

# Proposed changes to Dual BS-Bio/BS-Psych

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## Problem

The dual BS-Bio/BS-Psych program was designed as an independent program, and like most programs was defined a list of requirements. This list was developed and approved by both depts, and was based on the BS bio and BS Psych program, with certain integration points to make the dual completion more feasible (144 c.h. min, barely feasible in 4 yr). Most major requirements in both majors were identical to the standalone programs, with a “integration points”.

However, in the meantime, these underlying programs inevitably evolve. Psych slightly changed the BS Psych program (to add a 5<sup>th</sup> psych tech elect). However, the dual was NOT changed so that the BS Psych in the dual degree program formally only requires 4 tech elects (2 integrated, 2 specific to BS psych). **This has resulted in unintended and undesirable divergence of the standalone from the dual degree.**

In the meantime, we developed a dual BS-Bchm/BS-Psych. In that case the dual program was defined a bit differently, not as a list of requirements, but as ***the union of the two standalone programs modified by certain integration points***. As such, if either of the underlying programs changes in the future, **the dual will also change automatically**, (unless specific action is taken, which would still be possible via the integration points).

This model seems more robust in keeping programs aligned and seems to have lower administrative overhead in not requiring a lot of housekeeping approvals. So, we now propose to make the change to redefine the BS-Bio/ BS-Psych dual in terms of the underlying standalone degrees plus integration points. This will restore concordance between the standalone BS-psych and the dual BS-psych.

## New definition

The dual BS-Bio/BS-Psych program consists of :

- A. **Courses required by BS BIO**
- B. **Courses required by BS PSYCH**
- C. With the following integration points (identical to those approved with exception of point 6 which has changed with recent UGSC action; original text below)
  1. One of Psychology or Biology ITP is required, (PSYC 100 or BIOL 100), either will be accepted.
  2. PSYC 203 will replace MATH 425 and satisfy the statistics requirement
  3. One free 4xx level Biology Laboratory (3 credits) and one Colloquium (1 credit) in BS -BIO will be satisfied by PSYC 204 Research Methods in Behavioral Science (4 credits)
  4. Two Biology electives will be satisfied by two Psychology courses (414-Neurological Basis of Behavior and 426-Cognitive processes) which are required in this program
  5. Two Psychology electives will be satisfied by two required Biology courses (214-Genetics and 430-Human Physiology)

6. Up to three S designated Psychology classes may be applied to the human sciences module of the IIT core curriculum, per UGSC policy 2/27/2018, so long as all IIT core rules ensuring breadth and level are still satisfied.
  - Original text pre-Pulliam rule: *“Two Psychology courses will be counted as S credits towards the IIT core curriculum”*

This change is c.h. neutral, (old program 141-143, new definition 142-143) with the shift in range due to resolution of an ambiguity in the stats requirement in the original definition (point 2 above). It does not change any program requirements. As such we propose that this is a minor change and informational only, but of course that is a UGSC and eventually UFC decision.