

8888 University Drive  
Maggie Benston Centre, RM 1100  
Burnaby B.C. Canada V5A 1S6

TEL +1 778 782 3042  
SFU.CA/GRADUATE-STUDIES

## MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION: Senate DATE: August 21, 2026  
FROM: Mary O'Brien,  
Chair of Senate Graduate Studies  
Committee (SGSC)  
RE: Program Changes

Mary Had O'Brien

## For information:

Acting under delegated authority at its meeting of July 8, 2025, SGSC approved the following curriculum item, effective **Summer 2026**:

## **Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

## Department of Psychology

### 1) Program Change: Psychology MA



## Memo

**Attention** Mary O'Brien, Vice-Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies

**From** Kate. Slaney, Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, FASS

**Subject** Items for SGSC

**Date** May 26, 2025

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Dear Mary,

The following items were approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Graduate Studies Committee on May 13, 2025, and are forwarded to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for approval. Please include them on the next SGSC agenda. In addition, we anticipate submitting two more NOI proposals for the July meeting (by the June 4th material submission deadline). We will follow up with those submissions once they are finalized.

**1 School of Public Policy**

~~New Program Proposal – Master of Public and International Affairs (MPIA)~~  
~~To be effective for Fall 2027~~

**2 Department of Gerontology**

~~Course Change for GERO 802, 811, 820, 850~~  
~~To be effective for Summer 2026~~

**3 Department of Psychology**

Calendar Change  
To be effective for Spring 2026 or at the earliest possible effective term

Please add these items for consideration at the next SGSC meeting. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kathleen (Kate) Slaney  
Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies,  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Simon Fraser University

**MEMO**

Ralph Mistlberger  
Professor & Graduate Program  
Chair  
Department of Psychology

8888 University Drive  
Burnaby, BC Canada  
V5A 1S6

[www.sfu.ca/psychology](http://www.sfu.ca/psychology)  
Tel: 604-657-7121  
OFFICE: RCB 7316  
EMAIL: [mistlber@sfu.ca](mailto:mistlber@sfu.ca)

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**ATTENTION:** Katherine (Kate) Slaney, Chair, FASSGSC

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**FROM:** Ralph Mistlberger, Graduate Program Chair, Department of Psychology

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**RE:** Add statement regarding PSYC 910 and PSYC 911 to PSYC MA Academic Calendar

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**DATE:** April 25, 2025

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The Department of Psychology approved the proposed academic calendar entry changes on April 25, 2025. We ask that these changes, if approved, be effective Spring 2026 or at the earliest possible effective term.

***Department of Psychology***

- Add the proposed statement regarding PSYC 910 and PSYC 911 to the Psychology MA program academic calendar.

Please include these curriculum items on the next FASS GSC agenda.

If you require additional information, I can be contacted by email ([mistlber@sfu.ca](mailto:mistlber@sfu.ca)) or telephone (604-657-7121).

With sincere thanks,



Ralph Mistlberger, Ph.D.  
Professor & Graduate Program Chair

## Calendar Entry Change for Psychology MA

### Summary of change:

We are proposing to add a course exemption statement to the SFU psychology MA program academic calendar. Students can be exempt from taking PSYC 910 – Research Design I: Experiments (3) and/or PSYC 911 - Research Design II: Research Studies (3) if the student has completed PSYC 410 - Research Design I (4) and/or PSYC 411 - Research Design II (4), or equivalent coursework with the approval of the Graduate Program Chair.

### Rationale for change:

Psychology MA students who have met the learning outcome, coursework, and demonstrated competence in statistics and methods by having completed PSYC 410 and PSYC 411, or equivalent coursework can be exempt from taking PSYC 910 and PSYC 911 for their master's program requirements.

Effective term and year: Summer 2026

Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students?

No. The students will meet and complete at least 30 units of graduate credit.

**Calendar Change:** All deletions should be crossed out as follows: All additions should be marked in **bold font**. Do not use “to” and “from” sections.

## Program Requirements

This program offers five areas of specialization and consists of graduate course work and a thesis for a minimum of 30 units.

Students must complete

PSYC 910 - Research Design I: Experiments (3) \*

PSYC 911 - Research Design II: Research Studies (3) \*\*

**\*Students who completed PSYC 410 or its equivalent as undergraduates may be exempted from this degree requirement.**

**\*\*Students who completed PSYC 411 or its equivalent as undergraduates may be exempted from this degree requirement.**

**The Graduate Program Committee will determine whether statistics courses other than PSYC 410 and PSYC 411 are sufficient to satisfy the statistics requirement for the master's program.**

and one of the following research seminar courses specific to specialization taken every fall and spring

PSYC 913 - Research Seminar (1.5)

PSYC 914 - Research Seminar (1.5)

PSYC 916 - Research Seminar (1.5)

PSYC 917 - Research Seminar (1.5)

PSYC 918 - Research Seminar (1.5)

and the requirements from one of the five areas of specialization below

and two graduate courses outside of student's specialization area

and a thesis proposal

PSYC 895 - MA Thesis Proposal (3)

and a thesis

PSYC 898 - MA Thesis (18)

[...]

## Clinical Psychology Program Requirements

Students in the clinical program are all members of the clinical research area. The PhD program, accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), is based on the scientist-practitioner training model. The program provides generalist training and optional tracks in clinical child psychology, clinical forensic psychology, and clinical neuropsychology. Standing in the program is contingent upon maintenance of satisfactory performance in course work, thesis work, practicum skills development, comprehensive exams and adherence to professional ethical standards (CPA Code of Ethics, and CPBC Code of Conduct). Unsatisfactory academic progress and/or CPA ethical code of conduct violations (e.g. dishonesty, boundary violations, etc.) may lead to withdrawal from the clinical program.

The clinical MA program consists of graduate course work and thesis for a minimum of 30 units.

Students must complete all of

PSYC 744 - Proseminar in Psychopathology (3)  
PSYC 819 - Ethics and Professional Issues (3) \*\*  
PSYC 820A - Psychological Assessment I (3)  
PSYC 820B - Psychological Assessment II (3)  
PSYC 821A - Practicum in Psychological Assessment I (2)  
PSYC 821B - Practicum in Psychological Assessment II (2)  
PSYC 822 - Psychological Intervention I (3)  
PSYC 823 - Psychological Intervention II (3)  
PSYC 824 - Research Issues in Psychology (3)  
PSYC 825 - Clinical Practice (2) \*\*\*  
PSYC 880 - Junior Practicum (3)  
PSYC 910 - Research Design I: Experiments (3) \*\*\*\*  
PSYC 911 - Research Design II: Research Studies (3) \*\*\*\*\*

and one of the following every fall and spring term

PSYC 912 - Research Seminar (1.5)  
PSYC 913 - Research Seminar (1.5)  
PSYC 914 - Research Seminar (1.5)  
PSYC 916 - Research Seminar (1.5)  
PSYC 917 - Research Seminar (1.5)  
PSYC 918 - Research Seminar (1.5)

and the requirements from one of the tracks below

and a thesis proposal

**PSYC 895 - MA Thesis Proposal (3)**

and a thesis

**PSYC 898 - MA Thesis (18)**

\*\* Students are expected to complete PSYC 819 in their second year of the MA program (typically in the spring term).

\*\*\* Students must be enrolled in PSYC 825 every term.

\*\*\*\* Students who completed PSYC 410 or its equivalent as undergraduates may be exempted from this degree requirement.

\*\*\*\*\* Students who completed PSYC 411 or its equivalent as undergraduates may be exempted from this degree requirement.

**The Graduate Program Committee will determine whether statistics courses other than PSYC 410 and PSYC 411 are sufficient to satisfy the statistics requirement for the master's program.**