

Proposal Details

***Team Members (Name, Title, Department, Institutions if different, and email address for each):**

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Beth Kirsner, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology,
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Adrienne Williamson, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology,
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Tricia Mahaffey, Administrative Associate I, Department of Psychology,
tmahaff1@kennesaw.edu

***Sponsor, (Name, Title, Department, Institution):**

Dr. Keisha Love, Professor and Chair, Department of Psychology, Kennesaw State University

***Submitter First Name:** Sharon

***Submitter Last Name:** Pearcey

***Submitter Title:** Associate Professor

***Submitter Email Address:** spearcey@kennesaw.edu

***Submitter Phone Number:** 470-578-3635

***Submitter Campus Role:** Proposal Investigator (Primary or additional)

***Applicant First Name:** Sharon

***Applicant Last Name:** Pearcey

***Applicant Email Address:** spearcey@kennesaw.edu

***Applicant Phone Number:** 470-578-3635

***Primary Appointment**

Title:

Associate Professor

***Institution Name(s):** Kennesaw State University

***Proposal Title:** 182

1 of 12

***Course Names, Course Numbers and Semesters Offered:**

The Science of Psychology - PSYC 2000. Offered Fall, Spring, Summer;

Research Methods and Statistics - PSYC 2300. Offered Fall, Spring, Summer;

Experimental Design and Analysis - PSYC 3301. Offered Fall, Spring, Summer.

***Final Semester of**

Instruction:

Fall 2017

***Average Number of**

Students per Course

Section:

32

***Number of Course**

Sections Affected by

Implementation in

Academic Year:

36

***Total Number of Students**

Affected by Implementation

in Academic Year:

1160

***List the original course**

materials for students

(including title, whether

optional or required, & cost

for each item):

PSYC 2000:

(1) Morling, B. (2015). Research Methods in

Psychology (2e), Required, ISBN
#9780393936933, \$122.50 (new)

PSYC 2300:

(1) Publication Manual of the American
Psychological Association, Required, ISBN
9781433805615, \$29.95 (new);

(2) Jackson, S. (2016). Research Methods
and Statistics (5e), Required, ISBN
9781305257795, \$236.90 (new);

PSYC 3301:

(1) Publication Manual of the American
Psychological Association, Required, ISBN
9781433805615, \$29.95 (new);

(2) Gravetter, F., & Wallnau, L. (2013).
Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral
Sciences (8e), Required, ISBN
9781133956570, \$ 245.00 (new);

(3) Gravetter, F., & Forzano, L. (2015).
Research Methods for the Behavioral
Sciences (5e), Required, ISBN
9781305104136, \$230.30 (new).

***Proposal Categories:** No-Cost-to-Students Learning Materials

***Requested Amount of**

Funding:

\$30,000

2 of 12

***Project Goals:**

This project involves the creation of course materials to enable faculty to teach the three required research methodology and statistics courses in our curriculum using no cost to

student materials.

In order to achieve this goal, we intend to:

- * Create a course shell for PSYC 2000 - The Science of Psychology in D2L Brightspace (this course is required for all Psychology minors)
- * Create course shells for PSYC 2300 - Research Methods in Psychology and PSYC 3301 - Experimental Design and Analysis in D2L Brightspace (both courses are required for all Psychology majors)
- * Develop lectures for all three courses
- * Develop activities for all three courses
- * Develop instructor resource and test bank materials for all three courses
- * Adopt the course materials (all team members), thereby eliminating textbook costs for our students in these required courses
- * Assess our courses with pre- and post-test assessments comparing classes using no cost resources to those requiring textbooks
- * Disseminate our project successes to other institutions by presenting our findings at state (i.e., SoTL Commons Conference), and national teaching conferences (i.e., APS Teaching Institute, APA Convention)
- * Create a website and host the course materials there, making them available for adoption worldwide

***Statement of Transformation:**

Background on Courses:

Our project will impact both students majoring and students minoring in Psychology at Kennesaw State University (KSU). All students majoring in Psychology at KSU are required to take a sequence of research courses – PSYC 2300 (Research Methods and Statistics) and PSYC 3301 (Experimental Design and Analysis). The two sequence courses each combine research methods and statistics. Although there are a few books that combine these topics, some instructors teaching in the sequence use two separate textbooks to teach the course – one for research methods and one for statistics. In addition, because of the heavy writing component in the sequence courses, the APA publication manual is also required. Although

some students may be able to reuse their textbooks as they advance from PSYC 2300 to

***Original per Student Cost:** PSYC 2000: \$122.50/student; PSYC 2300:

\$266.85/student; PSYC 3301:

\$505.25/student

***Post-Proposal Projected**

Student Cost:

\$0/student for all courses

***Projected Per Student**

Savings:

PSYC 2000: \$122.50/student; PSYC 2300:

\$266.85/student; PSYC 3301:

\$505.25/student

***Plan for Hosting Materials:** Other

3 of 12

PSYC 3301, multiple factors make it difficult to do so (e.g., instructor preference in textbooks, student schedules). Thus, within the two sequence courses, students are required to purchase a minimum of two textbooks but may be burdened with purchasing up to four separate textbooks. All students minoring in Psychology at KSU are required to take PSYC 2000 (The Science of Psychology), which currently requires one textbook.

This transformation will involve replacing one textbook in PSYC 2000 and up to four textbooks in the sequence consisting of PSYC 2300 and PSYC 3301 with no-cost-to-students materials.

These materials will include instructor-created lectures, tutorials, testing materials, and problem sets; open-access articles, chapters, and statistical tutorials; open-access information on plagiarism and APA style; open-access textbooks and other free instructional websites.

Stakeholders:

Both faculty and students are the stakeholders in this project. First, this transformation will reduce the cost of purchasing textbooks for students, both those minoring and those majoring in psychology. Text book prices continue to soar. Affordable Learning Georgia estimates that textbook prices have increased 82% in the last decade and will continue to rise 6% annually

(<http://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/numbers>).

Because the courses we are transforming are foundational, required courses for all Psychology majors and minors, the amount saved per student will be substantial: Based on current pricing, students will save \$122.50 (PSYC 2000), \$266.85 (PSYC 2300), and \$505.25 (PSYC 3301) as a result of this initiative. Overall, including all sections of all three courses transformed, we estimate that the total savings could be as much as \$380,804 annually. Clearly students will benefit financially. Because students often choose not to purchase textbooks due to the expense (see above), we can guarantee that all students will have equal access to the resources needed to ensure success in these courses by providing these comprehensive learning materials at no cost to them.

Faculty members will also be stakeholders in this project. In any given semester, 10-15 different instructors teach one of the three courses (i.e., PSYC 2000, PSYC 2300, and PSYC 3301). Our materials, including the Brightspace D2L shell courses, will be available to other instructors within the department. Although not required, other full-time and part-time faculty members who teach these courses may choose to adopt our no-cost-to-students materials. These resources will be of particular benefit to new faculty who will have a wealth of materials available to them. Last, because we plan to disseminate our project ideas to other institutions by placing them on a website and presenting our research findings at national teaching conferences, faculty and students outside KSU will benefit from this transformation.

***Transformation Action Plan:**

Organization:

We will survey students regarding textbook usage and attitudes toward textbooks to establish a baseline by which to compare usage and satisfaction with the new, open resources.

We will identify and review appropriate course materials that are readily available at no cost.

We will identify areas with deficits (e.g., test bank items, active learning) and assign responsibilities across team members.

4 of 12

Content Creation:

Using established course learning outcomes as a guide, we will create the content needed for

each of the courses. We will collaborate and share materials and ideas in order to maintain continuity among the related courses. During this phase, we will seek suggestions from other faculty about the content.

Creating D2L Brightspace Course Shells and Website:

Although this a collaborative process, four faculty team members will be focusing their time on specific courses and one team member will act as the lead for organization and continuity of the materials (in addition to creating shared course materials). We will upload completed materials to shared course shells on D2L Brightspace for use by other full-time and part-time faculty. We will also upload completed materials to a website for use by faculty and students at other institutions.

Implementation and Evaluation:

Each faculty team member will teach at least one of these courses during the Fall 2016 semester. We will utilize our current extensive assessment plan to assess student achievement of course learning objectives. We will compare the assessment scores between courses using no cost resources to those requiring texts and/or to past course data. In addition, we will augment our current assessment of these courses by surveying enrolled students about their learning experiences, including opinions about which of the materials were most beneficial to their mastery of the material and suggestions for modifications.

Revisions and Updates:

Immediately after the fall 2016 semester, we will revise the course materials based on our experience implementing them in the classroom and in response to feedback from students. In the long term, we plan to update the materials (and invite others to contribute) by adding and modifying materials when warranted and as often as necessary.

5 of 12

***Timeline:**

Phase 1

Attend Kick-off / Implementation Meeting

Pearcey, Randall, & Kirsner

October 12, 2015

Phase 2

Review of Course Learning Outcomes; Identification of Shared Course Resources;

Assignment of Responsibilities across Team Members

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, Williamson, & Mahaffey

October 13, 2015-November 30, 2015

Phase 3

***Quantitative & Qualitative**

Measures:

* Currently, our department uses pre- and posttests to assess student achievement of learning objectives in PSYC 2300 and PSYC 3301. We will develop pre- and posttests for PSYC 2000 to assess achievement of learning objectives in that course. We will compare the assessment scores between courses using no cost resources to those requiring texts and archival assessment data. We will continue to use these metrics to make sure that the transformed courses are providing appropriate support for student learning.

* Detailed student surveys will be distributed at the end of each semester asking for feedback (e.g., usefulness of the PowerPoint lectures in learning the material, helpfulness of the in-class activities for understanding the materials). We will compare this information with results of student surveys regarding usage of and attitudes toward current

textbooks.

* We will track grades in the courses and compare them to other comparable/related courses. In addition, we will track grades in subsequent courses for which PSYC 2000, PSYC 2300, and PSYC 3301 are prerequisites. This adds another level of ensuring student success.

6 of 12

Write & Submit Fall 2015 Status Report

Pearcey & Mahaffey

December 1, 2015

December 18, 2015

Phase 4

Content Creation I: Shared Resources

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, & Williamson

December 1, 2015-January 31, 2016

Phase 5

Identify Faculty to Produce Supplemental Instructor Resources & Assessment Instruments

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, & Williamson

February 1, 2016-February 15, 2016

Phase 6

Content Creation II: Specialized Course Resources

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, & Williamson

February 16, 2016-April 30, 2016

Phase 7

Write & Submit Spring 2016 Status Report

Pearcey & Mahaffey

April 18, 2016-May 20, 2016

Phase 8

Collect and Integrate Instructor Resources and Assessment Instruments into D2L Course

Shells, Upload Resources onto Open Website

Mahaffey

7 of 12

May 1, 2016-July 15, 2016

Phase 9

Solicit Peer Review of Content from Departmental Colleagues (Sequence Faculty)

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, Williamson, & Mahaffey

July 16, 2016-August 31, 2016

Phase 10

Write & Submit Summer 2016 Status Report

Pearcey & Mahaffey

August 1, 2016-August 12, 2016

Phase 11

Revise Course Content, Instructor Resources, & Assessment Instruments Based on Peer

Feedback Received

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, Williamson, & Mahaffey

September 1, 2016-Dec 31, 2016

Phase 12

Write & Submit Fall 2016 Status Report

Pearcey & Mahaffey

Dec 1, 2016-Dec 23, 2016

Phase 13

Pilot PSYC 2000, 2300, & 3301 courses in Spring 2017

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, & Williamson

January 1, 2017-May 15, 2017

Phase 14

Write & Submit Final Grant Report (Spring 2017)

Pearcey & Mahaffey

8 of 12

May 1, 2017-May 26, 2017

Phase 15

Evaluate Assessment Data and Prepare Conference Presentation / Symposium Proposals for Submission in Fall 2017

Pearcey, Randall, Willard, Kirsner, & Williamson

May 27, 2017-December 30, 2017

***Budget:**

TEAM MEMBER Sharon Pearcey

PURPOSE Overload for Grant Project Management, Development of Shared Course Content & Instructor Resources, Assessment of Course & Project Outcomes

AMOUNT (\$) 5000

TEAM MEMBER Chris Randall

PURPOSE Overload for Development of PSYC 2000, Shared Course Content, & Instructor Resources

AMOUNT (\$)5000

TEAM MEMBER Jen Willard

PURPOSE Overload for Development of PSYC 2300, Shared Course Content, & Instructor Resources

AMOUNT (\$)5000

TEAM MEMBER Beth Kirsner

PURPOSE Overload for Development of PSYC 3301, Shared Course Content, & Instructor Resources

AMOUNT (\$)5000

TEAM MEMBER Adrienne Williamson

PURPOSE Overload for Development of PSYC 3301, Shared Course Content, & Instructor Resources

AMOUNT (\$)5000

TEAM MEMBER Tricia Mahaffey

PURPOSE Overload for Integration of Instructor Resources and Assessment Instruments in D2L-Brightspace LMS and for Preparation of Interim and Final Grant Reports

AMOUNT (\$)1000

TEAM MEMBER 2 PSYC Faculty

(to be identified)

PURPOSE Overload Compensation for Producing Supplemental Instructor Resources & Assessment Instruments @ \$500 each

9 of 12

AMOUNT (\$)1000

TEAM MEMBER 2-3 Team Members

PURPOSE Partial Support for Project Symposium Presentations at the SoTL Commons Conference and a National Conference: 2017 APS Teaching Institute (Boston MA) or 2017 APA Convention (Washington, DC); 2 Team Members / Conference Symposium

AMOUNT (\$)2200

TEAM MEMBER 2-3 Team Members

PURPOSE Travel to Kick-off Training / Implementation Meeting

AMOUNT (\$)800

TOTAL \$30,000

***Sustainability Plan:**

As noted above, the psychology department offers numerous sections of all three courses (PSYC 2000, 2300, & 3301) every semester. Moreover, we have every reason to believe that enrollment in PSYC 2000 will increase dramatically over the next several years because it is a required course in the new Psychology minor at KSU that has not yet been advertised across campus. Thus, we believe the potential savings for students will also increase markedly in the near future.

In addition to the sections taught by each team member, all departmental faculty and part-time instructors will have access to these materials, can contribute to the revisions of these resources, and may adapt these materials to meet their needs and preferences at any time.

Although the classes do ultimately cover quite different material, there exists considerable overlap with respect to the foundational concepts that all students are expected to master. Having the materials available within each class - for PSYC 2000 as primary learning materials and for both PSYC 2300 and PSYC 3301 as primary and/or review learning materials - will benefit all students in these courses. Because these materials will also be available on an open access website, students will be able to access and review these resources whenever they need them.

Finally, the standing research sequence committee in the department will be able to oversee the implementation and future development of these materials for the benefit of our students and faculty as the curriculum continues to evolve.

Add Other Email Addresses for Notifications

Enter recipient(s) email

address(es):

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10 of 12

1

College of Humanities

& Social Sciences

Department of

Psychology

August 31, 2015

Dear Selection Committee Members:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support for Drs. Sharon Pearcey, Christopher Randall, Jennifer Willard, Beth Kirsner, Adrienne Williamson, and Ms. Tricia Mahaffey, who are applying for an Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grant. Their project titled, "Giving it Away: Teaching Research Methods and Psychological Statistics, APA Style, & Experimental Design and Analysis Without a Text," will offer psychology majors and minors at

Kennesaw State University enrolled in research courses considerable cost-savings through the development and utilization of high-quality, free resources. Please allow me a brief moment to elaborate on the investigators' plan.

All students majoring in psychology complete a research sequence that consists of two courses – PSYC 2300 (Research Methods and Statistics) and PSYC 3301 (Experimental Design and Analysis). In addition, all students minoring in psychology are required to take one research course, PSYC 2000 (The Science of Psychology). The current total cost of textbooks across the three courses ranges from \$122.50 to \$505.25, which is substantial for many students. An extremely limited number of textbooks adequately integrate methods and statistics. In most cases, the textbooks cover too much of one topic and not enough of the other; therefore, most faculty require students to purchase multiple textbooks to get a comprehensive review of the material. The investigators will transform textbooks from the research courses by developing lectures, tutorials, testing materials, and problem sets, and by providing links to open-access articles, chapters, and statistical tutorials that meet our high quality standards at no cost to students. Students will be able to redirect savings from these courses to other areas such as tuition and fees, meals, parking, and/or supplies, to name a few. To assess and demonstrate the quality of the products, the investigators have developed a strong assessment plan that will examine student-learning outcomes for students using the free resources. The investigators will modify the materials as needed based on student performance and feedback.

All the investigators, except for the administrative associate, teach PSYC 2000, 2300 or 3301; all have agreed to use the transformed products in their courses. The department offers these courses every semester (fall, spring, and summer), so there will be many opportunities to utilize the new resources. In fact, the investigators were hired specifically to teach these courses given their disciplines in psychology and training; therefore, the long-term plan is for these instructors to routinely contribute to our research courses. An addition, it is my intent to incentivize other faculty to teach these courses so that we may offer additional sections. More

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sections would facilitate student progression, and the free resources may contribute to student retention.

In sum, I wholeheartedly support the investigators' plan to transform textbooks for the research and statistics courses for psychology majors and minors. I believe that the benefits will be substantial for students financially, and I believe that the resources will enhance retention and progression. I sincerely hope that you will give the team in the Department of Psychology at Kennesaw State University your strongest consideration for an award.

Regards,

Dr. Keisha Love

Professor and Chair

Department of Psychology

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12 of 12