

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATION OF CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Preparation Date **8-Aug-17** Curriculum Bulletin _____
 Effective Date ~~Fall 2018~~ *to come* Approved by EPC _____

Department _____
 College **AS - Arts and Sciences**
 Degree **BS - Bachelor of Science**
 Program Name **Neuroscience** Program Banner Code **NEUR**
 Concentration(s) _____ Concentration(s) Banner Code(s) _____
 Proposal **Establish program - Initial Inquiry**

Description of proposal:

Kent State University proposes to offer the Neuroscience major within the Bachelor of Science degree, to be administered by the university's College of Arts & Sciences on the Kent Campus. Within the College of Arts & Sciences, the Departments of Biological Sciences and Psychological Sciences have over 2,000 undergraduate majors, a significant number of which take coursework in both departments. In recent years, Kent State has made a significant investment in the area of neuroscience, through faculty hires and the growth of the neuroscience graduate degree programs in the College. There is substantial student demand for the Neuroscience major, both from students that have chosen existing majors at Kent State as well as increases in the number of inquiries we receive regarding the existence of a neuroscience program.

Does proposed revision change program's total credit hours? Yes No

Current total credit hours: *N/A* Proposed total credit hours **120**

Describe impact on other programs, policies or procedures (e.g., duplication issues; enrollment and staffing considerations; need; audience; prerequisites; teacher education licensure):

We anticipate that some majors will be drawn from existing populations of Biology and Psychology majors. There is no adverse impact as these units will be collaborating to administer the program. No additional staffing is needed for implementation.

Units consulted (other departments, programs or campuses affected by this proposal):

BSCI, PSYS

REQUIRED ENDORSEMENTS

Lisa M. MIA 9/18/17
 Department Chair / School Director

 Campus Dean (for Regional Campuses proposals) / /

Mary Ann Haley 9/22/17
 College Dean (or designee)

 Dean of Graduate Studies (for graduate proposals) / /

 Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost (or designee) / /

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Board of Regents

University System of Ohio

John R. Kasich, Governor

John Carey, Chancellor

INITIAL INQUIRY FORM REQUEST TO OFFER A NEW PROGRAM

Date of submission: *Date to come (sent after EPC)*

Name of institution: Kent State University

Primary institutional contact for this request:

Name: Therese E. Tillett
 Title: Executive Director of Curriculum Services
 Office of the Provost
 Phone: 330-672-8558
 E-mail: tillet1@kent.edu

Name of new program: Neuroscience major within the Bachelor of Science degree

For institutions that are already approved/authorized by the chancellor

- New degree designation
 New program within an existing degree (e.g., major, minor, concentration)
 New technical certificate program
 New licensure/endorsement area (educator preparation)

Delivery options (check all that apply):

- Campus-based
 Online/hybrid delivery
 Flexible or accelerated delivery
 Offering the program at a new offsite location
 Offering the program at an existing offsite location
 Program contains off-campus experiences (e.g., internship, clinical, practicum, student teaching)

The institution will be seeking specialized accreditation for the program:

- No Yes

Provide a brief description of the request.

This request is to establish a BS degree in Neuroscience. The major will be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences and jointly administered by the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Psychological Sciences.

Neuroscience is inherently an interdisciplinary science that includes physics, physiology, chemistry, psychology and cell/molecular biology. As a discipline, neuroscience employs a broad range of experimental approaches and many different cell, tissue and animal model systems, and includes a significant focus on human cognitive, emotional and neurological functions.

Explain the academic unit’s rationale for making the request.

Due to the importance of cross-disciplinary collaborations and the many unanswered questions in the field, neuroscience is an opportunity-rich area in which to pursue a scientific career. An undergraduate degree in neuroscience can provide the foundation for advanced careers in many industries—including pharmaceutical, medicine, biotechnology, bioengineering—and research in the government sector, private sector, hospitals and universities. It also provides the basis for other careers that intersect with neuroscience (e.g., patent law).

Over the past several years, Kent State has been making a substantial financial investment in the study of neuroscience, as reflected by (1) coordinated hiring of faculty members in biology and psychology; (2) hiring of neuroscientists; (3) establishment, in 2013, of an annual Neuroscience Symposium; and (4) renovations to the science facilities on the Kent Campus that will significantly enhance the university’s ability to engage in top-level neuroscience research. Kent State’s neuroscience faculty are active in research, with most having received federal funding, and are committed to providing undergraduates with “hands-on” laboratory experiences.

Kent State University has existing facilities for the study of neuroscience and offers undergraduate courses in the discipline (through the biology and psychology departments). The courses include (but are not limited to) the following:

Abnormal Psychology	Biopsychology	Endocrinology
Animal Behavior	Cognitive Development	Hormones and Behavior
Animal Cognition	Cognitive Neuroscience	Introduction to Neuroscience
Biological Clocks	Drugs and Behavior	Perception

Recently, a large increase in enrollment in neuroscience-related coursework has suggested that there is an untapped and significant student demand for a neuroscience major.

The College of Arts and Sciences offers a master’s and doctoral degree in Biomedical Sciences—Neurosciences and provides a neuroscience education for undergraduates through the degree programs in biology and psychology. However, the college lacks a defined framework that leads to a fully integrated undergraduate degree program in neuroscience. Further, as there are no undergraduate programs in neuroscience at any public institution in Northeast Ohio, Kent State University is in an excellent position to directly recruit students interested in neuroscience and provide them with a unique training opportunity.

Indicate whether additional faculty and staff will be needed to support the proposed request.

The college does not anticipate requiring additional faculty and staff to support the proposed major. Should there be substantial growth in enrollment, the Department of Biological Sciences and Department of Psychological Sciences will incorporate faculty resources into future hiring plans. Administrative services for the program will be handled by the two departments, with advising support from the college. Once enrollment has begun in the program, faculty advisors will be assigned as needed by these two departments.

Indicate whether additional resources (e.g., facilities, technology) will be needed to support the proposed request.

The departments anticipate the creation of at least one new laboratory course.



September 8, 2017

Based on the recommendation of the Department of Biological Sciences UGCC, I am writing to give departmental approval of the initial inquiry for the BS in Neuroscience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura G. Leff".

Laura G. Leff
Professor, Chair
Biological Sciences

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HALEY, MARY ANN

From: Zaragoza, Maria
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2017 7:51 AM
To: MINTZ, ERIC
Cc: HUGHES, JOEL
Subject: RE: B.S. Neuroscience degree submission

Hi Eric. The Department of Psychological Sciences endorses the proposal to submit an initial inquiry for the establishment of the B.S. degree in Neuroscience at Kent State University.

Please let me know if we can provide additional assistance.

Maria

Maria S. Zaragoza, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Psychological Sciences
Kent State University
Kent, OH 44242

e-mail: mzaragoz@kent.edu
phone: (330)672-2167
fax: (330)672-3786

From: MINTZ, ERIC
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 12:43 PM
To: LEFF, LAURA <lleff@kent.edu>; Zaragoza, Maria <mzaragoz@kent.edu>; HUGHES, JOEL <jhughes1@kent.edu>; FRAIZER, GAIL <gfrazier@kent.edu>
Subject: RE: B.S. Neuroscience degree submission

Hi all,

Just a reminder that I have not heard back on this approval to reauthorize the initial inquiry for the establishment of the B.S. degree in Neuroscience. I would appreciate a written endorsement from the departments so we can move forward.

Thanks,

Eric

From: MINTZ, ERIC
Sent: Wednesday, August 09, 2017 9:46 AM
To: LEFF, LAURA <lleff@kent.edu>; Zaragoza, Maria <mzaragoz@kent.edu>; HUGHES, JOEL <jhughes1@kent.edu>; FRAIZER, GAIL <gfrazier@kent.edu>
Subject: B.S. Neuroscience degree submission

Hi all,

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Attached please find the documentation for resubmitting our "Initial Inquiry" for the establishment of the B.S. degree in Neuroscience. The Intro to Proposal letters includes the information on what needs to be done at the department level. Both departments previously approved the initial inquiry, but that approval has expired. I am now moving forward to complete the formal degree proposal and get it formally through the curricular process this fall. We are asking for endorsements from the departments to file this initial inquiry and then the full proposal, once complete, will go back to the department curriculum committees for discussion and review.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Eric

Eric M. Mintz, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Biological Sciences
Kent State University

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