

Board Meeting
May 21, 2020

RENAME AND REORGANIZE THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY, CONCENTRATION IN APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, CHICAGO

Action: Rename and Reorganize the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Psychology, Concentration in Applied 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 renaming and reorganization of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Psychology, Concentration in Applied Psychology. The concentration will become the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Applied 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 emphasis of the Concentration in Applied Psychology is, and the emphasis of the resulting BALAS, Major in Applied Psychology will remain, the application of psychological principles in a field setting. The degree will continue to require 120 hours in total. This includes 36 hours in the major, of which students complete at least six hours of supervised practicum in the field, as well as training in practical techniques such as a psychological assessment. The degree is well-suited to students who plan to attend professional school in psychology or enter the workforce upon graduation. Maintaining this program of study as a Bachelor of Arts degree is consistent with peer programs in the country, and the inclusion of “applied” in the name of the major will make clearer to students and their future employers the intention and focus of the program.

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.