2024-2025 ASSESSMENT PLAN

Department: Psychology **Program of Study**: Neuroscience BA

(1) Learning Objectives	(2) Justification for Learning Objective	(3) Courses in which Students Engage with the Learning Objective
Attaining Fundamental Knowledge of the field Students will gain an understanding of the field and be able to identify and describe the structure and function of the nervous system obtaining fundamental proficiency within neurobiological, behavioral, and cognitive perspectives.	Students should be able to demonstrate a comprehension of the field's key concepts from multiple perspectives.	Core Courses: Psych 243: Behavioral Neuroscience Psych 316: Adv. Exp Neurobiology Elective Courses: Psych 345: Cognitive Neuroscience
Acquisition of advanced laboratory skills By the end of their studies students will have acquired advance laboratory skills beyond the usual undergraduate experience that will allow them to: 1. Appreciate the realities of the day-to-day conduct of scientific research. 2. Use these skills to design independent research projects using the scientific method. 3. Develop an understanding of possible ethical issues when conducting neuroscience research using human participants and animal subjects.	Students will be able to conduct lab research in almost any laboratory that asks Neuroscience related questions or uses techniques commonly used in Neuroscience research.	Psych 1073 – Statistical Methods Psych 1071 – Statistical Methods Lab Psych 213W- Experimental Psychology One of the 5 Advanced Experimental Psychology Courses (Psych 311, 312, 313, 316, or 319) Psych 391 – Research The major requires at least 2 semesters of hands-on lab research.
Develop critical thinking within neuroscience By the end of their studies students will be able to: 1. Read, comprehend, integrate, and critically evaluate neuroscience-related scientific literature 2. Use this knowledge to design, conduct, analyze, interpret, and report neuroscience-related experiments including the application of statistical methods to analyze and interpret data.	Students should be able to use scientific reasoning and problem-solving skills, including research methods, to understand and interpret neurobiological research. Along with the hands-on research component of the major, this program equips students with the skills to apply scientific reasoning in the exploration of neurobiological research to design, conduct, analyze, interpret, evaluate and report research.	Psych 1073 – Statistical Methods Psych 1071 – Statistical Methods Lab Psych 213W- Experimental Psychology One of the 5 Advanced Experimental Psychology Courses (Psych 311, 312, 313, 316, or 319) Psych 391 – Research
Development of communication skills Students will learn to communicate research findings orally through presentations in local, state, or national/international forums, in writing (i.e., thesis), and to gain the capstone experience of publishing a peer-reviewed paper in a scientific journal.	Students should be able to communicate their experiences and findings through their written work and oral presentations.	Psych 213W- Experimental Psychology One of the 5 Advanced Experimental Psychology Courses (Psych 311, 312, 313, 316, or 319) Psych 391 – Research All Neuroscience majors are required to submit a written thesis and make an oral presentation based on their research to earn the Neuroscience degree.