

Board of Trustees Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: June 20, 2011

Title of Item:

Approval of Associate Degree in Psychology for Transfer (Psychology AA-T)

Background and Analysis:

Foothill seeks board approval for application to the State Chancellor's Office for the associate degree for transfer. This degree meets the requirements established by the State Chancellor's Office in response to SB 1440 to establish a means of simplifying student movement within and between the segments of higher education in California.

The Psychology Associate in Arts Transfer Degree (AA-T) is designed to prepare students to transfer to local California State Universities (CSUs). Students who complete the Psychology AA-T will be ensured preferential transfer status to local CSUs for psychology majors and majors in related disciplines. The AA-T Degree requirements will fulfill the lower division major requirements at many local CSUs. Students are advised, however, to meet with a counselor to assess the course requirements for specific local CSUs and to validate which CSUs are considered local. The AA-T degree will enable students to develop a strong foundation in research methods, statistics, and biological aspects of behavior, and will also offer a wide variety of elective courses in psychology and other related fields for students to develop a broad knowledge base of human behavior. In addition, students will develop strong critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills that will prepare them for the requirements of upper division course work.

The new degree has been approved by Foothill's curriculum committee and Academic Senate.

Recommendation: (specify if information only)

Foothill administration recommends approval of the Psychology Associate in Arts Transfer Degree (AA-T) Program.

Submitted by:	Eloise Orrell
Additional contact names:	Kimberlee Messina, Carolyn Holcroft
Is backup provided?	Yes.

Foothill College Curriculum Committee
Associate Degree in Psychology for Transfer (Psychology AA-T)

Catalog Description

The Psychology Associate in Arts Transfer Degree (AA-T) is designed to prepare students to transfer to local California State Universities (CSUs). Students who complete the Psychology AA-T will be ensured preferential transfer status to local CSUs for psychology majors and majors in related disciplines. The AA-T Degree requirements will fulfill the lower division major requirements at many local CSUs. Students are advised, however, to meet with a counselor to assess the course requirements for specific local CSUs and to validate which CSUs are considered local. The AA-T degree will enable students to develop a strong foundation in research methods, statistics, and biological aspects of behavior, and will also offer a wide variety of elective courses in psychology and other related fields for students to develop a broad knowledge base of human behavior. In addition, students will develop strong critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills that will prepare them for the requirements of upper division course work.

Program Requirements: 27-30 Total Units

Required Core:

MATH 10	Elementary Statistics	5 Units
PSYC 1	General Psychology	5 Units
PSYC/SOC 10	Research Methods & Designs	5 Units

List A:

Select one of the following courses listed below:

BIOL 10	General Biology: Basic Principles	5 Units
BIOL 14	Human Biology	5 Units
PSYC 4	Biopsychology	4 Units

List B:

Select one of the following courses listed below:

ENGL 1A	Composition & Reading	5 Units
ENGL 1B	Composition, Critical Reading, & Thinking	5 Units
MATH 1A	Calculus	5 Units
PHIL 1	Critical Thinking & Writing	5 Units
PSYC 14	Childhood & Adolescence	4 Units
PSYC 30	Social Psychology	4 Units
PSYC 40	Human Development	4 Units
SOC 1	Introduction to Sociology	5 Units

List C:

Select one of the following classes below OR any course that was not selected above from List B:

ANTH 1	Introduction to Physical Anthropology	4 Units
ANTH 2A	Cultural Anthropology	4 Units
PSYC 21	Psychology of Women: Sex & Gender Differences	4 Units
PSYC 22	Psychology of Prejudice	4 Units
PSYC 25	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	4 Units

PSYC 33	Introduction to the Concepts of Personality	4 Units
PSYC 49	Human Sexuality	4 Units
PSYC 50	Psychology of Crisis	5 Units
PSYC 55	Psychology of Sports	4 Units