

# HENDRIX

## PROPOSED COURSE ADDITION OR REVISION

Deadline for Area approval: 21 October 2011

Proposer: Amrita Puri

Date: 09/16/11

Department/Program: Psychology

Area: Social Sciences

Check appropriate boxes:

- New permanent course  
 Replaces existing course:  
 Change to existing course:

- New temporary course  
 Make temporary course permanent  
 Eliminate a course

Proposal – one sentence summary:

Students will experience an engaging introduction to the neuroscience of sensation, perception, and cognition by exploring a variety of perceptual and cognitive illusions.

Proposed subject code(s) (indicate both if cross-listing): PSYC

Proposed course # or level: 180

Proposed course title: Illusions and the Brain

Proposed course catalog copy:

This course will provide an intensive introduction to neuroscience by examining what is known about the neural basis of a variety of perceptual and cognitive illusions. Students will gain an understanding of how "normal" and illusory percepts arise via shared mechanisms within different sensory modalities including vision, audition, and somatosensation, and within cognitive systems such as memory and attention. Empirical articles related to current topics in the perceptual, cognitive and neuroscientific basis of illusions will be assigned and discussed.

Prerequisites/co-requisites and/or recommended prior courses, as listed in catalog copy:

None

How will the proposed revision affect any catalog lists of options for majors or minors?

This course could count as an elective towards the major.

Rationale for course within departmental and collegiate context and based on assessment results:

Illusions and the Brain presents an opportunity for students to be exposed to neuroscience at the level of a general topics course prior to enrolling in related upper-level cluster A courses such as PSYC 320, 330, 335, 360, and 363.

Proposed general education code(s) (check all that apply):

- EA  HP  LS  NS  NS-L  SB  VA  QS  W1  FL [Curriculum Committee]  
 CW [CW Committee]  W2 [Writing Across the Curriculum Committee]

Proposed Odyssey code(s) (check all that apply):

- AC  GA  PL  SW  UR  SP [CEL Committee/Curriculum Committee]

For each of the checked general education or Odyssey codes, describe how the course fulfills the published criteria (see the Catalog, pages 18-23 or the Odyssey Program Guide, pages 10-16):

Social and Behavioral Analysis (SB): This course offers a glimpse into situations in which human perceptual and cognitive experience is inconsistent with the true state of the world, and addresses these phenomena from the cognitive, biopsychological and neuroscientific perspectives.

Justification for cross-listing:

How often will the course be offered? During Maymester

Who will teach the course? Amrita Puri

Equipment, supply, and bibliographic requirements (items and cost): N/A

Will the above items be covered by a present budget?  Yes  No

Approval Chain (type name and date of approval)

Department chair: Tim Maxwell 5 October 2011

Area chair:

Allison K. Shutt, 10/12/11