

University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes
October 23, 2024, 9:00am-10:30am
Meeting Subtitles: “TOI-I, TOI-II, TOI-III, TOI-IV, TOI-V, and TOI-VI” or
“Playing Telephone at UConn” or
“Tabled Pending Consultation”

I. Preliminaries

- A. Minutes for October 9, 2024

S. Wilson motioned to approve the Minutes as submitted. Z. Boudah seconded. The Minutes were approved with two abstentions.

- B. We will next convene in the electronic ether on November 6, 2024.
C. *Remaining Senate C&C Fall Schedule (Wednesdays 9:00am-10:30am)*
November 6, 2024
November 20, 2024
December 11, 2024

II. Chair Reports (G. Nanclares)

1. University Senate – No report.
2. Senate Executive – Meets this Friday.

III. Member Reports

- A. UICC (M. Hatfield) – The group is trying to schedule its first meeting.
- B. Honors Board of Associate Directors (S. Wilson) – No report.
- C. Scholastic Standards (S. Croucher) – No report.
- D. CCC+ (P. Bedore) – P. Bedore will share the onmius by-law motion with SEC this week. She also met with community colleges to answer questions. We received a request to change the TOI numbers to letters. What do Senate C&C members think?
 - There was no appetite to change the TOIs now. Members noted that we’re dealing with too many letters already. In particular, the competencies use letters, so keeping the numbers will help keep the distinction. It’s more important that advisors and those working with students know what they’re talking about.

IV. New Business

- A. Revise 1000- or 2000-Level Course
 1. Motion to revise (S. Stifano, M. Hatfield) ARAB 1003 Intermediate Arabic I (#27673)
[Revise description and prereqs]
Current Catalog Copy

ARAB 1003. Intermediate Arabic I

(4 Credits)

Lower to upper intermediate level in Modern Standard Arabic. Development of ability to communicate orally and in writing. Taught in English and Arabic.

Enrollment Requirements: ARAB 1002 or instructor consent. Cannot be taken for credit after passing ARAB 1004, 1113, or 1114.

Revised Catalog Copy

ARAB 1003. Intermediate Arabic I

(4 Credits)

Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic. Development of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Taught in Arabic.

Enrollment Requirements: ARAB 1002 or instructor consent. Students with prior knowledge of Arabic should contact the instructor or the program coordinator prior to registration. Cannot be taken for credit after passing ARAB 1004, 1113, or 1114.

Discussion

- No comments.

Motion to revise ARAB 1003 (#27673) was passed unanimously.

2. Motion to revise (S. Wilson, S. Stifano) ARAB 1004 Intermediate Arabic II (#27674)
[Revise description and prereqs]

Current Catalog Copy

ARAB 1004. Intermediate Arabic II

(4 Credits)

Development of ability to communicate in Modern Standard Arabic. Lower to upper intermediate skills in speaking and writing. Taught in English and Arabic.

Enrollment Requirements: ARAB 1003 or instructor consent. May not be taken out of sequence after passing ARAB 3100 or 3212. Not open for credit to students who have passed ARAB 1104.

Revised Catalog Copy

ARAB 1004. Intermediate Arabic II

(4 Credits)

Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic. Development of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Taught in Arabic.

Enrollment Requirements: ARAB 1003 or instructor consent. May not be taken out of sequence after passing ARAB 3100 or 3212. Not open for credit to students who have passed ARAB 1104.

Discussion

- No comments.

Motion to revise ARAB 1004 (#27674) was passed unanimously.

3. Motion to untable and revise (S. Stifano, S. Wilson) ARE 2215 Business Management (#27213) [Revise prereqs] – TABLED

This course was tabled over title concerns pending communication with the department. The department's response was as follows:

"The chosen name was discussed in our faculty meeting, and the vote for this course was unanimous. We specifically chose the name to NOT be agribusiness management, because it is indeed broader, as is our program. The management practices taught are appropriate for many students looking to apply their skills in a variety of areas in a business setting. Using the word "agribusiness" as a modifier would be overly narrow. The fact that the course is offered in CAHNR and the description includes Food and Agriculture, is sufficient to signal that we do indeed cover agribusiness, but that this is not the sole application for the course content. Our students need this course as a complement to the other courses we offer in our major and long standing minor in Business Management and Marketing (our marketing team has placed in the top three in the annual national competition, winning in the last year!). Limiting the title to agribusiness management would not be useful for students."

Current Catalog Copy

ARE 2215. Business Management

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: None.

Grading Basis: Graded

Analysis of marketing, management, and financial decision-making tools in agribusiness. Formerly offered as ARE 3215.

Revised Catalog Copy

ARE 2215. Business Management

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: ARE 1333, or ARE 3333, or equivalent course with instructor approval;

Can be taken concurrently.

Grading Basis: Graded

Analysis of marketing, management, and financial decision-making tools in agribusiness.

Discussion

- One member felt the response from ARE is still problematic. If CAHNR is teaching a general business course, it's possible it overlaps significantly with offerings from the School of Business.
- In the chat: "With the new comments, [the concern] is not only now about the title, but about the content itself."
- One member warned about straying too far into the territory of telling people what they can and can't teach. Nevertheless, they felt it would be common courtesy to have the discussion with business about the course, if only to avoid confusion.
- In the chat: "Also students doing the minor they mention they might be getting credit for the same content twice, once in ARE and once in Business classes."
- In the chat: "If this were two units in CLAS, we'd ask the proposing unit to consult the unit who had the logical claim to the title's subject matter."
- Should we (Senate C&C) contact the School of Business? No. It should be the department's responsibility to reach out and ensure there isn't too much overlap and that there are no concerns.
- Ultimately Senate C&C does not have veto power to reject the course, but it is our responsibility to ensure the department has done their due diligence in terms of communicating with relevant parties. The School of Business can take action if they feel there's an issue.
- In the chat: "Our influence is withholding a vote until we're content. If we're NOT content, we should clarify what we'd need to get there."
- One member suggested the following message to ARE in the chat: "Because this course already exists, we imagine a conversation has already occurred between the School of Business and CAHNR. We just want to ensure that consultation has occurred, since Senate C&C routinely tracks curricular overlap between colleges."

S. Stifano motion to retable ARE 2215 (#27213). Z. Boudah seconded. The motion to retable was passed unanimously.

4. Motion to revise (M. Hatfield, S. Stifano) CLCS 1102 World Literature II (#27273) [Revise title and description; already approved for TOIs]

Current Catalog Copy

CLCS 1102. Classics of World Literature II

(3 credits)

An introduction to Classics of World Literature. A comparative approach to representative works of culture of Europe, the Americas, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, from the Renaissance (1600) to the present. CA 1. CA 4-INT.

Revised Catalog Copy

CLCS 1102. World Literature II

(3 credits)

Introduction to World Literature. Comparative approach to representative works of Africa, Asia, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Americas, and Europe, from 1600 to the present. CA 1. CA 4-INT. Taught in English.

Discussion

- CLCS 1101 is also in the system and requesting a similar action. It was suggested we wait for that course to catch up so they can both be processed together.
- K. McDermott suggested we approve this course now, and she will report the courses together once CLCS 1101 has been approved.

Motion to revise CLCS 1102 (#27273) was passed unanimously.

5. Motion to revise (S. Wilson, St. Stifano) PSYC 2300 Abnormal Psychology (#27172)
[Revise title]

Current Catalog Copy

PSYC 2300. Abnormal Psychology

(3 Credits)

Nature of abnormal behavior, theories and data regarding symptoms, etiology, treatment and prevention of mental disorders.

Enrollment Requirements: PSYC 1100; PSYC 1101 or 1103.

Revised Catalog Copy

PSYC 2300. Psychological Disorders

(3 Credits)

Nature of psychological disorders, theories and data regarding symptoms, etiology, treatment and prevention of mental health disorders.

Enrollment Requirements: PSYC 1100; PSYC 1101 or 1103.

Discussion

- No comments.

Motion to revise PSYC 2300 (#27172) was passed unanimously.

B. Chair-Approved Special Topics Offerings

1. UNIV 3995 (#27112) Special Topics: The Science and Practice of Living a Purposeful Life (Second offering)

Discussion

- It was clarified that the course can be offered up to three times, and this is the second time it's being requested. G. Nanclares chair-approved this offering.

Motion to add UNIV 3995 (#27112) was passed unanimously.

V. [Common Curriculum Transitions](#) (Click link to access SharePoint site for everything listed below)

A. Common Curriculum Direct Transitions (*Batch Approval*)

1. ARIS/WGSS 1170/W Women's Contemporary Writing in the Arab World [CA1, CA4INT to TOI-2, TOI-3]
2. DMD 2010 History of Digital Culture [CA1, CA3 to TOI-2]
3. ENGL 3715E Nature Writing Workshop [EL to TOI-1, TOI-4]
4. FREN 3267 Grammar and Culture [CA1 to TOI-1, TOI-2]
5. GERM 3261W German Film and Culture [CA1, CA4INT, W to TOI-2, W]
6. GERM 3264W German Cinema in Cross-Cultural Perspective [CA1, W to TOI-2, W]
7. ILCS 1101 The Italian Renaissance [CA1 to TOI-2, TOI-5]
8. NRE 1235E Environmental Conservation [CA1, EL to TOI-3, TOI-4]
9. PHIL 1102 Philosophy and Logic [CA2 to TOI-5; INTENSIVE]
10. SOCI 1501/W Race, Class, and Gender [CA2, CA4, W to TOI-3, TOI-5, W]
 - No comments.

J. Cooley motioned to approve the courses above for Direct Transition to CC. S. Stifano seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI. New Common Curriculum Courses (See link above for SharePoint Site)

1. Motion to add (K. Bott, J. Chandy) NURS 2300 Planetary Health: Understanding the Relationship of Human and Environmental Health (#26536) [New TOI-4]

Proposed Catalog Copy

NURS 2300. Planetary Health: Understanding the Relationship of Human and Environmental Health

(3 credits)

~~This course explores~~ The relationship between human health and the natural environment through the planetary health lens, ~~including Planetary health recognizes~~ the interdependence of human health and the stability of Earth's ecosystems and acknowledgment ~~ing~~ of the profound impact of anthropogenic activities on both. ~~Students will delve into~~ Exploration of the complex web of interactions between human societies and the natural world ~~to gain~~ insight into how the degradation of environmental systems can profoundly influence human health

outcomes. ~~The course will examine various~~ Aspects of planetary health including the consequences of climate change, air and water pollution, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and the intensification of extreme weather events.

Discussion

- A streamlined version of the catalog copy was offered (see above).
- It was noted that consultation needs to happen with various departments for this course as well, in particular with EEB (2100E), EVST/ENVS, and EARTH.
- The Provost's Office wants to be sure these conversations are happening.
- One member noted that one of the things they look for in catalog copy in CLAS is clear disciplinary framing. There is no reference to Nursing at all in this description.
- In the chat: "It'll be important in that email to note that it would be helpful if nursing was more prominent in the course description."

S. Stifano motioned to table. A. Lozano-Robledo seconded. The motion to table NURS 2300 (#26536) pending consultation with environmentally-focused departments was passed unanimously.

VII. CC Courses Approved for Intensive Session

1. Motion to approve (J. Cooley, Alvaro) PHIL 1102 Philosophy and Logic [CA2 to TOI-5; INTENSIVE]
 - No comments.

Motion to offer PHIL 1102 in intensive session was passed unanimously.

VIII. Other Business

- One member asked if it is within the purview of this committee to discuss the issue of the majors that may be cut.
- The Senate will definitely be discussing this at its next meeting.
- S. Croucher explained the selection process for the program review that was announced. She noted that there's a lot of misinformation going around. There is no plan to eliminate the majors/programs that didn't meet the 100-student threshold, which was an arbitrarily-chosen number. What the administration wants to do is look at things like if we're running lots of upper-level courses for very few students. Are there majors where there's no feeling of community or where students don't interact much? There is nothing in the documents that in any way suggests programs will be eliminated. People have had an "agenda" in sharing the list, and they're needlessly creating fear. The administration is only trying to create a space for schools and colleges to have a discussion about the structure of their programs.
- The USG representative offered the student perspective. *The Daily Campus* story was a bit inflammatory, but he's assured current students they will still have a major. Anything currently existing would not be fully removed until all current students completed it.
- It was confirmed in the chat that, "Any degree we currently offer has to be continued through to students completing their degree."
- In the chat: "I hope the President/Provost will make similar comments during the next Senate session."
- Members warned that information was likely being skewed through the "telephone game."

- In the chat: “We call it leveling in the organizational communication literature. As opposed to sharpening (where folks highlight key points and omit the rest) and assimilation (where folks manipulate the rumor for personal benefit.)”

In Attendance (in bold): **Gustavo Nanclares (Chair), Pam Bedore (Ex-officio), Kristin Bott, Zachary Boudah, John Chandy, John Cooley, Sarah Croucher (Ex-officio),** Phoebe Godfrey, **Marc Hatfield, Edward Junhao Lim, Alvaro Lozano-Robledo,** Laurie McCarty (Ex-officio), Matt McKenzie, Dan Mercier, **Sarira Motaref,** David Ouimette, **Steve Stifano, Suzanne Wilson,** Terra Zuidema (Registrar alternate)