

**UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: PSYC 311 Research Methods in Psychology I**

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Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

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**COURSE INFORMATION:** (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)	PSYC 311	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formal Title	Research Methods in Psychology I	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Res Meth Psychol I	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
X <input type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite <b>NOTE:</b> Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	PSYC 211 and one of (STAT 121, 350, 351,355,451) both with C or better	Either (PSYC 211 or 309) and one of (STAT 121, 350, 351,355,451) both with C or better
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credits	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes X <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits	4	<b>Max. Total Credits:</b> 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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	X <input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

**CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Evaluation and interpretation of psychological research: how and why psychologists conduct research, interpretation of basic descriptive and inferential statistics, use of the psychology literature and critical evaluation of published research, technical writing skills in psychology, and ethical and cultural considerations in psychological research.

**PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION** (no longer than 75 words): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

**RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:** Either PSYC 211 or PSYC 309 (proposed new course, submitted separately) will prepare students for PSYC 311. For Freshman/early Sophomores, PSYC 211 is an appropriate orientation to and preparation for the Psychology major; the “Four Year Academic Pathway” plan for both the B.A. and B.S. in Psychology recommends that PSYC 211 be taken second semester Freshman year. PSYC 309 Exploring Psychology: the Discipline and Careers is for more advanced (45+ credits) students who have passed at least two additional PSYC courses beyond PSYC 100. For these students, **PSYC 309 will substitute for PSYC 211** in the foundational sequence (PSYC 100 → **PSYC 309** → PSYC 311). PSYC 309 will cover the same general topics as PSYC 211 (e.g. overview of the discipline and career opportunities; skills necessary for success in the Psychology major; academic planning and student support resources), but in greater depth and with emphases that suits the unique strengths and needs of these students.