. We have also had several of our top psychology majors declined admission to research-oriented graduate programs in psychology, and the lack of math and science has been hypothesized as a reason. Students have been denied HST A grants because our B.A. program is not recognized as a STEM program by the granting organization. This B.S. option will make it easier for students to meet their science prerequisites while still completing a degree in their area of interest; it will also make our students more competitive in their graduate school applications. We plan to keep the B.A. option available for those students who hope to find work with their degree or apply to graduate programs that are less science-oriented.

We recently surveyed our majors and learned that over half (57.89%) of the 165 respondents would have very likely selected a B.S. degree option if one had been available to them when they started, and nearly one-third (28.95%) said they would very likely change to the B.S. option if it becomes available to them while they are still here. Of those who provided additional comments on the B.S. option, several students specifically mentioned medical or other medically-oriented professional schools, interests in neuroscience, and plans to study clinical psychology in graduate school. A few of our graduate students also provided some comments on this proposal; one actually transferred away from Marshall as an undergraduate in order to pursue a B.S. in psychology elsewhere, while another commented on the preparation for clinical psychology graduate study that a B.S. would have provided. We therefore believe that that is a degree option that would be of significant interest to both our current and prospective students.

**Curriculum:**

<https://livemarshall.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UniversityCurriculumCommittee/EfQSSD-HeppGoMq0zM4dS-oBXLmzSAT7aTyamX9HNYzaAw?e=ppBh1r>

**FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:**

APPROVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE

DATE: 12/16/21

**UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

2-1-2022

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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