

Board Meeting  
May 21, 2020

REDESIGNATE AND REORGANIZE THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LIBERAL  
ARTS AND SCIENCES, MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY, CONCENTRATION IN  
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES,  
CHICAGO

**Action:** Redesignate and Reorganize the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Psychology, Concentration in General Psychology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the redesignation and reorganization of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Psychology, Concentration in General Psychology. The concentration will become the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Psychology.

The UIC Department of Psychology currently awards the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Sciences (BALAS), Major in Psychology. Students must complete one of two concentrations in either General Psychology or Applied Psychology. The department will eliminate the concentration terminology and administrative framework used, and transform each concentration into a stand-alone degree. This can be accomplished with

no changes to the curricula, program requirements, or credit hours, and no additional teaching or advising resources.

The concentration in General Psychology is designed for students interested in pursuing graduate studies in a research-oriented psychology program or an advanced degree in another field where an undergraduate degree in a scientific discipline is required or preferred. The redesignation, from a Bachelor of Arts to Bachelor of Science, and reorganization will aid the department and advisors in communicating the purpose of this track, and emphasize the scientific nature of psychological inquiry and the students' training in scientific research methods, statistics, and empirical research. The BSLAS, Major in Psychology will continue to require 120 hours in total, including 28 hours in the major.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.