

**Major/Program: Psychology**

**ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

**Fall 2016-Spring 2017**

What are the student learning outcomes in the **major/program**?

Students who major in Psychology will be able, upon graduation, to:

- 1) Describe the basic psychological principles and theories from a variety of sub-areas and apply these theories and principles in specific situations.
- 2) Describe the scientific method as it applies to behavioral research.
- 3) Conduct basic data analyses, including the calculation of descriptive statistics, the performance of parametric and non-parametric tests, and the creation of graphic presentation.
- 4) Communicate in writing and in speech the rationale, method, results, and analyze the significance of research in which the student was an active participant.

Which outcome(s) did you assess this academic year?

1 and 2

**How did you assess** the learning outcomes this academic year?

We developed a pedagogical intervention as part of the Re-Imagining the First Year (RFY) project on campus. We used the concept of “nudges”-brief, easily delivered behavioral interventions - to try an improve student success in P 101, Introductory Psychology I. Specifically, we sent reminders to earn Psychology Experience Credits, which count for 6% if the grade. Our assessment of learning was the DFW rate in spring 2017 compared to that for spring 2016.

Please **summarize the data** you have collected this academic year.

P101

Enrolled	Returned	Grad	Retention Rate	DFW #	DFW Rate	DFW Retention Rate		
Sp 2016	252	F 2016	180	7	74%	92	37%	58%
Sp 2017	221	F 2017	147	9	71%	63	29%	38%

Retention Rate by Grade

	A	B	C	D	F	W
Sp 16	52	44	31	27	16	9
	4	2	0	1	0	0
	59	53	48	35	37	19
Sp 17	38	37	48	15	6	3
	5	5	1	0	0	0
	49	48	62	25	28	9

Combined Grade

Distribution

	A	B	C	D	F	W	Total
Sp 16	59	53	48	35	37	19	251
Sp 17	49	48	62	25	28	9	221

**Please describe any programmatic changes you have made or are planning to make based on the data you have collected (action steps).**

The data shows that DFW rates decreased by eight percentage points for 2017 relative to 2016, mostly via an increase in C's, not A's or B's. We are hopeful that this is a real effect and for the 2017-2018 year, we plan to add additional "nudges" in the form of sending P101 students study reminders and study tips through Canvas Announcements two days before each exam.

Please report on the progress of your **action steps** reported in 2015-2016. See [Assessment Results](#) for your previous unit reports.

Changes were made in P316 Child and Adolescent Psychology, to include concepts of Piaget's theory, as this material had been eliminated from previous offerings of the class and this content had been covered in the Departmental Exit Exam.

**\*\*Note:** Please use this template to provide the responses to the prompts above.\*\*