UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON – EXPEDITED COURSE CHANGE PROPOSAL
Submit this form electronically, beginning with the first required level of review (department or college level). Each level of review passes the form and any attachments to the next level when the action is approved.

Submitted by: Debra C. Steckler    Date Prepared: 1/8/2014

Department/Discipline and Course Number: Psychology 360

Course Title: Advanced Statistics for Psychology

**Type of change (check all applicable):**
- Course Number*
- Title
- Credits
- Description
- Prerequisites X
- Deletion

*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

**Effective Date:** FALL Semester, Year 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Catalog Entry</th>
<th>Proposed Catalog Entry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>360 – Advanced Statistics for Psychology (3) Prerequisite: PSYC 261. Introduction to advanced statistical methods, including ANOVA models, a priori and post hoc tests, and multiple regression. Particular emphasis on quasi-experimental and correlational methods, as well as data entry, analysis using SPSS, and presentation.</td>
<td>360 – Advanced Statistics for Psychology (3) Prerequisite: PSYC 261 with a minimum grade of C-. Introduction to advanced statistical methods, including ANOVA models, a priori and post hoc tests, and multiple regression. Particular emphasis on quasi-experimental and correlational methods, as well as data entry, analysis using SPSS, and presentation.</td>
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**JUSTIFICATION** *(including impact on majors, minors, concentrations, and general education courses within the University curriculum; attach additional pages if required)*

The proposed change will primarily impact Psychology majors because the majority, if not all, students who take Psyc 360 are Psychology majors. This change will insure majors’ success in Psyc 360. Currently majors who earn below a C- in Psyc 261 Introductory Statistics for Psychology struggle in Psyc 360, and many who earn a C- or below in Psyc 261 fail Psyc 360. Psyc 360 (and Psyc 362) are prerequisites for our year-long Psyc 491-492 research and our Research Seminars. Since Psyc 360 and 362 are courses taken by majors in their junior or senior year, majors who do not succeed in these courses must often take longer to graduate or sometimes change their major at a late date. Requiring students to succeed in Psyc 261 will increase the chances that they will do well in the courses that follow.

There is precedent for this requirement not only at UMW (see the Biology and Chemistry curricula, for example) but at our COPLAC schools and aspiration schools as well. The majority of schools in Virginia (GMU, UVA, JMU, VCU, CNU) as well as St. Mary’s of MD and SUNY Geneseo require a grade of C-, if not a C, in their required statistics and research methods courses to progress to higher level courses. This change would bring the UMW Psychology Department in line with these other schools and help to ensure student success in higher-level, more demanding courses required in the Psychology major.

**TRANSITION PLAN** *(describe how will students who are in Catalogs where the course is required for a major be accommodated; attach additional pages if required)*

The transition to this new prerequisite will be seamless, with students in Psyc 261 when this policy goes into effect being required to earn at least a C- in that course to progress to Psyc 360 (and Psyc 362). Students who earned lower passing grades in Psyc 261 but are in Psyc 360 and/or Psyc 362 when this change goes into effect will not be affected.

**Approvals**

Expedited Course Change Cover Sheet (July 2013)
Expedited course changes are posted for a 10-class day comment period. If no comments are raised during that time, the proposal becomes final. All expedited proposals approved in this way will be noted on the UCC web site.

If comments are raised, the proposal may be reviewed by the UCC and then approved or it may be returned to the CCC for additional deliberation (as required).