**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, March 4th, 2021, Remotely with Google Meet 3:30 – 5:00 pm**

**Present:** Laura Baker, Becky Copper Glenz, Petri Flint, Michael Hoberman, Megan Krell, Nancy Murray, Heather Ruland, Renee Scapparone, Robert Shapiro, Deborah Stone, Amy McGlothlin and Viera Lorencova

**Absent:** Soumitra Basu, and Brady Chen

**Guests:** Linda Dupell, Daneen Deptula and Richard Wiebe

**Proposals**

***GCE 20-21-20 Course Change COUN 8132 Psychopathology II - Psychological Science***

 **Motion to Review:** Deborah Stone

**Second:** Petri Flint

**Discussion:** Daneen Deptulapresented. Daneen indicated this was an oversite in the masters of counseling program curriculum that the department wanted to update. The program requires that non-degree seeking students cannot enroll in field-based experiences. These courses are reserved for students that have been admitted and enrolled in the program. This requirement however was never formally stated in the catalog. Also, the description of these courses in the catalog implies that a 50 hour field experience is a pre-requisite to the COUN 8132 so the department would like to update this to confirm that the 50 hour field based experience takes place within the course.

**Question**

*Is the syllabus required?* It was confirmed that a course syllabus is not required for this type of change as the content of the course is not changing.

**Motion to Approve:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Megan Krell
**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

 ***GCE 20-21-21 Policy Change Prerequisite 2.5 Minimum***

**Motion to Review:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Deborah Stone

**Discussion:** Daneen Deptula presented. This proposal was prompted by the recent Department of Elementary and Secondary Education review process in the School of Education as the Dean of Education asked if the School Counseling program had a 3.00 requirement for pre-requisite courses (a Developmental Psychology Course and a Statistics Course) and that would be accepted in the program and the department reported the requirement was currently set at a 1.7 GPA. The purpose of the perquisite GPA requirement is to confirm that students beginning the graduate program are prepared and have the foundation level knowledge needed to succeed. Daneen then did a review of application files over the last few years to see in there was a correlation between incoming GPA on pre-requisite courses and student completion rate. Daneen found that there was a correlation to student success and that students that had lower grades on pre-requisite courses. Daneen brought the data to the department’s graduate curriculum committee and after discussion and review, the committee decided to set the required prerequisite GPA at 2.5 moving forward in the next catalog year.

**Questions**

1. *In terms of the development psychology course, is there a list of courses that qualify?* Yes, and the department will take the highest grade earned if there are multiple courses to choose from that might fill the prerequisite.
2. *Are there other types of evidence required for applicants aside from the pre-requisite GPA that are used to help predict the success of an applicant?* Yes, a writing sample is required along with 3 letters of recommendations. (Completion of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited university and a resume are also required).

**Motion to Approve:** Becky Copper-Glenz

**Second:** Petri Flint
**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

 ***GCE 20-21-22 Policy Change COUN 7010 Counseling Theories and COUN 7030 Intro to Professional Counseling - Psychological Science***

**Motion to Review: Megan Krell**

**Second: Deborah Stone**

**Discussion:** Daneen Deptula Presented. The department does not accept transfer credit for COUN 7010 and COUN 7030 as they are considered foundational courses in the program by the department. They would like to formally add this to the catalog for clarity and transparency.

**Motion to Approve:**  Petri Flint

**Second:** Deborah Stone
**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

***GCE 20-21-23 New Course HIST9XXX The Civil Rights Movement - History***

**Motion to Review:** Deborah Stone

**Second:** Nancy Murray

**Discussion:** Presented by Laura Baker.Laura has taught this as a topics course and would like to add to the catalog and the rationale is it well suited for educators and will assist students in the program.

**Friendly Amendment** – The grading scale listed is the syllabi refers to the undergraduate scale. Laura will update the syllabi to replace this with the graduate syllabi.

**Motion to Approve:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Robert Shapiro

**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

[***GCE 20-21-24 New Course HIST9XXX Urban America - History***](https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/media/5397)

**Motion to Review:** Robert Shapiro

**Second:** Deborah Stone

**Discussion:** Presented by Laura Baker.Follows a traditional model of the history survey, which begins in colonial America and brings the discussion to the present moment. It is an interdisciplinary course between urban studies and urban history and models for students how to integrate literature, visual arts, conventional historical scholarship, maps, urban landscape etc. in a learning experience and is a great course for educations.

**Questions**

1. *Will all three courses will be offered once every 3 years. Is the hope that some students might be able to take all 3 courses?* No, it hadn’t been considered but is something that Laura will take back to the department to consider.
2. *Are there other readings/secondary scholarship journals that are not on the syllabus?* Yes, Laura is transitioning all of her courses to Open Educational Resources (OER) options or Copyright compliant use of published materials. This is the only course that still has students purchasing a hard copy textbooks.

**Note -** The department chair signature is missing. Becky confirmed that the department chair has approved and that she has the approval on record.

**Friendly Amendment** – The grading scale listed is the syllabi refers to the undergraduate scale. Laura will update the syllabi to replace this with the graduate syllabi.

**Motion to Approve:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Heather Ruland
**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

[***GCE 20-21-25 New Course HIST 8XXX Immigration and American identity - History***](https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/media/5396)

**Motion to Review:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Viera Lorencova

**Discussion:** Presented by Laura Baker. This course does not have any purchased texts. Sources used include published articles of work around digital representation of immigrant stories and Laura’s research and scholarship as a foundation for the course. There is a focus in the course of immigration and the city of Fitchburg and North Central MA making a connection between national patterns/narratives and local experiences. This is also a good course for teachers.

**Friendly Amendment** – The grading scale listed is the syllabi refers to the undergraduate scale. Laura will update the syllabi to replace this with the graduate syllabi.

**Motion to Approve:** Deborah Stone

**Second:** Petri Flint
**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

[***GCE 20-21-26 Grad Program Change Proposal SPED - Education***](https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/media/5394)

**Motion to Review:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Viera Lorencova

**Discussion:** Presented by Nancy Murray. This related to courses for the Wilson Reading System. Currently the catalog states that students can take Reading 8021 or READ 8050 however READ 8021 is no longer offered. We need to update the catalog to align with the current process.

**Motion to Approve:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Robert Shapiro
**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

[***GCE 20-21-27 Course Change CJ 8010 Leadership and Management - Criminal Justice***](https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/media/5390)

**Motion to Review:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Viera Lorencova

**Discussion:** Presented by Richard Wiebe. The department has changed the sequence of the graduate program and the academy. Originally the intention was for the academy to take place at the end of the master’s program, but then the department moved the academy to take place prior to the masters allowing students to work and complete their masters on a part-time basis with more flexibility. The graduate program no longer has any content required to participate in the police academy as this portion is completed prior to beginning the master’s program therefore they want to remove the current pre-requisite language for the master’s program.

**Questions**

1. *Do we have signatures for the department chair and dean?* The chair signatures are not listed. Becky confirmed that she has the electronic approval on file from the department chair.
2. *Do we need the syllabi?* It was confirmed that the syllabi will not be required for this proposal as the requested change does not relate to the content of the course.

**Note:** A motion was made to table this proposal and review at the April 1st meeting with a request to secure the department chair signatures and include copies of the syllabi. Once the above questions were addressed however, Member Megan Krell brought forth a motion to disregard the motion to table the proposal and the committee agreed to move forward with a vote.

**Motion to Approve:** Megan Krell

**Second:** Petri Flint

**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

[***GCE 20-21-28 Course Change CJ 8150 Advanced Policy Seminar - Criminal Justice***](https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/media/5391)

**Motion to Review:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Deborah Stone

**Discussion:** Presented by Richard Wiebe.This course requires 15 credits of coursework as a pre-requisite according the catalog, however, now that academy has been moved to take place prior to beginning the master’s program and no longer relates to this course, the department would like to remove the 15 credit prerequisite requirement.

**Motion to Approve:** Petri Flint

**Second:** Deborah Stone

**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

**Next meeting date: Thursday, April 1st, 2020, 3:30 – 5:00 pm (Proposals due by March 24th, 2021)**

**New Business:**

**Motion to Adjourn –** Petri Flint

**Seconded-** Amy McGlothlin

**Adjournment**: 4:17 PM