HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

Proposal for Delivery of an Existing Program with Blended Modality

1. Program Description

a. Program title, level, and delivery sites.

Psychology BA, BS, minor
Currently delivered in Corvallis, Bend, and online

b. Department and school/college that would offer the program. Include the name of the institution program coordinator.

School of Psychological Science, Oregon State University
Kathryn Becker-Blease, Director, School of Psychological Science

c. Briefly describe the academic program. List all course titles, including number of credits.

Background: "Since its founding on October 27, 1868, Oregon State University has had but one mission: provide Oregonians with access to an affordable high-quality college education; provide prosperity for all people; and contribute to the economy of our state and nation." – President Ed Ray, State of the University Address, Feb. 1, 2018.

Oregon State University shares the State of Oregon's concern for and investment in access to quality, four year degrees, and eliminating academic achievement gaps for diverse students. Oregon State University and the School of Psychological Science work "in partnership with … Oregon community colleges and other colleges and universities to provide access to high-quality educational programs." Community college tuition and fees are approximately half the rate at the OSU Corvallis campus, making community college transfer a cost-effective and convenient option for many students who would otherwise never enroll in a 4-year university. According to OregonLive, over 6,000 students across the state are taking community college courses through Oregon Promise, with approximately 1,650 promise students enrolled in Portland Community College (PCC). Over 40% of PCC's 73,881 students enroll in order to work toward a bachelor's degree (PCC Demographics).

Hundreds of Portland-area college students lack access to a 4-year Psychology degree. Nationally, Psychology is one of the most popular baccalaureate degree (6% of conferred degrees), along with Business (19% of conferred degrees) and Health professions (10%) (American Psychological Association). Based on these numbers, the State of Oregon would need 1861 slots for Psychology majors transferring *from PCC alone*. In 2016-17, Portland State University (PSU), the largest 4-year school in the Portland area conferred 341 baccalaureate degrees *total* – including both transfer students and those who started at PSU (PSU Office of Institutional Research and Planning). Forty percent of PSU's Psychology majors transferred from a community college (PSU's 2012 Undergraduate Assessment of Psychology). Even if 100% of PSU's community college transfers came from PCC – i.e. 136 of those degrees went to PCC transfers -- that would leave an unmet need for 1725 slots in 4-year Psychology baccalaureate degree programs, just to allow access for those PCC students who seek a 4-year Psychology degree.

Portland area psychology majors have big dreams, and need access to career- and graduate school-ready programs. Fully 70% of Psychology majors at Portland State University are there to prepare for graduate school in clinical or research psychology (PSU's 2012 Undergraduate Assessment of Psychology). Admission to graduate school requires high quality degrees that provide a breadth and depth in rigorous research methods, statistics, experimental and clinical coursework, and research and clinical internships that will prepare students to be competitive for Ph.D and other graduate programs in Psychological Science. That kind of education is only available through face-to-face research experience and mentoring with research-active faculty with the resources and connections to RI universities.

Opportunity:

The School of Psychological Science is working hard to meet the demand in the state for high quality, psychological science degrees Portland, the State, and the world through comprehensive, innovative programs in Corvallis, Bend, fully online, as well as seeking to expand access in Portland and beyond. We propose to expand our partnerships with community colleges to offer a variant of the 2+2 degree completion model[1] and to supplement our existing online upper-division courses use a blended modality (50% face-to-face (f2f) and 50% online). The model is similar to PSU's Bachelor of Social Work Hybrid Program, which operates through a combination of fully online and hybrid courses meeting in Eugene (PSU BSW Hybrid Program Promo). In promoting their hybrid BSW program, PSU notes this model is "perfect for community college transfer students, working students, and for students who live outside the Portland area". The opportunity for OSU to offer a hybrid Psychology degree in Portland is the same: "perfect for community college transfer students, working students, and for students living outside the [Corvallis] area". Neither Portland State University nor the University of Oregon offer hybrid Psychology degrees.

OSU cannot educate all students who seek a research-based 4-year Psychology degree in Corvallis. On February 27, 2018, 6 months before the start of Fall term, OSU's Interim Assistant Dean of Student Life wrote to faculty regarding the need to start now to help current students find a place to live *next year:* "The rental market in Corvallis is very competitive. It can make finding a place challenging and overwhelming for students." Psychology degree programs are at capacity in Corvallis and in our fully online program. In addition, Corvallis has limited internship sites available, while recruiters at OSU job fairs tell us there is an acute need for Psychology interns in the Portland area. In addition, our program in Portland, like PSU's Hybrid BSW program in Eugene, is built on a model that meets the intent of House Bill 2998 that mandates that public universities identify the optimal number of credits that may be taken at a community college in order for a student to efficiently receive a bachelor's degree and minimize student debt.

Program Design: OSU Academic Regulation 25 (AR 25) specifies the minimum requirements to earn an OSU undergraduate degree. Section (c) requires a minimum of 60 credits in upper-division courses and section (f) requires a minimum of 45 of the last 75 credits be completed as a degree-seeking student at OSU. For this proposal, the most affordable path to earning an OSU undergraduate degree is to complete 120 credits at a community college and 60 upper-division credits at an OSU remote delivery site. In fact, PCC already offers 5 courses at the 200-level that

1 Two years of lower-division coursework completed at the community college and two years of upper-division coursework completed at the university.

articulate as 300-level courses that articulate in such a way that they fulfill 100% of OSU's required 300-level survey course requirements. Taking these classes online or face-to-face as a dually-enrolled or transfer student will save thousands of dollars, and free students to complete a minor (e.g. a planned hybrid OSU Business minor in Portland or a fully online Spanish minor in high demand among mental health workers), or complete an extended internship to help prepare for careers and graduate school.

The 60 upper-division credits would be delivered using a blended modality (50% face-to-face (f2f) and 50% online). This approach is based on the Eduventures study[2] that found that more than half of the survey respondents in the Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) would prefer a program that offers blended modalities of face-to-face and online with face-to-face sessions offered during the weekday (40%) or weeknight (40%).

Cost is an important consideration for these potential students choosing to complete their four-year degree through OSU. In another Eduventures survey of over 100,000 high school students, 24% of the students who decided to attend a state university cited affordability as the prevalent consideration for the choice[3]. Oregon's median household income reached $60,834 in 2015[4]. According to research conducted by the Institute for Higher Education Policy[5], students from households earning less than $69,000 can barely afford to attend fewer than 100 of the over 2000 colleges included in their study. This proposal creates an innovative pathway that offers more affordable options for low-income students.

d. Indicate in what ways the proposed program at the new location(s) will differ from the on campus program.

There is no difference between the proposed program and the programs offered in Corvallis, Bend or fully online. The 50/50 blended delivery format is currently used, or planned for use, for delivery of these same courses at the Corvallis campus. This format provides flexibility for many students who have commitments outside of school, are committed to living in Portland, cannot be accommodated at OSU, PSU, or other 4-year schools in the state due to capacity limitations with faculty, classroom space, and/or housing.

e. List any special requirements or prerequisites for admission to the program at the new location(s).

Students must meet admission requirements for OSU.

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[2] Eduventures Statewide Needs Assessment 2016, "Survey of Prospective Learners in the Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area".

[3] https://encoura.org/mind-gap-targeting-student-concerns-yield/

[4] https://www.qualityinfo.org/-/a-closer-look-at-oregon-s-median-household-income

[5] http://www.ihep.org/limited-means-limited-options

Table 1. Summary of Course Requirements for Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration in Partnership with Portland Community College

PCC Course	Articulates to OSU as	OSU Course	Credits	
Psychology Major Requirements				
PSY 201 General Psychology	PSY 201 General Psychology		4	
PSY 202 General Psychology	PSY 202 General Psychology		4	
BI 102 & 103	BS Biology		8	
WR 227 Technical/Professional Writing	WR 327 Technical Writing		3	
PSY 213 Brain, Mind, & Behavior PSY 214 Personality PSY 215 Human Development PSY 216 Social Psychology PSY 239 Intro to Abnormal Psychology	Choose one from each pair: PSY 340 Brain & Behavior OR PSY 330 Cognition (not offered at PCC) PSY 370 Introduction to Personality OR PSY 381 Abnormal Psychology PSY 350 Human Development OR PSY 360 Social Psychology Choose 1 additional course from above		16	
	Choose 5 courses at the 400-level, including 1 Writing Intensive Class		20	
		ST 351 & 352 Intro to Statistical Methods	8	
		PSY 301 Research Methods (w lab)	4	
University Baccalaureate Core				
AAOT satisfies all Bacc Core except		2 Bacc Core Synthesis courses	6	
Liberal Arts Core				

5 courses across fine arts, non-western culture, humanities, and social sciences, available at PCC			15	
Liberal Arts B.S. Requirements				
15 hours in science, computer science, and quantitative studies	Mostly available at PCC	ST 351, 352 can partially fulfill	15	

Total needed: 180 hours; 60 upper division hours.

NOTE:. The School of Psychological Science plans to offer any course not available at a partnering Community College (Chemeketa CC, Portland CC, Mt Hood CC, Clackamas CC). The major is available fully online already.

f. Is there an accrediting agency or professional society that has established standards for this program? If so, is the program currently accredited? If accredited, what steps would be needed to accredit the program at the proposed new location(s)?

Undergraduate Psychology programs are not specifically accredited. Our programs are aligned with American Psychological Association Goals for Psychology Majors. In addition, a subset of courses described in this proposal, are consistent with Oregon State's Qualified Mental Health Associate (QMHA) competencies. These competencies are not formally evaluated by any school or accrediting body. Rather, employers assess students' completion of these competencies, in part through academic transcripts, before hiring them for position in which QMHA standards are required for the job or for reimbursement through Medicaid.

g. Provide evidence of consultation with other public universities regarding non-duplication of similar programs offered in the same region, or ones that will cause undue hardship to another public university.

Oregon State University and the School of Psychological Science plans to build upon our successful dual degree partnership with Portland area community colleges, including Portland Community College, Clackamas Community College, and Mt. Hood Community College. At present we have 35 Psychology majors who are currently dually enrolled in OSU courses and PCC courses. Additional students are dually enrolled at other Portland-area transferred from community college and dropped their dually enrolled status. Dual enrollment agreements are enthusiastically supported by the State of Oregon, the community colleges, and 4-year institutions, and have a strong record of success without causing undue hardship to public universities in Oregon.

Oregon State University and the School of Psychological Science also have a successful fully online Ecampus program that currently enrolls 309 majors, of whom 49 reside in the Portland area. The number of Portland area students who enroll in our Ecampus fully online major has been growing over the past 5 years. The fully online Ecampus program is a nationally ranked Psychology major

that has grown over time, both among Portland residents and among residents of Oregon and the rest of the world.

Table 2. Total and Portland-area Growth in OSU's Fully Online Psychology Degree

Year	All students	% change	Portland area students	% change
2013	16		6	
2014	110		23	
2015	194	76%	33	43%
2016	247	27%	38	15%
2017	294	19%	49	29%
2018	309	5%	49	0%

In 2016, the School of Psychological Science launched a new PhD program after consultation with other public universities in the state and CAT I approval. Our PhD program reflects the School's emphasis on translational psychological science that does not duplicate programming at other public universities in the state. The other major 4-year institution to offer 4-year psychology degrees in Portland is PSU, which employs mostly applied psychologists to deliver their mission in applied psychology to create "understanding and solutions to enhance lives and address societal problems" in communities, "realizing human and organizational possibilities" (PSU Psychology Department Mission Statement).

We appreciate our successful collaboration with other public universities and community colleges throughout the state over the years, which have not resulted in undue hardship even as access to high quality programs has grown.

2. Demand

a. List any similar programs offered at the proposed or nearby location(s).

In the Portland MSA, Portland State University (PSU), Department of Psychology, offers a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. Some of the courses are available fully online.

The PSU degree does not require college-level algebra, upper-division statistics, a particular set of breadth courses, or a Research Methods course with labs. These are all required for OSU's Psychology degree. OSU's degree provides a breadth of coursework, which specifically requires a course in either neuroscience or cognition, that is often desirable or even required for graduate study, as well as grounding in math, statistics, and lab-based experimental science in which students conduct independent research studies in teams under the professor's supervision. OSU's degree is a quantitative-focused Psychology degree that differs substantially from PSU's applied psychology degree.

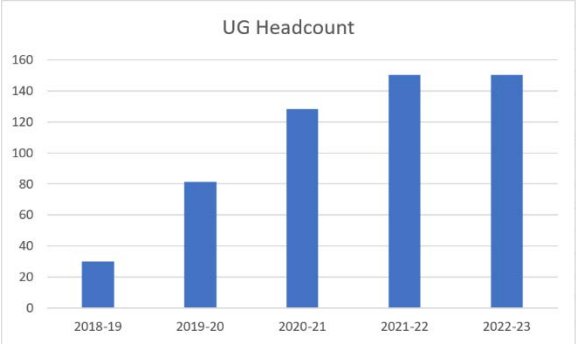
Our goal is to partner with community colleges to provide affordable access to a high-quality, quantitatively-focused, psychology degree to those students who are not able to attend on-campus degree programs in Corvallis, Bend, or Portland.

b. Provide evidence of need for the program at the new location(s).

According to an Eduventures study of the Portland market in 2016[2], the proposed expansion of our programs into the Portland MSA will be responsive to market demand:

- There are 99,163 individuals in the Portland MSA who are likely to enroll in an Oregon State program. (pg 6)
- "Oregon State could consider offering programs in business administration, health professions, and liberal arts at the undergraduate level." (pg 3)
- Over 65% of the 1400 respondents were looking for bachelor or master degrees.

c. Estimate enrollment and number of graduates over the next five years. Will any enrollment limitation be imposed? If so, how will those to be enrolled be selected?



The School estimates that enrollment will grow to 150 students over the next five years. We plan to accommodate all students who are interested in pursuing this innovative pathway to earn an OSU degree.

3. Personnel

a. List qualifications of faculty (regular and/or adjunct) who will be involved in delivering the program to the proposed location(s).

The coursework will be delivered by faculty and instructors who meet the same standards as those who who currently instruct the courses in Corvallis and online. One exception is graduate students, who teach online and in Corvallis, but are not expected to teach in Portland. Our accreditation standards require commonality of instruction across all modalities and locations.

b. Estimate the number and type of support staff needed to provide the program at the new location(s).

The School currently employs two full-time academic advisors who provide advising to students including transfer students from Portland MSA Community Colleges. The College will add a full-time Internship and Program Coordinator will provide credit-bearing and non-credit-bearing internship, careers, and experiential learning opportunities.

4. Other Resources

a. Describe facilities (e.g., buildings, labs, equipment) necessary to offer the program at the new location(s).

OSU has leased the second floor of the Meyer & Frank building in downtown Portland that will be the hub for its Portland programs.

b. Indicate how library needs will be met.

Library needs are currently met for the equivalent online Psychology degree. Students in the hybrid modality program will use the online access for library materials.

c. Indicate how students at the new location(s) will receive student services (e.g., academic advising, financial aid assistance, course registration, access to book/text purchases).

All students in the hybrid modality program will have access to all student services that are currently provided to online students, including financial aid assistance, course registration, and textbook purchases. The College already has academic advisors working with these students.

5. Alternative Delivery Methods/Formats

a. Are alternative delivery methods being used (e.g., distance learning or technology-enhanced)? Please describe.

The degree program is currently available fully online. The proposed program provides supplemental face-to-face instruction that will replace some of the online academic activities.

b. Will this program be delivered in an alternative format (e.g., weekend, evening, on-site)? Please describe.

The courses will meet one day per week. As enrollment grow, sections will be offered in either two days a week or both daytime and evening formats to provide maximum flexibility and choice for the students enrolled.

6. 40-Mile Radius Rule

"Significant change" to a university's academic program includes, but is not limited to, any new undergraduate or graduate degree program, or any existing undergraduate or graduate degree program that will be offered more than 40 miles from the site at which it is currently offered. "Significant change" to a university's academic program does not mean a new undergraduate or graduate certificate program, new minor, or a new name for an existing degree program.
Source: Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 715-013-0020(1)

Revised May 2016