

Psychology Launch Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 20, 2020

11:00am-12:00pm

- **Introduction** of the Department Chair (Russ Romeo), Departmental Representative (Joshua New), and Department Administrator (Danielle Feinberg) – contact any or all of us for assistance with general questions about the curriculum or course offerings. Also, we encourage you to reach out to your major adviser with any questions specifically about your academic program.
- Announcement of four **new full time faculty**: Mariel Roberts, Term Assistant Professor (new to Barnard); Kate Thorson, Assistant Professor (previously an adjunct instructor); Danielle Sussan, Lecturer; and Rob Brotherton, Lecturer (both previously Term Assistant Professors).
- The College’s and the Department’s main concern is **safety** and all of the decisions we have made are with this in mind. We have also spent time and effort to ensure that students have as meaningful of an academic experience as possible under the new constraints; as well as the opportunity to complete all curricular requirements.
- To these ends, the structure of this coming year is different with **3 semesters** (Fall, Spring and Summer) with two blocks per semester; and transforming some of our courses into **immersive versions** (which will meet for more hours over fewer weeks compared to traditional semester-long courses).
 - All students are allowed to take courses in any of the terms and semesters. Note that while Commencement will be in April, seniors will be allowed to “walk” and still take courses in the Summer Block A term.
 - The difference between taking, for example, PSYC BC1101 Statistics in the Fall A term or taking the course as a semester-long experience in the Spring is, largely, only in the intensity of the course; but the content of the course, whether semester-long or immersive, will be comparable, covering similar material.
- Psychology, like the rest of the College, is aiming to be as **flexible** as possible this year and so we have made some changes for the coming year:
 - We have moved some fall courses to spring or summer, and some typical spring courses to the fall. For example, Psych BC2114 & 2115 Cognitive Psychology, typically in spring, will now be offered in the fall.
 - We are also amending our rule that our 2000-level labs and their corresponding lectures need to be taken concurrently (in the same semester). For AY20-21, you are permitted to take a laboratory course whose lecture you have previously completed in a past semester; and/or you may take the lecture in one semester, and the lab in a subsequent semester.
 - Some courses have changed their curriculum or structure. Check with instructors about course-specific changes.
 - ✓ One to note is **PSYC BC3465/66 Toddler Center Research Seminar**. The revised description is as follows: Prerequisites: PSYC BC1129/2129 (with or without lab), as well as permission of the instructor. The Barnard Toddler Center provides the focus for this seminar and research in applied developmental psychology, an amalgam of developmental, educational, and clinical psychology. The seminar integrates theory and research and for AY 20-21 will use daily recordings of the toddler sessions as the centerpiece for understanding early development. The unique context of Covid19 will be used to understand risks in development, especially for vulnerable children and families. Second term students will also

conduct research on parenting during the pandemic. Note that this is a two-semester course but for AY 2020-21, students will have the option of taking the first semester only, or both semesters. The second semester will include a more intensive research focus and focus on children at risk.

- Some reminders and answers to questions asked during the Zoom:
 - A list of **PSYC courses** by term for the entire **AY20-21** is posted on our website: <https://psychology.barnard.edu/psychology-course-offerings-2020-2021>
 - The following **Fall courses have been cancelled** (please ignore any info online that says otherwise):
 - ✓ *PSYC BC2128 Developmental Laboratory* (moved to Spring)
 - ✓ *PSYC BC2141 Abnormal Psychology* (moved to Spring)
 - ✓ *PSYC BC2151 Organizational Psychology* (moved to Spring)
 - ✓ *PSYC BC3195 Seminar in Educational Psychology: Human Learning and Educational Practice* (moved to Summer)
 - ✓ *PSYC BC3406 Seminar in Clinical Psychology: Psychotic Disorders and Bipolar Disorders* (not offered in AY20-21)
 - ✓ *STEM BC2223 Programming for the Behavioral Sciences* (moved to Spring)
 - PSYC courses recommended for **First Years** are listed on our website: <https://psychology.barnard.edu/psychology-courses-for-first-years>
 - We have an **Overlapping Courses List** under “Helpful Links & Forms” on our website (<https://psychology.barnard.edu/psychology-overlapping-courses>) which identifies those Barnard and Columbia course offerings that overlap. Students may not receive credit for both courses. However, this does not necessarily mean that one course is equivalent to the other. When in doubt, contact the Departmental Representative prior to enrolling in a non-Barnard course to make sure you can use it toward one of the major requirements (including a course syllabus or description is very helpful).
 - **NSBV BC1001 Introduction to Neuroscience** is a cross-listed course with Psychology and can be used as a Group 1 or 2 lecture course, or as an “elective”
 - **PSYC BC2125 Personality Lecture and BC2124 Personality Lab** will both be taught remotely; also note that lab times for both sections has been changed to 4:10pm-7pm.
 - The **format** of a course (all remote, in-person, or “hybrid” of both) depends on the decision by individual faculty and will be based on principles of health and safety of our faculty, students and staff. Please contact instructors for more details on the details of specific courses.
 - **Some helpful guidelines for course enrollment and credits:**
 - ✓ If you are taking no immersive courses, then the Department suggests approaching your courses as you would any regular semester. That is, if you normally take 4-5 courses per semester, you could take 4-5 semester-long courses in FA20. However, you may want to consider using the summer term and adjust your courses/credits accordingly.
 - ✓ Students must be enrolled in a total of 24 credits over the course of AY 2020-21 in order to maintain full-time status. In a given semester, the maximum number of credits a student

may take is 19 credits; over the course of the year, students may take no more than 45 credits overall. Students who live on campus will be required to maintain a minimum of 12 credits. Other students will be allowed to take fewer credits in the Fall if their academic plan includes taking additional courses in the Summer semester. Students who would like to take fewer than 12 credits will be required to meet with their faculty advisor and their class dean (to ensure that they are making sufficient progress toward their academic degree). All students will be strongly encouraged to register for a minimum of 12 credits for Fall 2020, as usual.

- For **Seniors**, there will be a **Psychology Major Checklist Google form** to complete. Danielle will send the link to this form in December for February 2021 graduation candidates, and again in March 2021 for April graduates.