

AUC Curriculum Committee

November 20, 2025 3:30pm-5pm
HAMM314

Remote attendance option:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ndp-mhxj-hxj>

Or dial: (US) +1 267-983-5588 PIN: 685 952 516#

Attendance

Present

Dr. Sara Levine – School of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Jannette McMenemy – School of Health and Natural Sciences

Barbara Cormier - Registrar's Office

Dr. Mary Ann Barbato, Mathematics

Dr. Karina Bautista – Humanities

Dr. Christine Dee – Economics, History, and Political Sciences

Dr. Christine Devine – Nursing

Dr. Elizabeth Gordon – Environmental, Geographic, and Public Health Sciences

Dr. Dustin Halterman – Education

Dr. Min Li – Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Yang Liu – Business Administration

Dr. Erin Rehrig – Biology and Chemistry

Olivia Rossetti – Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library

Dr. Hildur Schilling – Psychological Science

Dr. Heather Urbanski – English Studies

Dr. Sarah Wright – Mathematics

Dr. Hong Yu – Engineering Technology

Omar Elmi – Student Representative

Morgan Ruel – Student Representative

Alexis Sandmann - Student Representative

Absent

Dr. William Cortezia – Education

Dr. Natasha Kurtonina – Computer Science

Guests:

Dr. Paul Weizer, Economics, History and Political Science

Dr. Mahmoud Al-Odeh, School of Business and Technology
Dr. Nermin Bayazit, Mathematics

I: Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Olivia Rossetti at 3:45pm

II: Approval of Minutes

Motion: Hong Yu

Second: Liz Gordon

Discussion: none

Vote: 16/0/2

III: Old Business / Announcements

1. Reminders of AUC Procedures and Practices, and hybrid meeting etiquette
[Link to Google Drive of Proposals](#) for off-campus access.

Olivia reminded the committee to direct comments to the chairperson. If online, please use the raise your hand feature to be addressed, and to vote.

Olivia explained that after a review of Robert's rules, the guidelines state that committee members speak one time and then others will have the opportunity to speak, prior to having a second speaking opportunity.

IV: New Business

IV.1 [AUC #009: Delete HIST 2021 Reading Historical Landscapes](#)

Motion: Jeanette McMenemy

Second: Liz Gordon

Sponsor: Dr. Paul Weizer

Discussion: The deletion of HIST 2021 reflects the curricular needs of the program. Barbara Cormier identified the correct course number as HIST 2000, and proposed a friendly amendment:

Friendly amendment: The course number for the course being removed is HIST 2000.

Vote: 17/0/0

IV.2 [AUC #011: History 4+1 Option for BA/BS](#)

Motion: Jeanette McMenamy

Second: Liz Gordon

Sponsor: Dr. Paul Weizer

Discussion: Paul Weizer explained that with this proposal, a substitution of graduate courses for three undergraduate courses, opens a pathway for qualified undergraduate students to begin their graduate degree during their undergraduate matriculation through the History M.A. program.

Liz Gordon stated she is excited about this program, and proposed a broader question concerning the University policy for a 3.5 GPA for students to take graduate courses while undergraduate students (this policy requires a 3.0), and also questioned how course credits could be applied to both undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Paul Weizer responded that all programs have different policies and this needs to be reviewed University wide, adding that Becky Copper Glenz is familiar with this GPA request and acceptance of credits. Christine Dee offered that similar graduate programs at competing institutions accept undergraduate credits for their graduate programs. Sara Levine offered a point of clarification, stating the 3+3 is very different from a 4+1. Christine Dee explains that it would be rare for credits to not be accepted within the university (UG to graduate).

Barbara Cormier clarified that when students take graduate courses as part of the undergraduate degree, they also earn credits in the graduate program. Discussion ensued about earning 6 credits as an undergraduate student when enrolled in 6 credits of graduate studies, and how this will be recorded on a transcript.

Paul Weizer replied that in reality the UG are just taking a more rigorous curriculum, therefore aligning more with a 3+3 program. This will keep our students at Fitchburg State for graduate studies, rather than losing them to other universities.

Christine Dee recognized the graduate courses are more rigorous and faculty get 4 credits, Karina Batista spoke to UMASS credits, and

Erin Rehrig inquired about student payment for undergraduate credits (3 or 6) and Paul and Christine stated 3 credits.

Nermin Bayazut supports the program, especially for education programs, and the course sequence does not interfere with the Spring practicum course,

Barbara circled back to discuss why the 3+3 is different (compared to a student transferring in credits). The concern is the transcript will have 3 undergraduate credits and 3 Graduate credits. Paul clarifies that in this scenario, the student earns 3 undergraduate credits and 3 graduate credits for each course. The goal is to facilitate the transition to graduate school and to keep students at Fitchburg State University. Liz agrees that this is a good program, but wonders how we can approve this policy when this is opposed to the graduate GPA guidelines of the university. Christine Dee states that this has already gone through the Graduate Council. MaryAnn identified one spelling error on section #28.

Friendly amendment: Replace the word “lever” in section #28 to read “level”

Vote: 18/0/2

IV.3. [AUC #012: History 4+1 GPA Requirement for entry into 4+1 Pathway](#)

Motion: Hong Yu

Second: Jeanette McMenemy

Sponsor: Dr. Paul Weizer

Discussion: This proposal requires a 3.0 in the major for a student to register for HIST 7450 Historiography and a 3.0 in HIST 7450 to allow a student to register for HIST 7XXX and above history electives.

Paul Weizer presents that this GPA of 3.0 was approved by the Graduate Council.

MaryAnn Barbato asks about the stipulations for GPA of 3.0 of each course (pre-program enrollment) and Paul explained graduate students will be required to maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Min Li questions how many students earn a GPA of 3.0, and Christine Dee stated all secondary education students need to have a GPA of 3.0 to be in the field (student teaching).

Liz Gordon discussed the GPA requirement, asking the Deans to consider a consistent GPA for all graduate studies.

Sara Levine states she understands the 3.0 for these graduate students, and also supports the 3.5 for other graduate programs.

Jannette McMenemy states that these students are taking these graduate courses earlier in their program, and both Paul and Christine affirm that the students will be prepared for this advanced study. Advisors will review the candidates for this 4+1 program.

Vote: 19/0/1

IV.4. [AUC #013: Updates to the Pure Mathematics Concentration](#)

Motion: Jannette McMenemy

Second: Hong Yu

Sponsor: Dr. Peter Staab, Dr. Sarah Wright presenting

Discussion:

Sarah Wright explained that there were too many MATH courses when this concentration was designed, and this excess would require DHE approval as a new program.

Jannette McMenemy explained that the Math Department put many proposals through AUC during AY24/25. Anything above 30 credits needs to have DHE approval as a new program so pathways are discussed and the curriculum was reviewed. The concentration credits were discussed, students are required to select one course (rather than 2) from Section A.

The only reduction is 3 credits from the concentration to avoid going through DHE approval.

Line #24 should read 30 credits

Liz Gordon questions and Jannette clarifies that this keeps the concentration at 30 credits.

Jannette recommends that the concentration be limited to 30 credits.

Table AUC #13

IV.5. [AUC #014: Data Analytics Minor: add alternative course](#)

Motion: Liz Gordon

Second: Erin Rehrig

Sponsor: Dr. Jessie Oehrlein, Dr. Sarah Wright presenting

Discussion:

Sarah presented the rationale for the alternative course.

Vote: 20/0/0

IV.6 Re-consider AUC #013

Motion: Christine Dee

Second: Hong Yu

Sponsor: Dr. Peter Staab, Dr. Sarah Wright presenting

Jannette McMenemy explains that the 2 MATH courses from A and one additional in B=30 credits

The other non MATH courses do not count toward the 30 credits.

Friendly amendment:

On line #24 Total Core Math Credits in the Concentration = 30 (not 31)

Vote: 20/0/0

V: Items from the Floor

None

VI: Motion to Adjourn

Motion: Hong Yu

Second: Liz Gordon

Vote: 20/0/0

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Chrisy Devine