

Institute Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Members: Hammer (BIOS), Bonetto (MATH), Ferri (ME), Haas (CE), Ippolito (ModLang), LeBlanc (ARCH), Lee (CoB), Moore (ECE), O'Mahony (Faculty Exec Board Liaison), Oyelere (Chem & Biochem), Parker (IC), Phillips (OAE), Pikowsky (REG), Potts (Vice Provost-OUE), Saldana (ME), Short (MATH), Singh (HSOC), Sokol (ISYE), Xu (COC)

Visitors: Hodges (RO), Rasheed (RO), Mayor (Secretary to the Faculty), Comfort (ModLangs), Amsterdam (HSOC), Brock (LMC), Colatrella (LMC), Head (LMC), Senf (LMC), Wilson (LMC)

Note: All action items in these minutes require approval by the Academic Senate. In some instances, items may require further approval by the Board of Regents or the University System of Georgia. If the Regents' approval is required, the change is not official until notification is received from the Board to that effect. Academic units should take no action on these items until USG and/or BOR approval is secured. In some cases, approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools-CoC may also be required; in others, notification by the Institute will suffice. In addition, units should take no action on any of the items below until these minutes have been approved by the Academic Senate or the Executive Board.

Note: All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

The Committee has set a minimum of 13 voting members to establish a quorum and conduct official business. Otherwise, business is still transacted and formally voted upon via email vote.

Discussion Items

1. Dr. Kelly Comfort, Modern Languages, addressed the Committee with a request to temporarily suspend the 12-credit study abroad requirement for the Bachelor of Science in Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies program. Students will still complete 30 credits of language coursework (2002 level and above) as well as the 18-hour cluster, but 12 hours will not need the study abroad credit. Students in the BSALIS program will be encouraged to participate in virtual faculty-led study abroad programs or LBATs or in 'Global at Home' immersive programs in the event that study abroad is not possible in their language of study.

This request is temporary and due to travel restrictions from COVID-19. Catalog language outlining the *temporary change* will be posted in the current edition of the Catalog.

The Committee posed no concerns about the temporary waiver of the study abroad requirement. Should the School wish to make permanent changes in the program, they will come back with a proposal for a degree modification.

2. Representatives from the School of Literature, Media, and Communication addressed the Committee with a request for feedback on a future proposal submission for a new minor/threads (Minor and threads for BS in Literature, Media, and Communication and BS in Computational Media in Black Media Studies).

Black Media Studies (BMS) is an area of scholarship connecting approaches and methods to study the relationships among media, culture, and racial politics by and about people of African descent. Our research and teaching focuses on the black speculative and black classical to address the impact of cultural production, how blackness influences media and technology, and what we learn about race and race proxies across these areas. BMS is also interested in the use of digital technologies to design and make media connected with the cultural practices of Black people and to understand the (re)production of knowledge, ideas, norms, and artifacts as embodied, mediated performance fundamental to the media-making of Black culture. Black Media Studies explores how media platforms create, market, curate, and preserve messages and representations of people of color through culture-producing industries such as music, film, television, gaming, and social media, primarily by interrogating these representations and assessing their sociocultural and geopolitical influences on culture and society.

After discussion, the Committee stated they would be in favor of reviewing formal proposals for new courses for the minor/threads (content is already being taught under existing course numbers), a new minor, and degree modifications to add the threads to the Bachelor of Science in Literature, Media, and Communication and the Bachelor of Science in Computational Media programs.

Academic Matters

1. A motion was made to *approve* a request from the School of Economics for pre-requisite modifications. The motion was seconded and approved.

PRE-REQUISITE MODIFICATIONS – ACKNOWLEDGED WITHOUT CONCERN

ECON 3110:
ECON 3120:
ECON 3161:
ECON 4060:

ECON 4180:
ECON 4311:
ECON 4340:
ECON 4351:
ECON 4355:
ECON 4360:
ECON 4411:
ECON 4412:
ECON 4421:
ECON 4440:
ECON 4510:

Most changes involve dropping either ECON 2105 or ECON 2106, depending on the course curriculum. The main motivation is to give ECON majors more flexibility in scheduling courses. For example, ECON majors will no longer need to have completed *both* Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 2105) *and* Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 2106) before being able to take Advanced Microeconomic Analysis (ECON 3110); only ECON 2106 will be required. A similar argument can be made for most 3000- and 4000-level. Courses that are more micro-focused will require ECON 2106 only, whereas courses that are more macro-focused will require ECON 2105 only.

The other important change is that ECON 2250 is added as an additional prerequisite option for ECON 3161. ECON 2250 was created specifically to be a prerequisite for ECON 3161 for economics majors, because the School found that most students who had previously taken MGT 2250 as the ECON 3161 prerequisite option were generally not well-prepared for ECON 3161. Both ECON 2250 and ECON 3161 are required courses for the ECON, EIA, and GEML majors. Non-majors can still take the other ECON 3161 prerequisite options if desired.

Note: The Committee had an observation that it would like the School to think more about. The reasoning for requiring only ECON 2106 as the prerequisite was not entirely clear. Did the School consider whether the shift in this requirement (as opposed to both ECON 2106 and 2105) would affect the degree program's focus towards more macro *vs.* micro-economics? The Committee does not know whether this matters or not, or whether it is a concern, but offers the observation to the School.

2. A motion was made to *table* a request from the College of Computing for a new course. The motion was seconded and approved.

NEW COURSE – TABLED

CS 4401: Data Management for Data Science (3-0-0-3)

Note: The Committee would still like clarification from the unit as to how this course differs from existing course CS 4400 Intro to Database Systems.

3. A motion was made to *approve* a request from the School of History and Sociology for new courses. The motion was seconded and approved.

NEW COURSES – APPROVED with edits

HTS 2018: Food and Society (3-0-0-3)

HTS 2053: Modern Latin American History (3-0-0-3)

HTS 2017: Environmental Sociology (3-0-0-3)

Note: The Committee posed questions about enrollment numbers for the courses and the proposer stated that enrollment should grow with the courses having permanent numbers. One course will be taught under a well-known faculty member instead of a graduate student.

The Committee also requested clarification on the attendance policy/participation language in the syllabus and to also add links to the Institute Excused Absence policy. Grading in regard to an attendance requirement has to be made clear and some information on the related participation that goes along with “attendance” is necessary. The syllabus should always reference the Institute policy on excused absences, rather than trying to set its own definition.

Note: It was noted that the unit plans to submit these courses for review to add the Social Science attribute. The unit was advised to link clearly how general education learning objectives are met since these seem to be more specialized courses *versus* courses which are broader in content which is what would be expected for courses in the Core Curriculum. It is also of concern to the USG committee and other institutions in the USG that we propose courses at the 3000-level for Core attributes, while the more standard approach is 1000-2000 level courses. Possible enrollment boosts should not be a reason why courses are submitted to have core curriculum attributes added. The IUCC General Education and Policy Subcommittee as well as the USG will be looking to see how the course meets the learning outcomes in that Core area.

4. A motion was made to *approve* a request from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering for new courses. The motion was seconded and approved.

NEW COURSES – APPROVED with edits

CEE 4670: Transportation and Health (3-0-0-3)

CEE 4211: Water Resources Systems (3-0-0-3)

Note: Direct links to the Honor Code and Excused Absence Policy in the Catalog need to be added to the syllabus. The syllabus should clearly state how

participation is graded and how that is communicated to students throughout the term.

5. A motion was made to *approve* a request from the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts for a minor modification. The motion was seconded and approved.

MINOR MODIFICATION –

Minor in Middle Eastern and North African Studies

Currently, students in the MENAS minor take 15 credits from a frozen list of courses. We propose to abandon such a frozen list that restricts students in favor of a more flexible alternative. We also want to differentiate more clearly between the lower-level and upper-level course options for the minor. Finally, we want to add relevant courses from French, Hebrew, and Persian to the minor.

Specifically, we propose that:

- 1) Students no longer **have** to take 6 lower-level credits and 9 upper-level credits, but rather they may count 0-6 credits of lower-level courses and 9-15 credits of upper-level courses for a total of 15 credits.
- 2) Previously, the MENAS minor included this note 1: “All students need to show competency in Arabic or Persian equivalent to having successfully passed ARBC 2002 or PERS 2XXX.”
- 3) The modified minor outlines the course options in a more flexible way as follows:

The MENAS Minor requires 15 credits of coursework of which nine or more credits must be at the 3000- or 4000-level.

Students may count up to six credits of lower-level foreign language coursework in Arabic, French, Hebrew, or Persian from the following list only:

ARBC 1002, 2001, 2002
FREN 2001, 2002, 2005
HEBW 1002, 2001, 2002
PERS 1002, 2001, 2002

Students (e.g. native and heritage speakers) who can demonstrate language proficiency equivalent to the 2002 level or above in any one of these four MENAS languages, may choose two lower-level courses in English for up to six credits if they have a MENAS focus (e.g. ARBC 2301, HTS 2040, HTS 2041, INTA 2260, ML 2500, etc.)

Students must complete nine credits or more of 3000- and 4000-level coursework as part of the 15-credit total for the MENAS minor. Students may count:

- Any 3000- or 4000-level course in Arabic, Hebrew, or Persian.
- Any 3000- or 4000-level course in French that focuses on MENAS topics such as Francophone (North and Sub-Saharan) Africa or French African Diasporas (e.g. FREN 4101, 4102, 4103, 4105, 4107).
- Any 3000- or 4000-level course in HSOC with significant treatment of topics related to the Middle East and/or North Africa (e.g. HTS 3051 and some relevant offerings of HTS 4061 and HTS 4091)
- Any 3000- or 4000-level course in INTA with significant treatment of topics related to the Middle East and/or North Africa (e.g. INTA 3240, INTA 3260).

Administrative Items

The following items are items which do not require Committee action. Items such as building optional recitation courses, placeholder courses, or other items such as correcting Catalog information or course information.

1. Creation of new standard Modern Languages courses. As Modern Languages establishes new languages, a set of standard courses is built since these courses are the same in content, but just different languages.
 - HEBW 1501: Heritage Hebrew I
 - HIN 1501: Heritage Hindi I
 - PORT 1501: Heritage Portuguese 1
 - SWAH 1501: Heritage Swahili I
2. The School of Economics brought forth several courses that needed updates due to typographical errors and one course that needed a description added to the course information (course was approved in 2006 without a description).

Petitions

Student petitions are handled administratively by the Registrar with consultation as needed with Committee leadership and the full Committee.

The following petitions met the guidelines for “Administrative Action,” and were decided by the Registrar under the authority granted to her by the Committee between the dates 10/7/2020 and 11/10/2020. All were approved except as noted:

- 3- Term withdrawal
- 3- Selective withdrawal (with clear documentation and School recommendation)
- 1-10-year rule waiver (with School recommendation)
- 2- Cancel course registration for current term

- 1- 36-hour rule waiver
- 1- Adjust course hours for a variable credit course in current term
- 1- Allow course to count toward major & minor (with substituted hours)
- 2- Readmission after first dismissal (with School recommendation)
- 1- Readmit after second dismissal (**1 Denied**)
- 3- Late course registration for current term
- 4- Count course toward degree (**1 Denied**)
- 1- Allow course to count toward Social Science requirement (**1 Denied**)
- 2- Hour max registration hours overload request for Spring 2021 semester
- 2- Adjust course registration to different CRN for current term
- 10- Petition to return after withdrawing in current term
- 1- Waive 12-hour study abroad requirement
- 4- Change grade mode (**2 Denied**)
- 9- 39-hour rule waiver

Adjourned,

Reta Pikowsky
AVP of Enrollment Services/Registrar
Secretary of IUCC