

AUC Curriculum Committee Minutes

Thursday Dec. 20, 2018

Hammond 314

Attendees: Franca Barricelli, Nermin Bayazit, Catherine Buell, Andrew Chan, William Cortezia, Rala Diakite, Linda Dupell (ex-officio), Adem Elveren, Steven Fiedler, Timothy Hilliard, Margaret Hoey, Nirajan Mani, Pamela McCafferty, Sherry Packard, Daniel Sarefield, J.J. Sylvia, Wafa Unus, Keith Williamson, Britt Snyder.

Absent: Theresa Dzierwinski, Cheryl Goldman, Shaughn O'Holloran, Tianna McToggart

Guests: Keith Chenot, Nadimpali Mahadev, Wayne Whitfield, Hong Yu, Elise Takehana, Lisa Gim, DeMisty Bellinger- Delfield, Abdel Mustafa, Soumitra Basu, Jim Alicata, Pam M. Randall Grometstein

Meeting called to order at 3:30 PM

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of Nov. 15 with no amendments - Dan Sarefield, second Nirajan Mani
Approved, 14-0-1

II. New Business

A. Announcements of upcoming LAS forums. Chairperson Catherine Buell notified the council that the AUC curriculum committee would be reserving a meeting on the revised LAS program that will be proposed to governance in the Spring. She asked committee members to save the date of Thursday 3/7 for said meeting.

B. Motion to end meeting at 4:30, because of Work to Rule: by Rala Diakité, second Dan Sarefield.
Vote: 14-3-0

C. AUC proposals to consider

1. **AUC # 3 - New Course "Vertebrate Anatomy"**

Sponsor: Tom Schoenfeld

Motion to consider AUC #3, by Will Cortezia, second Pam McCafferty.

Discussion: Sponsor explains that this course is intended as an elective for bio majors. It approaches biology, as biologists do, from a comparative standpoint. We don't have many courses of this type, so it is a good addition to electives.

Friendly Amendments (if any): Change department chair name on proposal to Mel Govindan.

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC#3 with Friendly Amendments: 17- 0- 1

2. AUC # 9 “Changes to Computer Science Major Requirements”

Sponsor: Nadimpali Mahadev

Motion to consider AUC #9, by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit

Discussion: The sponsor explains that the intention is to remove three courses and add two courses, so as to create flexibility for students. The proposal would remove PHYS 2300 and 2400 (4 cr. each) as well as the advanced math elective. It would add one lab course in science (4 cr.), and one Computer Science elective. This is in response to ABET accreditor requirements.

Concern that ABET requires 15 credits of math, including discrete math, which have rigor at or above the level of Calculus. Some committee questioned whether the proposed changes would satisfy the ABET requirements, in particular since Business Stats may not be sufficiently rigorous. Sponsor did not accept a friendly amendment to add back the upper level math course or to change the course so that there were 12 credits at the rigor of Calculus or higher. Sponsor believes that the original changes should go forward, if ABET is not satisfied, requirements may be revised again.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC#9: 8-1-9

3. AUC # 10 - “Eliminate CJ 3135 Advanced Research Methods as a Requirement for Criminal Justice Majors”

Sponsor: Randall Grometstein

Motion to consider AUC #10 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: The sponsor relates that a while back, the Criminal Justice program faculty felt the need to add a third course to its research sequence. Today they are pleased with the level of student skills. For this reason, they wish to reduce the number of required research courses from both traditional and police tracks. Eliminating this requirement, together with one other consolidation that is being proposed concurrently, will reduce the total number of credits required for the traditional CJ major from 48 to 42, and for the undergraduate portion of the Police Concentration program from 79 to 73.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC#10: 18-0-0

4. AUC # 11 “Expanding flexibility of Math Requirement for Criminal Justice Majors.”

Sponsor: Randall Grometstein

Motion to consider AUC #11 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: The Criminal Justice Major currently requires MATH 1700 Applied Statistics. This proposal changes this to “any college math or Quantitative Reasoning course”. This affords more choice for students.

In part because we have found that MATH 1100, has been a very positive experience for our students, helping them to reason mathematically. Committee members asked if lacking the preparation of a statistics course would affect student performance in research courses, and if so, can statistics skills be sufficiently taught within the research courses themselves? Embedding stats in these courses – is this workable for their profession or for graduate school? There was also concern about decreased rigor of the CJ program, through the removal of one research course (AUC#10), and then the relaxing of the math requirement. Sponsor responded that some students will still choose to take statistics. The department believes students can be successful without the stats course. CJ is the only major in behavioral sciences that currently requires Math 1700.

Friendly Amendment: In the proposal summary, add: “Remove MATH 1700 as a prereq for CJ 3140.”

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC#11, with Friendly Amendments: 15-2-1

5. AUC #12 New Course: Foundations of Professional Writing

Sponsor: Elise Takehana

Motion to consider AUC #12 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: The English department will be making nine proposals in all, which were crafted in response to a recent program review and an internal review of programs and courses. This course will be helpful for assessment. It is an Introduction to the concentration, a gateway to the study of writing.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #12: 18-0-0

6. AUC #13 - New Course: Style Studio

Sponsor: Elise Takehana

Motion to consider AUC #13 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: This course has been taught twice successfully as a topics course. Further courses were needed in the professional writing concentration for seniors. This is one of few courses that looks at sentence level style. Students will experiment with multiple styles.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #13: 18-0-0

7. AUC #14 – New Course: News Reporting and Writing

Sponsor: Wafa Unus

Motion to consider AUC #14 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: This introductory course teaches students how to research and write news content. It is an elective for the professional writing concentration. There is no existing course of this nature.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #14 - 18-0-0

8. AUC #15 - Changing Description of ENGL/COMM 2800 (Journalism)

Sponsor: Wafa Unus

Motion to consider AUC #15 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: This proposal makes changes to the course description so that it better matches the title of the course.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #15: 18-0-0

9. AUC #16 – Changes to course ENG 3500 Creative Writing

Sponsor: DeMisty Bellinger-Delfield

Motion to consider AUC #16 by Will Cortezia, second Keith Williamson.

Discussion: These changes will create a better sequencing among the creative writing offerings.

Friendly Amendment: Section V. “New number given is equivalent of ENG 3500.”

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC#16 with Friendly Amendments: 18-0-0

10. AUC #17 – Change description and add prerequisite courses to ENG 3830 College Newspaper production.

Sponsor: Wafa Unus

Motion to consider AUC #17 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit

Discussion: The purpose of the proposal is to add a prerequisite to the College Newspaper Production class (in which students produce *The Point*), so students have the necessary skills.

Friendly Amendment: In part VIII, “proposed change” section, add HON 1200 after ENG 1200.

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #17 with Friendly Amendment: 18-0-0

11. AUC #18 Changes to course ENG 3840: Online Magazine

Sponsor: Elise Takehana

Motion to consider AUC #18 by Will Cortezia, second Keith Williamson.

Discussion: This proposal adds prerequisites, in order to provide experience for this production level course.

Friendly Amendments (if any): none

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #18: 18-0-0

12. AUC #19 – Change course number, description, and add prerequisites to ENG 2810 Editing and Publishing

Sponsor: Wafa Unus

Motion to consider AUC #19 by Will Cortezia, second Nermin Bayazit.

Discussion: This is a production level course, so the proposal moves it up to the 3000-level, adding prerequisites, and revising the description.

Friendly Amendment: Add language in Section V, at the end. “Whatever new number is assigned will be equivalent to its previous course number.”

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #19 with Friendly Amendment: 18-0-0

13. AUC #20 Restructuring the Professional Writing Concentration in the English Studies Major.

Sponsor: English department faculty

Motion to consider AUC #20 by Will Cortezia, second Keith Williamson.

Discussion: This proposal changes the curricular structure of professional writing concentration, improving sequencing and making it more flexible. The concentration has added new courses in past years, and has five new faculty members who have contributed their expertise to these proposed changes. There is increased curricular space for internships.

The English department has removed several courses over the years and will remove two more in future.

Friendly Amendments: On the four-year plan, freshman year Fall semester, it should read “Math at or above the 1100 level or equivalent.” (Change 1200 to 1100)

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC#20 with Friendly Amendments: 18-0-0

14. AUC #23 New Course: Water and Wastewater treatment

Sponsor: Abdel Mustafa

Motion to consider AUC #23 by Will Cortezia, second Keith Williamson.

Discussion: The Water and Wastewater Treatment course is an advanced civil engineering technology course where students apply analysis and design concepts learned in junior and sophomore years.

Committee members wondered about staffing of the course, and were told that any of the engineering faculty members could teach it. Committee members noted the Course justification was rather concise and wished for elaboration on how the course fit into the broader curriculum and department goals.

Friendly Amendments: Add Dr. Nirajan Mani to Item 8 (list of instructors able to teach this course). In Item 14. In Prerequisites, edit to include corrected name of fluid dynamics course. The course is Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics not Thermodynamics and Fluid Mechanics as listed.

Vote to Recommend Approval of AUC #23 with Friendly Amendments: 17-0-0

15. Motion to adjourn (4:40 pm), by Rala Diakite, second: Steve Fiedler

Vote: 13-3-1

16. Closing comments: Catherine Buell thanked committee members.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rala I. Diakité