Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 04/18/23 8:13 pm

Viewing: **SC-PHD-NEUR : Neuroscience, PhD**

Last approved: 11/11/22 2:32 pm

Last edit: 04/27/23 10:10 am

Changes proposed by: gscott21

Catalog Pages Using this Program	[Neuroscience, PhD](#)

No Longer
Anticipated closure
~~date (i.e. end~~
Rationale for

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

Yes

Requestor:

Name	Extension	Email
Theodore Dumas	3-9170	tdumas@gmu.edu

Effective Catalog: 2023-2024

Program Level: Graduate

Program Type: Doctoral

Degree Type: Doctor of Philosophy

In Workflow

1. **NEUR Chair**
2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
3. SC Associate Dean
4. Assoc Provost-Graduate
5. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 03/10/23 3:12 pm Saleet Jafri (sjafri): Rollback to Initiator
2. 03/10/23 3:24 pm Saleet Jafri (sjafri): Approved for NEUR Chair
3. 03/31/23 11:52 am Gregory Craft (gcraft): Approved for SC Curriculum Committee
4. 04/03/23 1:46 pm Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz):

Title: Neuroscience, PhD

Approval Criteria
1. What was the process used within you
2. What evidence was used to identify nee
3. What evidence was used to identify nee
4. Please attest to the following statement
   a. Have you ensured there are no other exist
   b. Has CPE confirmed the proposed badge do
   c. Has the instructor(s) for this badge experier
   d. Is there a contact hour minimum?
   e. Is an assessment required?
   f. Does this badge provide a benefit for current o
5. Is this badge co-sponsored with another
   organization, association, or unit? (If you would lil
   a. What is the organization, program, or departme

   Earning Criteria

Course:
Badge:
Participant:
Payment:
Portfolio:
Presentation:
Assessment:
Credential:
Education
Other:
Project:
Professional
Schedule/Registration:
Volunteer:

   Skills Tag
Skills Tag

   Badge Attributes
Please select one from each category:
Achievement Type:
Mastery Level:
Time Commitment:
Cost:
Industry Standards:
Recommendations:

   Issuance information and Pricing
Pricing: See https://cpe.gmu.edu/digitalbadgepricing/ for more information
Estimated Number of Badges Expected to be Issued:
Notes:

Approved for SC
Associate Dean
5. 04/17/23 2:46 pm
   Jason McKnight
   (jmckni): Rollback to
   Initiator
6. 04/24/23 5:53 pm
   Saleet Jafri (sjafri):
   Approved for NEUR
   Chair

History

1. Nov 14, 2017 by
   clmig-jwehrheim
2. Jan 24, 2019 by Tory
   Sarro (vsarro)
3. Mar 3, 2020 by
   Jennifer Bazaz
   Gettys (jbazaz)
4. Mar 4, 2021 by
   Ginny Scott
   (gscott21)
5. Jul 27, 2022 by
   Jennifer Bazaz
   Gettys (jbazaz)
6. Nov 11, 2022 by
   Jennifer Bazaz
   Gettys (jbazaz)

- **A Mason Digital Credentials Advisory Group may be developed to review badg**

Banner Title: Neuroscience, PhD

**Is this a retitling of
an existing
program?**

Existing Program

**Registrar/OAPI Use
Only – SCHEV
Status**   Approved

**Registrar's Office
Use Only –
Program Start Term**

**Registrar/OAPI Use
Only – SCHEV
Letter**

**Registrar/OAPI Use
Only – SACSCOC
Status**

Concentration(s):

INTO Major(s):

**Registrar/IRR Use
Only –
Concentration CIP
Code**

College/School: College of Science

**Department /
Academic Unit:**   Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program

**Jointly Owned
Program?**   No

Participating

Participating

Justification	What: Deleting PSYC 611 Adv Stats in Psychology
	Why: PSYC 611 has been discontinued and replaced with alternate courses.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required: Total credits: 72

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:

SC-PHD-NEUR

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Program CIP Code

Admission Requirements:

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Graduate Admissions Policies section of this catalog.

To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application.

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in a relevant field and undergraduate courses in organic chemistry, cell biology, and calculus. Coursework in biochemistry (e.g. BIOL 483 General Biochemistry), cell biology (e.g. BIOL 484 Cell Signaling and Disease), and molecular genetics (e.g. BIOL 482 Introduction to Molecular Genetics) is highly recommended. Admission requires a minimum GPA of 3.25 in undergraduate work. The applicant's goal statement should relate to the research interests of at least one faculty member in the program and include the names of two faculty members who may be suitable as advisors or supervisory committee members.

To apply, complete the George Mason University Admissions Application, supply a goal statement, two copies of official transcripts from each college and graduate institution attended, three letters of recommendation from faculty members or individuals who have firsthand knowledge of the applicant's academic or research capabilities. TOEFL scores are required of all international applicants.

Program-Specific Policies:

Policies

For policies governing all graduate programs, see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#).

Reduction of Credits

For students entering the doctoral program with a master's degree in a related field from an institution of higher education accredited by a Mason-recognized U.S. institutional accrediting agency or international equivalent, the number of required credits may be reduced up to 30 credits, subject to approval of the program faculty and the college's associate dean for student affairs. See [AP.6.5.2 Reduction of Credits](#) for more information.

Transfer of Credit

An alternative to the reduction of credit is a transfer of credit. With this option, up to 24 credits of previous, relevant graduate coursework may be transferred into the program, provided those credits have not been applied toward a previous degree.

Degree Requirements:

Students should refer to the [Admissions & Policies](#) tab for specific policies related to this program.

Doctoral Coursework

Core Science		
[NEUR 702](#)	Research Methods	3
~~Select one statistics course from the following:~~		~~3-4~~
Select one statistics option from the following:		**3**
[ECE 528](#)	Introduction to Random Processes in Electrical and Computer Engineering	
~~[PSYC 611](#)~~	~~Advanced Statistics~~	
[STAT 535](#)	Analysis of Experimental Data	
[STAT 544](#)	Applied Probability	
[STAT 554](#)	Applied Statistics I	
Core Neuroscience		
[NEUR 601](#)	Developmental Neuroscience	3
[NEUR 602](#)	Cellular Neuroscience	3

NEUR 603	Mammalian Neuroanatomy	3
NEUR 701	Neuroscience Laboratory	3
Rotations and Readings		
NEUR 703	Laboratory Rotation and Readings (taken three times)	9
Electives		
~~Select 20-21 credits of electives or independent research, as approved by the student's advisor, to provide further substantive or methodological specialization as needed.~~		~~20-21~~
Select 21 credits of electives or independent research in order to achieve 48 pre-dissertation credits. The courses must be approved by the student's advisor, providing further substantive or methodological specialization.		**21**
Elective course options for students interested in attaining professional skills include:		
COS 600	Multidisciplinary Problem Solving and Leadership	
Complete the Business Fundamentals Graduate Certificate and receive both the graduate certificate and the Neuroscience PhD upon completion of both programs' requirements.		
Total Credits		48

Publication

An additional requirement for graduation calls for students to have at least one publication (in print or in press) in a refereed journal.

Doctoral Committee and Proposal

When coursework is nearing completion, the student should form a doctoral committee of at least three graduate faculty members and start preparing their dissertation proposal. Students in consultation with their advisor identify which faculty are appropriate to be a part of their committee. The dissertation committee administers the qualifying exam and evaluates the dissertation proposal as well as the dissertation itself. At least one of the committee members must be outside of the dissertation advisor's department.

Candidacy Examination and Advancement to Candidacy

The doctoral candidacy examination includes written and oral components. After passing the candidacy exam and receiving committee approval for the dissertation proposal, the student is advanced to doctoral candidacy.

Dissertation Research

Note: No more than 24 combined credits from NEUR 998 Dissertation Proposal and NEUR 999 Doctoral Dissertation may be applied toward satisfying doctoral degree requirements, with no more than 12 credits of NEUR 998 Dissertation Proposal.

Select 24 credits from the following:		24
NEUR 998	Dissertation Proposal	
NEUR 999	Doctoral Dissertation	
Total Credits		24

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

Plan of Study:

Honors Information:

Accelerated Description/Dual Degree Description:

INTO-Mason Requirements:

**College
Requirements &
Policies:**

**Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Policies:**

Program Outcomes

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity.

Courses offered via distance (if applicable):

Indicate whether students are able

<div>

What is the primary delivery format for the program?

Face-to-Face Only

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?

No

Off-campus details:

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?

No

Please explain:

Related Departments

Could this program prepare students for any type of professional licensure, in Virginia or elsewhere?

No

Please explain:

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Please explain:

</div>

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, doctoral)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "advancing the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at lower degree level, new content is at the higher degree level)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "lowering the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e existing content is at higher degree level, new content is at the lower degree level)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this a re-opening of a program that was closed to admission within the last five years?

Date of Program Closure

What are the methods of delivery for the program?

Does this program include a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

Is this change a simple retitling of an existing program, with no other changes, to any existing program content, curriculum requirements, etc?

     No

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral)?

     No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Percentage of total credits containing new course content. ("New course content" is defined by SACSCOC as content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level. Do not exclude gen ed credits in calculations for undergraduate programs.)

0%-24%

Does this change include the addition of a distance education or face-to-face method of delivery for this program?

No

What is the new method of delivery?

Does this change include the addition of a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilities be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional faculty be required?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional financial resources be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Additional library/learning resources needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf   No
program?

Green Leaf
Designation

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf course. Either that course is itself
sustainability-focused or else the program requires a set of sustainability-related courses with aggregated

Relationship to
Existing Courses

Relationship to
Existing Programs

List sustainability-
focused courses
currently required
in the degree

Sustainability-related academic programs either require at least one sustainability-related
course or else offer any green leaf course as an option or elective *

List sustainability-
related courses
currently required
in the degree

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

                              No

Impacted
Departments

Additional
Attachments

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

| Reviewer Comments | **Saleet Jafri (sjafri) (03/10/23 3:12 pm):** Rollback: We need to have faculty discussion on this and need to see the syllabi for the new courses.

Jason McKnight (jmckni) (04/17/23 2:46 pm): Rollback: Rolled back per request of program/college via email from Jennifer Bazaz Gettys |
| **Additional Comments** | |

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eschtml%

Attached Document

%attach_document.eschtml%

Key: 509