

# University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes

December 4, 2025, 3:00pm-4:30pm

Meeting Subtitle(s): "Plans for Multiple Courses on Fluffy Bunnies"

Meeting called to order at 3:02pm

## I. Preliminaries

- A. Welcome
- B. Minutes for November 20, 2025 were eApproved.
- C. We will convene in the electronic ether on January 20, 2025  
Spring 2026 Meetings: Tuesdays from 1:00pm-2:30pm  
January 20, 2026  
February 3, 2026  
February 17, 2026  
March 3, 2026  
March 24, 2026  
April 7, 2026  
April 21, 2026

## II. Chair Reports (D. Valente)

- A. University Senate – Our bylaw and policy revisions were presented. Minor wording changes were made to one, but they were mainly noncontroversial. There was much discussion of budget.
- B. Senate Executive – There is agreement on need for the existence of CLOs, but there is still reticence to publish them. A task force on ABR is being formed.

## III. Member Reports

- A. UICC (M. Hatfield) – The committee has not met.
- B. Honors Board of Associate Directors (D. Mercier) – No report.
- C. Scholastic Standards (S. Croucher) – There was discussion of the bylaw on attendance. The committee is currently gathering information.
  - Students in Waterbury did a presentation on attendance. Students are noticing this as an issue as well.
  - Other universities are more punitive about this.
  - There are many reasons for absenteeism that are completely out of our control.
  - In the chat: "As a reminder, anything that involves active learning in the classroom **can** be a grading component. E.g., if there are group projects and being present with the group to plan the project is part of the learning for students, as per the current Senate

Bylaws, you can include engagement in this in-class planning as a component of a grade.”

- D. CCC+ - **Presentation on IDML** (J. Kleinman with Sara Stifano) – Sara Stifano presented the results of the IDML and Dialogue committee’s discussions on how to implement IDML.
- What about students who come into UConn with FYW? About 70% of students take FYW with us, and 15% of the other students take it through ECE, which has highly trained instructors. The rest receive AP credit. These skills have been a part of writing studies for decades.

#### IV. New Business (Non-CC)

##### A. New 1000- and 2000-level Course

1. Motion to add (D. Mercier, J. Kleinman) NRE 2416 Trees and Forests Lab: Dendrology (Bundled with SANR 216)

*Proposed Course Description*

NRE 2416. Trees and Forests Lab: Dendrology (1 Credit)

Field-based introduction to taxonomy, silvics, and distribution of trees and shrubs of the United States with emphasis upon Northeastern species. Field trips will be required. Taught concurrently with SANR 216.

Enrollment requirements: Instructor consent required.

- There were suggestions for minor tweaking of the CLOs and grade scale. How are non-whole numbers handled (e.g. 92.5)?
- One member asked for clarification on exactly what we’re approving when we approve a course. Mainly the catalog copy and the general suitability of the course for UConn’s curriculum. A course on “fluffy bunnies” was used as an example.
- In the chat: “Fluffy bunnies could work well in at least three of the colleges if not more. Can see it as a material science, in art/fashion/music, biology/animal science.”
- In the chat: “Someday I will teach a class on fluffy bunnies. I will.”
- In the chat: “Heritage breeds of animals. I would love to take a class on fluffy bunnies. We could do a class related to using animals in psychological research as an ethics course. I have so many ideas!”
- Are we voting on the essence of the course? If so, don’t we need the CLOs?

**Motion to add NRE 2416 was approved unanimously.**

##### B. Revised 1000- and 2000-level Course

1. Motion to revise (J. Kleinman, T. Rasmussen) NRE 2415 Trees and Forests (Revise title and description; bundled with SANR 215)

*Current Course Description*

NRE 2415. Dendrology (3 Credits)

The taxonomy, silvics, and distribution of trees and shrubs of the United States with emphasis upon Northeastern species. Field trips will be required.

Enrollment requirements: Recommended preparation: BIOL 1108 or 1110. May not be taken out of sequence after passing NRE 3500 or 4475.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

NRE 2415. Trees and Forests (3 Credits)

Introduction to trees and forests and their role in the global ecosystem and human society. Distribution and characteristics of forest types across the globe. The response of forests to global change and their value in mitigation of environmental change and its effects on humans. Taught concurrently with SANR 215.

Enrollment requirements: Recommended preparation: BIOL 1108 or 1110. May not be taken out of sequence after passing NRE 3500 or 4475.

- Edit CLO4 to remove “develop” and start with “Communicate.”

**Motion to revise NRE 2415 was approved unanimously.**

**V. Common Curriculum** (Courses below can be accessed in [CIM](#))

A. New Common Curriculum Courses

1. Motion to add (E. Lim, P. Bedore) ARTH/AFRA 3060 Violence and Visual Culture (New CA1, CA4, TOI2, TOI3)

*Proposed Course Description*

ARTH 3060. Violence and Visual Culture (3 Credits)

(Also offered as AFRA 3060) Exploration of the role of visual culture in shaping perceptions of violence, especially who gets deemed a victim or perpetrator; what it means to be innocent or guilty; and the role of race, sexuality, and gender in coding images of violence.

Enrollment requirements: Open to Sophomores or higher. Not open for credit to students who have passed ARTH 3995 when offered as “Violence and Visual Culture” or AFRA 3295 when offered as “Visualizing Violence.”

Content Areas: CA1, CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

AFRA 3060. Violence and Visual Culture (3 Credits)

(Also offered as ARTH 3060) Exploration of the role of visual culture in shaping perceptions of violence, especially who gets deemed a victim or perpetrator; what it means to be innocent or guilty; and the role of race, sexuality, and gender in coding images of violence.

Enrollment requirements: Open to Sophomores or higher. Not open for credit to students who have passed ARTH 3995 when offered as “Violence and Visual Culture” or AFRA 3295 when offered as “Visualizing Violence.”

Content Areas: CA1, CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

- The Special Topics titles were added.

**Motion to add ARTH/AFRA 3060 was approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to add (J. Kleinman, M. Hatfield) ENGL 2618 Digital Games and Literature (New CA1, TOI1)

*Proposed Course Description*

ENGL 2618. Digital Games and Literature (3 Credits)

Design-based investigation of the relationship between digital games and "traditional" literature. Explores how literary techniques and structures are repurposed for digital games and how digital games influence literature. Participants in the course design and prototype their own digital games using beginner-friendly tools. No prior technical experience is required.

Enrollment requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011

Content Areas: CA1

Topics of Inquiry: TOI1

- Do the CLOs need to be in CIM? We only recently made this a required field in CIM, so we are not taking a hardline stance on it until word has gotten around.
- One member suggested that putting them in CIM will solidify them and keep them from changing.
- Another argued that people are going to change them without checking anyway. Being in CIM won't stop them.
- In the chat: "We have seen a number of examples where there was fuzziness about the syllabus attached to CIM, especially those courses taught in multiple sections. It would be most correct for the CLOs to appear in CIM. Plus, doing it this way is just gonna irritate the people along the workflow..."
- We should make it known to faculty that CLOs are not being published yet to help ease fears about including them.
- There needs to be a definitive repository of this information somewhere so people can't go rogue.
- There needs to be an option for expedited review for CLOs to give some flexibility.
- In the chat: "If we are going to require proposers to include all CLOs in CIM, I am fine with that decision. I do think we need to inform people of that change and give them enough lead time to make that happen and work its way through all of the committees, so that will take a little time."
- In the chat: "I think to an earlier point, reassuring people that any publication of CLOs is many, many months from now (at a minimum) and will not happen without a lot more discussion and communication. Some of the reticence of putting the CLOs into CIM seems to have stemmed from concern they would

be published in the next catalog, and we're definitely not there. We should make sure that this information is shared."

- The consensus is that the committee is approving on the basis of the submitted learning objectives. Any changes must go through the approval process.

**Motion to add ENGL 2618 was approved unanimously.**

3. Motion to add (P. Bedore, A. Perez-Meneses) ENGL 2645 The Classical Hollywood Cinema (New CA1, TOI1, TOI2)

*Proposed Course Description*

ENGL 2645. The Classical Hollywood Cinema (3 Credits)

Broad historical survey of the Classical Hollywood Cinema (1910s-1960s) and its influence on modern American film and culture.

Enrollment requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011

Content Areas: CA1

Topics of Inquiry: TOI1, TOI2

- There is the same issue with CLOs.

**Motion to add ENGL 2645 was approved unanimously.**

4. Motion to add (J. Kleinman, M. Hatfield) HRTS/SOWK 2160 Human Rights and Social Work (New CA2, CA4INT, TOI-3, TOI-5)

*Proposed Course Description*

HRTS 2160. Human Rights and Social Work (3 Credits)

(Also offered as SOWK 2160) An examination of the relationship between social work and human rights, with emphasis on applying international human rights principles to practice. Topics include the international human rights system, social work's role in promoting rights, and analysis of social problems affecting women, children, immigrants, refugees, and other groups facing systemic barriers. U.S. case studies illustrate how social workers and allied professionals can advocate for and uphold human rights in their work.

Content Areas: CA2, CA4INT

Topics of Inquiry: TOI3, TOI5

SOWK 2160. Human Rights and Social Work (3 Credits)

(Also offered as HRTS 2160) An examination of the relationship between social work and human rights, with emphasis on applying international human rights principles to practice. Topics include the international human rights system, social work's role in promoting rights, and analysis of social problems affecting women, children, immigrants, refugees, and other groups facing systemic barriers. U.S. case studies

illustrate how social workers and allied professionals can advocate for and uphold human rights in their work.

Content Areas: CA2, CA4INT

Topics of Inquiry: TOI3, TOI5

- No comments.

**Motion to add HRTS/SOWK 2160 was approved unanimously.**

5. Motion to add (J. Kleinman, P. Bedore) POLS/HEJS 2610 American Jewish Political Behavior (New CA2, CA4, TOI2, TOI3)

*Proposed Course Description*

POLS 2610. American Jewish Political Behavior (3 Credits)

(Also offered as HEJS 2610) A survey of political life experienced by Jewish communities in the United States. Topics may include ideologies, voting patterns, and group identity. Spans historical to modern issues and policies.

Content Areas: CA2, CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

HEJS 2610. American Jewish Political Behavior (3 Credits)

(Also offered as POLS 2610) A survey of political life experienced by Jewish communities in the United States. Topics may include ideologies, voting patterns, and group identity. Spans historical to modern issues and policies.

Content Areas: CA2, CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

- Minor wordsmithing was done to the last sentence.

**Motion to add POLS/HEJS 2610 was approved unanimously.**

**B. Revised Common Curriculum Courses**

1. AH 3510 International Health (Revise level; Add TOI2, TOI3)
2. ANTH 2511 Museums and Anthropology: Design, Care and Collections Science (Revise title, description, and prereqs; add CA1, CA3Lab, TOI1, TOI6L)
3. ARTH 2020 Global Jerusalem (Add TOI2, TOI5)
4. ARTH 3580/W Image as Witness: Testimony, Witness, Confession (Revise description; add TOI-2, TOI-3 to W)
5. DRAM 1710 Exploration of Acting (Revise description and prereqs; Add CA1, TOI1)
6. Motion to revise (P. Bedore, L. Schlesselman) ENGL/NAIS 2210 Introduction to Indigenous Literatures and Cultures (Add NAIS cross-listing and FYW prereqs; Already approved for TOI2, TOI3)

*Current Course Description*

ENGL 2210. Introduction to Indigenous Literatures and Cultures. (3 Credits)  
Examination of the literatures and cultures of pre-contact, post-contact, and contemporary Indigenous peoples.

Content Areas: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

*Revised Catalog Copy*

ENGL 2210. Introduction to Indigenous Literatures and Cultures. (3 Credits)  
(Also offered as NAIS 2210.) Examination of the literatures and cultures of pre-contact, post-contact, and contemporary Indigenous peoples.

Enrollment requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011

Content Areas: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

- No comments.

**Motion to revise ENGL/NAIS 2210 was approved unanimously.**

7. ENGL/AMST 2218/W Multi-Ethnic Literature and Culture of the United States (Revise level, title, description; add cross-listing; add CA1, TOI1, TOI3 to CA4)

8. Motion to revise (P. Bedore, L. Schlesselman) ENGL/NAIS 2608 Introduction to Indigenous Film (Adding NAIS cross-listing; Already approved for TOI2, TOI3)

*Current Course Description*

ENGL 2608. Introduction to Indigenous Film (3 Credits)

An introductory study of cinematic images of Indigenous peoples across historic, geographic, and generic categories. Particular attention will be paid to how cinema is an expression of Indigenous sovereignty and the ways colonialism shapes the film industry.

Enrollment requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011.

Content Area: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

*Revised Catalog Copy*

ENGL 2608. Introduction to Indigenous Film (3 Credits)

(Also offered as NAIS 2608.) An introductory study of cinematic images of Indigenous peoples across historic, geographic, and generic categories. Particular attention will be paid to how cinema is an expression of Indigenous sovereignty and the ways colonialism shapes the film industry.

Enrollment requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011.

Content Area: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

NAIS 2608. Introduction to Indigenous Film (3 Credits)

(Also offered as ENGL 2608.) An introductory study of cinematic images of Indigenous peoples across historic, geographic, and generic categories. Particular attention will be paid to how cinema is an expression of Indigenous sovereignty and the ways colonialism shapes the film industry.

Enrollment requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011.

Content Area: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

- No comments.

**Motion to revise ENGL/NAIS 2608 was approved unanimously.**

9. Motion to revise (P. Bedore, L. Schlesselman) ENGL/NAIS 3618 Indigenous Horror (Add NAIS cross-listing; Already approved for TOI2, TOI3)

*Current Course Description*

ENGL 3618. Indigenous Horror. (3 Credits)

Focused study of Indigenous representation in horror media from pre-contact to the present day. CA 4.

Enrollment Requirements: 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Recommended preparation: ENGL 2210 or ENGL 2608.

Content Areas: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

*Revised Catalog Copy*

ENGL 3618. Indigenous Horror. (3 Credits)

(Also offered as NAIS 3618.) Focused study of Indigenous representation in horror media from pre-contact to the present day.

Enrollment Requirements: 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Recommended preparation: ENGL 2210 or ENGL 2608.

Content Areas: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

NAIS 3618. Indigenous Horror. (3 Credits)

(Also offered as ENGL 3618.) Focused study of Indigenous representation in horror media from pre-contact to the present day.

Enrollment Requirements: 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Recommended preparation: ENGL 2210 or ENGL 2608.

Content Areas: CA4

Topics of Inquiry: TOI2, TOI3

- No comments.

**Motion to revise ENGL/NAIS 3618 was approved unanimously.**

10. HIST/AMST 2520 Connecticut: A History of the World Around Us (Revise level; Add AMST cross-listing; Add CA1, TOI2, TOI5)

11. POLS 2622 State and Local Government (Add CA2, TOI5)

12. Motion to revise (E. Lim, A. Perez-Meneses) GCSU (URBN) 2302W Qualitative Analysis of Urban Community Studies (Revise to add CA3, TOI-1, TOI-6, W)

*Current Course Description*

URBN 2302W. Qualitative Methods in Urban and Community Studies (3 Credits)

An introduction to qualitative methods used in urban social research. Interdisciplinary techniques for data collection and analysis, including visual and narrative analysis, participant observation, interviewing, and archival research.

Enrollment Requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011.

Skill Codes: W

*Revised Catalog Copy*

GSCU 2420W. Qualitative Methods in Urban and Community Studies (3 Credits)

An introduction to qualitative methods used in urban social research. Interdisciplinary techniques for data collection and analysis, including visual and narrative analysis, participant observation, interviewing, and archival research.

Enrollment Requirements: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011.

Content Areas: CA3

Topics of Inquiry: TOI1, TOI6

Skill Codes: W

- No comments.

**Motion to revise GCSU (URBN) 2302W was approved unanimously.**

C. Courses Offered in Intensive Session

Motion to offer (J. Kleinman, M. Hatfield) DMD/ARTH/AMST 3570 History and Theory of Digital Art (Intensive Session request; TOI1, TOI3)

- No comments.

**Motion to offer DMD 3570 was approved unanimously.**

## VI. Other Business

- A. Motion to renumber courses in the (A. Lozano-Robledo, M. Hatfield) ECON 'CONVOY' (Formerly a TRUCK)
- ECON 2301Q to 2901Q
  - ECON 2311Q to 2911Q
  - ECON 2312Q to 2912Q
  - ECON 2326 to 2926
  - ECON 2327 to 2927
- No comments.

**Motion to renumber ECON Convoy was approved unanimously.**

In Attendance (in bold): **Diego Valente** (Chair), **Pam Bedore**, **Kristin Bott**, Sally Chamberland, **John Chandy**, **John Cooley**, Amanda Crawford, **Sarah Croucher** (Ex-officio, non-voting), **Marc Hatfield**, **Jamie Kleinman**, **Edward Junhao Lim**, **Alvaro Lozano-Robledo**, Natalie Munro, Gustavo Nanclares, **Matt McKenzie**, **Dan Mercier**, **Julian Norato**, David Ouimette, **Andrea Perez-Meneses**, **Theodore Ramussen**, **Lauren Schlesselman** (Temporary sub), **Karen Skudlarek**, **Laura Wagner** (USG), Terra Zuidema (Registrar alternate)