

**ASSESSMENT RECORD FOR
DEPARTMENT
OF**

PSYCHOLOGY

(Academic Department Name)

Fall 2006- Spring 2007

(Assessment Period Covered)

October 15, 2007

(Date Submitted)

Includes Assessment Reports for those Instructional Programs listed below:

Title of Instructional Degree Program

Degree Level

(Associate, Bachelors,
Master's, etc.)

Psychology

Bachelor of Arts

Submitted By: David U. Byrne, Ph.D.

(Departmental Chair or Faculty Assessment Representative)

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR

Psychology

(Instructional Degree Program)

Bachelor of Arts

(Degree Level)

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Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose Linkage:

Institutional Mission Reference: As a university committed to the liberal arts as fundamental to education and committed to our affiliation with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Schreiner is dedicated to excellence in preparing students to live purposeful, humane and productive lives in their work, faith groups, families and communities.

College/University Goal(s) Supported: Schreiner is dedicated primarily to educating undergraduate students in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional disciplines, preparing them for entry into specific careers and graduate or professional programs.

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes:

1.

(Schools of Psychology) Students will be able to describe, compare, and contrast the major schools of thought in psychology; can interpret human behavior from each theoretical perspective; is able to analyze, evaluate, and discuss a case study from different psychological perspectives.

2.

(Communication) Upper level students will be able to communicate effectively both in Written term papers using APA Style and through Oral class presentations.

3.

(Comparisons: External and Internal) Students completing the program will compare reasonably in their knowledge of psychology with students completing a similar program nationally, and meet a threshold test locally.

5.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

NOTE: There should be one form C for each intended outcome listed on form B. Intended outcome should be restated in the box immediately below and the intended outcome number entered in the blank spaces.

1.(Schools of Psychology) Students will be able to describe, compare, and contrast the major schools of thought in psychology; can interpret human behavior from each theoretical perspective; is able to analyze, evaluate, and discuss a case study from different psychological perspectives.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1 a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Psyc 2300 Brief Case Study Reports. Psyc 4307 Case Study Presentations. Psyc 4397 Class Presentations. Criterion = 75% grade "C" or better.

1 a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Psyc 2300 Brief Case Study Reports = 95% grade "C" or better. Psyc 4307 Case Study Presentations = 94% grade "C" or better. Psyc 4397 Class Presentations = 100% grade "C" or better.

1 a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program Reports and Assignments in 2300 and 4397 need to more specifically address goal of comparison of *particular* schools.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1 b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Overall Grades in Psyc 4307 and Psyc 4397, Theories of Personality, and Senior Seminar. Criteria = 75% "C" or better.

1 b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Psyc 4307, Theories of Personality = 100% of Overall grades = "C" or better. Psyc 4397, Senior Seminar = 100% of Overall grades = "C" or better.

1 b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Results indicate that what we are doing is working relatively well, so no curriculum adjustments appear to be necessary at the present time. However, more specific units or assignments re: schools of thought in psychology and theoretical perspectives need to be elaborated within courses in the future to replace reliance on overall course grades.

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2.

(Communication) Upper level students will be able to communicate effectively both in Written term papers using APA Style, and through Oral class presentations.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2 a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: *Written-* Case Study Brief Papers in Psyc 2300. Research Reports in Psyc 3360 and 3361, Term Papers in Psyc 4307, and 4397, and Annotated Bibliography in Psyc 4370 – Criminal Behavior, and Interview/ Analyses in Psyc 4370 – Intro. to Counseling. Criterion = 75% grade “C” or better.

2 a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: *Written-* Case Study Brief Papers in Psyc 2300 = 95% grade “C” or better. Research Reports in Psyc 3360 = 69% grade “C” or better, Research Reports in Psyc 3361 = 77% grade “C” or better. Term Papers in Psyc 4307 = 93% grade “C” or better, in Psyc 4397 = 91% grade “C” or better. Annotated Bibliographies in Psyc 4370 = 66% grade “C” or better, Interview/Analyses in Psyc 4370 = 100% grade “C” or better.

2 a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program Low pass rate in Psyc 3360 Research Reports may be addressed by requiring earlier First Drafts. Several Failures were due to a lack of First Drafts being submitted. A similar strategy would probably also be effective regarding the low pass rate in Psyc 4370 Annotated Bibliographies. Overall, students are clearly getting repeated practice at written communication in our classes, independent of tests. Written work continues to require more Instructor feedback and student efforts to improve, however, within the grade “C” or above range.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2 b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success - Oral – Class Reports in Psyc 3303, Psyc 3330, Psyc 4310, Psyc 4307, and Psyc 4397. Criterion = 75% grade “C” or better.

2 b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:- *Oral-* Class Reports in Psyc 3303 = 87% grade “C” or better, Psyc 3330 = 100% grade “C” or better, Psyc 4310 = 100% “C” or better, Psyc 4307 = 94% grade “C” or better, Psyc 4397 = 100% grade “C” or better.

2 b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Overall, students are clearly getting repeated practice at oral communication in our classes, independent of tests, and the generally high rate of success speaks to their motivation and competence in this area.

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3. Students completing the program will compare reasonably in their knowledge of psychology with students completing a similar program nationally, and meet a threshold test locally.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3 a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Graduating students take the Major Field Exam in Psychology. Criterion = score at the Overall National Mean or better.

3 a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Schreiner (n =9) Mean score = 149.0, $SD=9.54$; National (N =9,967) Mean score = 156.3, $SD= 14.7$. A single sample *Student's t-test* revealed a nonsignificant mean difference of 7.3 points between the Schreiner average and the normative Major Field average ($t(8) = -2.29, p > 0.05$).

3 a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program Criteria were met, so no overall curriculum adjustments appear to be required. More valid exit assessment may be achieved in the future, however, by exploring the use of the more flexible ACAT tests to replace the Major Field Exam.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3 b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Graduating students take the Schreiner Senior Departmental Exit Exam. Criterion = Mean or Median of 70% or better, ("C"), no scores below 50%.

3 b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Mean score = 70.22, $Mdn = 71, N = 9$. Fifty-six percent scored 70 or better, and no scores were below 50%.

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3 b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Criteria were met, so no overall curriculum adjustments appear to be required. This year the criteria were just met, however, due to a smaller, and lower overall academic quality class than last year. The Departmental Exit Exam may need some refinement and elaboration to be able to more easily discriminate scores for subfields, and to consider whether two items with a high miss rate should continue to be included.