



MEMORANDUM

To: Julio Frenk, President

From: Tomás A. Salerno
Chair, Faculty Senate

Date: April 1, 2019

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2018-49(B) – Changes to the Degree Requirements for the Master of Science in Psychology: Applied Behavioral Analysis Track, College of Arts and Sciences

The Faculty Senate, at its March 27, 2019 meeting, had no objections to the proposal from the College of Arts and Sciences to change the degree requirements for the Master of Science in Psychology: Applied Behavioral Analysis Track.

The changes to the degree requirements extend the program length from 36 to 42 credit hours and the semesters will also increase from 4 to 5. The changes are being made to meet new instructional/practicum requirements mandated by the Behavioral Analysis Certification Board (BACB), necessary to obtain certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

The Faculty Senate does not approve budget concepts, therefore no budget information is included here.


This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

TAS/rh

Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey Duerk, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Guillermo Prado, Dean of the Graduate School
Leonidas G. Bachas, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Anibal Gutierrez, Research Associate Professor, Department of Psychology

CAPSULE: Legislation #2018-49(B) – Changes to the Degree Requirements for the Master of Science in Psychology: Applied Behavioral Analysis Track, College of Arts and Sciences

APPROVED:  DATE: 4/24/19
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Dean Leonidas Bachas

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY
(pending any additional approval by the Board of Trustees)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____



Proposal Submission Checklist

Proposals are to be submitted to the Office of Assessment and Accreditation (OAA), if applicable, the Graduate Council (for graduate programs excluding Law and Medical), if applicable, and the Faculty Senate. Refer to the [Procedures for Program Changes](#) document for information on the approvals and notifications needed for program changes and the [Proposal Submissions Specifications](#) document for an explanation of the process and a list of the materials required.

(Please note that change approvals can take 2 semesters to complete.)

FORM INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Save/download the form as a pdf.
2. After completing the information below, print and scan the form.
3. Insert it with the background materials that are specified, in the order listed, and submit to facsen@miami.edu.

Please note: only scanned versions can be accepted.

Include this checklist at the beginning of each proposal.

KEY CONTACT PERSONNEL INFORMATION

First Name	Last Name	Proponent's Title
Anibal	Gutierrez	Research Associate Professor
Department, if applicable	School/College	
Psychology	College of Arts & Sciences	
E-mail	Phone	
a.gutierrez5@miami.edu	305-284-6837	
Title of Proposal		
Changes to the Degree Requirements for the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis		

(-continue to next page-)

MANDATORY MEMORANDA AND FORMAT

Please check that each item listed below is included in the proposal package of materials, in the ORDER as listed. The applicable title (i.e. Letter of Explanation, Memo from the Dean, etc.) is to precede each section in the materials.

Only proposals conforming to this format will be accepted.

1. This completed checklist.

2. Letter of explanation. (2-3 pages only, double spaced, 12 pt font)

Yes No

If no, explain why:

3. A memo from the dean(s) signifying approval of the faculty of the relevant School(s) / Colleges(s).

Yes No

If no, explain why:

4. A memo that all affected or relevant School / College Council(s) have approved.

Yes No

If no, explain why:

5. A memo from the department chair(s) signifying approval of the faculty of the relevant department(s).

Yes No

If no, explain why:

6. A memo from the Office of Accreditation and Assessment (OAA) if the proposal involves academic programs (degrees, certificates, majors, minors, concentrations, specializations, tracks, etc.) such as new programs, closing programs, or program changes (such as changes in requirements, program length, modality, name, location).

(To be submitted by OAA to the Graduate Council or the Faculty Senate, as appropriate.)

Applicable Not applicable.

If not, explain why:

7. A memo from the Graduate School Dean signifying approval of the Graduate Council (for graduate programs only).

(To be submitted to the Faculty Senate by the Graduate Council.)

Applicable Not applicable.

If not, explain why:

8. Academic Deans Policy Council (ADPC) approval, for interdisciplinary issues and as appropriate. Please consult with the Dean of the Graduate School or the Secretary of the Faculty Senate to check if this is needed.

Yes No

If no, explain why:

This is a modification to an existing program within the College of Arts & Sciences.

9. Additional required documents as listed on the "Proposal Submissions Specifications," i.e. market analysis, budget information, assessment of library collections, etc. as specified.

List additional documents included:

End form.

UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI
DEPARTMENT of PSYCHOLOGY

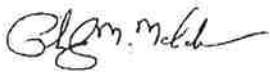


P.O. Box 248185
Coral Gables, Florida 33124-0751

Ph: 305-284-2814
Fax: 305-284-3402

Memorandum
January 8, 2019

To: Guillermo Prado, Dean of the Graduate School

From: Philip McCabe, Chair, Department of Psychology 

Subject: Approval for curricular changes to the ABA M.S. program

The Department of Psychology would like to make changes to the existing Master of Science in Psychology; Specialization in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) curriculum to add coursework and practicum courses. These additional courses are required to meet new instructional/practicum requirements, specified by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB), necessary to obtain certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). More specifically we would like to add two courses (6 credits), which would increase the total program requirements from 36 to 42 credits. The details are laid out in the adjoining document.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
COLLEGE of
ARTS & SCIENCES




Office of the Dean

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as.miami.edu

To: Tomas Salerno
Chair, Faculty Senate

From: Leonidas Bachas
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences 

Subject: Changes to the Degree Requirements for the
Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis

Date: February 5, 2019

Dear Tom,

I am writing to express my full support of the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis. On February 4, 2019, the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences unanimously voted in favor of these changes, including the addition of six credits to meet the new requirements set forth by Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB). BACB certification is essential for the hiring of our graduates into the field of behavior analysis. This successful existing degree program is managed by the Department of Psychology. I am now forwarding the proposal to the Senate for action.

For your convenience, attached you will find a copy of the proposal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

LGB/mtt

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
GRADUATE SCHOOL



Graduate School
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graduateschool@miami.edu

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 7, 2019

TO: Tomas Salerno
Chair, Faculty Senate

FROM: Guillermo (Willy) Prado *Guillermo Prado*
Dean, Graduate School

SUBJECT: Proposal – Changes to the Degree Requirements for the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis Curriculum

The Department of Psychology would like to make changes to the existing Master of Science in Psychology; Specialization in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) curriculum to add coursework and practicum courses. Under the new curriculum, students will take an additional 6 credits, making it a 42-credit program. These changes will also result in the program duration increasing from 4 to 5 consecutive semesters. All other program requirements remain the same. The proposal was discussed at the meeting of the Graduate Council on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, and no concerns were expressed by the Council members.

Cc: Leonidas Bachas, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Philip McCabe, Chair, Department of Psychology
Anibal Gutierrez, Research Associate Professor
Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs, College of Arts and Sciences
Tiffany Plantan, Director of Education, Graduate School
Patty Murphy, Associate Provost for University Accreditation, Office of Assessment and Accreditation

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI



Office of Planning,
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 4, 2019

TO: Philip McCabe, Department of Psychology Chair
College of Arts and Sciences

FROM: Patty Murphy, Associate Provost for University Accreditation
Office of Assessment and Accreditation 

RE: Revision of Degree Requirements for the MS in Psychology-ABA Track

On January 18, 2019, the College of Arts and Sciences notified my office of its intent to revise the degree requirements for the Master of Science degree in Psychology—Applied Behavior Analysis track (Academic Plan Code: APBA_MS). These changes are being made to meet new instructional/practicum requirements specified by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB), necessary to obtain certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

The proposed new requirements would add two new courses to the program curriculum:

- PSY 663 Measurement in ABA (3 credit hours)
- PSY 673 Advanced Applications of ABA III (3 credit hours)

The new courses will be taught by existing faculty. This change will increase the program length from 36 to 42 credit hours. The duration of the program will also increase from 4 to 5 semesters. No other changes to the program are being proposed.

The proposed change does not “represent a significant departure, either in content or method of delivery” from what we are currently approved by SACSCOC to offer due to the following:

- The proposed changes meet the SACSCOC requirement of a minimum of 30 credit hours for a graduate program.
- Although two new courses will be developed to support the new degree requirements, they represent an expansion of the existing curriculum rather than adding new content.
- The proposed changes will not require the hiring of new faculty.
- The majority of the program will not be offered via distance education and, in any case, the University is approved to offer 100% distance education programs.
- The program will be offered on the University’s Coral Gables campus.
- The graduate program covers the literature in the field through its required core coursework.
- The graduate program ensures ongoing student engagement in research and/or appropriate professional practice and training experiences through supervised clinical experiences in PSY 674-679.

SACSCOC only requires notification of program changes that represent a significant departure from our current programs. Therefore, no notification or approval is required for this change.

Please contact me if you have any questions at pattymurphy@miami.edu or (305) 284-3276.

**CC: Faculty Senate
Guillermo Prado, Dean of the Graduate School
Leonidas Bachas, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs, College of Arts and Sciences
Karen Beckett, University Registrar
Carrie Glass, Executive Director of Student Financial Assistance and Employment**

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE M.S. in PSYCHOLOGY; SPECIALIZATION in
APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (ABA) CURRICULUM

Explanation:

The Department of Psychology would like to make changes to the existing Master of Science in Psychology; Specialization in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) curriculum to add coursework and practicum courses. These additional courses are required to meet new instructional/practicum requirements, specified by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB), necessary to obtain certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB; www.bacb.com) is the sole agency offering professional credentialing in ABA and is a widely recognized credential for Master's and Doctoral level practitioners of applied behavior analysis.

Currently, the ABA Master's program at UM is a 36-credit program that meets the instructional/practicum requirements set forth by the BACB. The BACB has designated the UM program as having a Verified Course Sequence (VCS), allowing graduates from our program to simply submit their transcripts in order to apply to take the certification exam. In order to maintain the VCS designation, it will be necessary to add an additional lecture course and an additional practicum course to the curriculum in order to meet the new coursework and experience requirements.

Under the new curriculum, students will take an additional 6 credits, making it a 42-credit program. These changes will also result in the program duration increasing from 4 to 5 consecutive semesters. All other program requirements remain the same.

Current Requirements:

1-Students enroll in 6 3-credit lecture courses:
PSY 664, PSY 665, PSY 666, PSY 667, PSY 668, and PSY 669

2- Students enroll in 6 3-credit practicum courses:
PSY 674, PSY 675, PSY 676, PSY 677, PSY 678, and PSY 679

Proposed New Requirements:

1- Students will enroll on 1 additional 3-credit lecture course:
PSY 663

2- Students will enroll in 1 additional 3-credit practicum course:
PSY 673

Full curriculum ABA Master's 5th Edition Task List

Unit	Course	Title	Prerequisites	Faculty Instructor	Credits
Fall 1 Semester Required courses- 9 credits					
Psychology	PSY 666	Concepts and Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis	BA/ BS Degree & Dept. Approval	Dr. Gutierrez	3
Psychology	PSY 676	Applications of ABA: Principles and Concepts	BA/ BS Degree and Dept. Approval	Dr. Hale	3
Psychology	PSY 677	Applications of ABA in the Treatment of Language and Learning	BA/ BS Degree and Dept. Approval	Dr. Española	3
Spring 1 Semester Required courses- 12 credits					
Psychology	PSY 669	Professional Issues in Designing and Monitoring Interventions	PSY 666	Dr. Española	3
Psychology	PSY 675	Advanced Application of Applied Behavior Analysis II	PSY 676	Dr. Gutierrez	3
Psychology	PSY 663	Measurement in ABA	PSY 676	Dr. Leon	3
Psychology	PSY 679	Advanced Applications of ABA	PSY 676	Dr. Española	3
Summer Semester Required courses- 3 credits					
Psychology	PSY 674	Applications of ABA in Developmental Disabilities	PSY 669	Dr. Española	3
Fall 2 Semester Required courses- 9 credits					
Psychology	PSY 668	Functional Assessment and Treatment of Aberrant Behavior	PSY 669	Dr. Leon	3
Psychology	PSY 667	Assessment and Treatment of Language and Learning	PSY 669	Dr. Hale	3
Psychology	PSY 678	Applications of ABA in the Treatment of Aberrant Behavior	PSY 676	Dr. Leon	3
Spring 2 Semester Required courses- 9 credits					
Psychology	PSY 665	Advanced Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis	PSY 668	Dr. Gutierrez	3
Psychology	PSY 664	Ethics and Professional Conduct in Behavior Analysis	PSY 668	Dr. Hale	3
Psychology	PSY 673	Advanced Applications of ABA III	PSY 668	Dr. Leon	3
Total Program Credits					42

