# UMBC UGC Instructions for New Course Request Form (revised 2/2015)

Course number & title: Enter the number and title of the course at the top of the page. Contact the Registrar's Office to confirm that the desired course number is available.

Date submitted: The date that the form will be submitted to the UGC.

Effective date: The semester the new course is in effect, if approved.

**Contact information:** Provide the contact information of the Chair or UPD of the department or program housing the course. If the course is not housed in a department or program, then provide the same information for the head of the appropriate academic unit. (See UGC Procedures) If another faculty member should also be contacted for questions about the request and be notified about UGC actions on the request, include that person's contact information on the second line.

Course number: For cross-listed courses, provide all the numbers for the new course.

Transcript title: Limited to 30 characters, including spaces.

Recommended Course Preparation: Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s) and that 100 or 200 level courses may have them.

Here fill in what previous course(s) a student should have taken to succeed in the course. These recommendations will NOT be enforced by the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

Prerequisite: Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s) Here fill in course(s) students need to have taken before they enroll in this course. These prerequisites will be enforced through the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

**NOTE:** Please use the words "AND" and "OR", along with parentheses as appropriate, in the lists of prerequisites and recommended preparation so that the requirements specified will be interpreted unambiguously.

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.

**Maximum total credits:** This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.

**Grading method(s):** Check all that apply.

**Proposed catalog description:** Provide the exact wording of the course description as it will appear in the next undergraduate catalog. Course proposals should be a) no longer than 75 words, b) stated in declarative sentences in language accessible to students, and c) avoid reference to specific details that may not always pertain (e.g., dates, events, etc.). Course descriptions should not repeat information about prerequisites (which are always listed alongside the course description)."

Rationale: Please explain the following:

- a) Why is there a need for this course at this time?
- b) How often is the course likely to be taught?
- c) How does this course fit into your department's curriculum?
- d) What primary student population will the course serve?
- e) Why is the course offered at the level (ie. 100, 200, 300, or 400 level) chosen?
- f) Explain the appropriateness of the recommended course preparation(s) and prerequisite(s).
- g) Explain the reasoning behind the P/F or regular grading method.
- h) Provide a justification for the repeatability of the course.

**Cross-listed courses:** Requests to create cross-listed courses must be accompanied by letters of support via email from all involved department chairs. Proposals for new courses or the addition of a cross-listing to an existing course must include as a part of the rationale the specific reason why cross-listing is appropriate. Email from all involved department chairs is also required when cross-listing is removed and when a cross-listed course is discontinued. Please note that Special Topics courses cannot be cross-listed.

**Course Outline:** Provide a syllabus with main topics and a weekly assignment schedule which includes complete citations for readings with page numbers as appropriate. Explain how students' knowledge and skills will be assessed.

Note: the UGC form is a Microsoft Word form. You should be able to enter most of the information by tabbing through the fields. The document is protected. In the rare case that you need to unprotect the document, use the password 'ugcform'. Beware that you will lose all the data entered in the form's fields if you unlock and lock the document.

### UMBC UGC New Course Request: PSYC411: Applied Behavior Analysis

Date Submitted: 10/10/2016 Proposed Effective Date: Spring 2017

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### **COURSE INFORMATION:**

Course Number(s)	PSYC 411	
Formal Title	Applied Behavior Analysis	
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Applied Behavior Analysis	
Recommended Course Preparation		
Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	PSYC 210 with a C or better AND PSYC 311 OR PSYC 332 with a C or better	
Credits	3	
Repeatable?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Max. Total Credits	Credits  3 This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.	
Grading Method(s)	⊠ Reg (A-F) ☐ Audit ⊠ Pass-Fail	

#### PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words):

Covers the principles of behavior analysis and their application to socially meaningful problems. Behavior analytic principles (operant and respondent conditioning) will be applied to problems such as the assessment and treatment of severe problem behavior in children with autism, skill acquisition and language, drug abuse and dependence, or other socially significant topics.

### **RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:**

- (a) Applied behavior analysis (ABA) is an expanding field in psychology. Currently, UMBC offers one course related to ABA PSYC 210, the Psychology of Learning. PSYC 210 focuses on basic principles of behavior analysis. The proposed course content will build upon the concepts learned in PSYC 210, with a primary emphasis on application. Furthermore, UMBC offers one of the top-rated Applied Behavior Analysis masters programs, but offers no advanced undergraduate courses on the topic. In addition, students in PSYC 210 and in PSYC 397 (Research Experience in Psychology) have expressed interest in an ABA course. The course was offered as PSYC 393 in the Spring of 2016 and Summer of 2016. Students provided favorable feedback and high SCEQ scores for the piloting of this course.
- (b) The course may be taught approximately one time a year.
- (c) The course would fit in the Human Services Psychology concentration as part of the clinical focus because the course will discuss ABA intervention techniques for socially meaningful problems. It would also fit in the developmental concentration as an applied focus. Finally, there are plans to make this course designated as Writing Intensive, which will satisfy the general education requirement for all undergraduate students.
- (d) The course will serve students who are interested in pursuing a graduate career in applied behavior analysis or clinical psychology because it will expose them to ABA intervention topics and methods.
- (e) The course is proposed as a 400 level course because it is an advanced topic, students will be required to critically read empirical journal articles, and write in the course. Eventually, this course could be approved as writing intensive.
- (f) PYSC 210 is a required pre-requisite because this course will be an application of material learned in PSYC 210. Research methods (PSYC 311 or PSYC 332) are also required because the proposed course will require students to critically evaluate empirical research and design a study.

- (g) The course will use a regular grading method because the course is focused on specific content. Students will have several assignments throughout the semester, which can be quantified and graded in points. The course also has a pass/fail option for students interested in the course content but do not need the course for their major.
- (h) The course will not be repeatable for credit because the course will largely remain the same (i.e., no major new experiences will be gained through repetition) across iterations of the course.

# **ATTACH COURSE OUTLINE (mandatory):**

See attached syllabus.