

Undergraduate Committee Meeting
Minutes
April 26, 2019
9:00am-11:00am

Present UCC Members in Edinburg: Clara Downey, Margaret Graham, Jonathan Guist, Carlton Nelson, Jeannean Ryman, Hsuying Ward

Absent UCC Members: Timothy Brush, SJ Kumar, Jaime Mancha

Present Office of Academic and Institutional Excellence (OAIE): Laura Saenz, Associate VP, and Rosa Peña

A. CALL TO ORDER @ 9:03am

B. REVIEW OF MINUTES – March 22, 2019 Meeting

Approval of Minutes: Motion to Approve: Graham; 2nd: Ward Approved: Unanimous

C. REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS

a. College of Sciences

1. Chemistry

- **Department Representative:** Hassan Ahmad
- **Add Course:** CHEM 4316
 - Course has been offered multiple times as a special topic with high enrollment and high student evaluations. Department wishes to add this to the catalog rather than continuing as a special topics course.
 - **Motion to Approve:**
 - 1st: Graham; 2nd: Nelson; Unanimous Approval
- **Delete Course:** CHEM 3120
 - No longer needed by the program
- **Revise Course:** CHEM 4306, CHEM 4308, CHEM 4309, CHEM 4314, CHEM 4315
 - Department wishes to remove repeatable option so that students will take a wider variety of courses. Department will alert students that have already taken one of these courses, and are registered for one again in Fall 19, that this change is occurring and that they will not be able to receive additional credit. They will be advised to switch to a different course that will qualify for credit instead.
- **Revise Course:** CHEM 3320
 - No longer required by Nutritional Science but course will be revised so students in Sciences can take as an elective – Content not changed – Description changed to indicate availability as an elective.
 - **Motion to Approve:** (Revise Courses and Delete Course voted as a group)
 - 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

2. Earth, Environmental, and Marine Sciences

- **Department Representative: Chris Gabler**
- **Add Course:** SAFS 1101, SAFS 1103, SAFS 1115, SAFS 1129, SAFS 1301, SAFS 1303, SAFS 1329, SAFS 1315, SAFS 4306
 - Intro level courses and corresponding labs for the new Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems bachelors program
 - There was a particular need for introductory level courses in this area. There are already upper level courses so these fill the gap.
 - Labs are designed to stand alone and do not require concurrent enrollment. This will also help in developing pipeline and dual credit programs with high schools in the area.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Ryman; 2nd: Nelson; Unanimous Approval
- **Add Course:** ENVR 3311
 - Department Representative: Amit Raysoni
 - Introduction to Air Pollution Sciences – department has other courses on water pollution, soil pollution, etc but no courses on air pollution which is clearly a very important aspect of environmental sciences. Helps to round out the program offerings.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval
- **Add Course:** GEOL 1345
 - Department Representative: Cheryl Harrison
 - New General Ed Course – standard offering at most universities across the country
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval
- **Revise Course:** GEOL 3405
 - Department Representative Ruben Mazarie
 - Change prerequisites from GEOL 1403 and either GEOL 1404 or BIOL 1406 to GEOL 1403 or GEOL 1404 or MARS 2310. This will still provide students with an appropriate background for the course and will also attract students from MARS in addition to GEOL
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Nelson; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval
- **Add Course:** MARS 4333
 - Department Representative: David Hicks
 - Elective in the Marine Biology Program to capitalize on the large diversity of expertise in the faculty. Focuses on the process of marine conservation.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

3. Mathematical and Statistical Science

- **Revise Course:** STAT 2336
 - Department Representative: Santanu Chakraborty
 - Adding additional basic statistics options as prereq choice to be taken along with CSCI 1380. STAT 2331 is being dropped as a prerequisite.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

b. College of Business and Entrepreneurship

1. Blanket Substitutions for all Business Degrees

- QUMT substituted for QUMT 3341
 - Department Representative: Laura Hernandez; Maggie Vasquez
 - Course was listed as QUMT 3343 on UTPA legacy degree plans. Students on UTRGV degree plans that took this course at UTPA can substitute it for QUMT 3341 which is the requirement listed on UTRGV degree plan. Prerequisites listed on degree plan with C or better must be met. Substitutions will be processed manually upon application for graduation. Applies to all UTRGV catalogs.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Nelson; 2nd: Graham
- MATH courses substituted for QUMT 2341
 - Allows MATH 1342, MATH 1460, MATH 1470, MATH 2401, QUMT 2342 to be substituted for QUMT 2341 with grade of “C” or better
 - Must also take QUMT 3343 with “C” or better before the above substitution can be applied. This requirement already exists but the “C” or better stipulation is being added.
 - For questions about this substitution, Dr. Matthews in COBE is the best direct contact for the registrar’s office.
 - Dr. Saenz and Rosa Peña will meet with COBE to map this out clearly and put this in writing so it is absolutely clear how this will be applied.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Ward; 2nd: Ryman; Unanimous Approval
- International Business courses substituted for International Business Requirement
 - INTB 3350, ACCT 4355 will be allowed to meet the International business requirement of the Advanced Business Core. Manual substitution upon or before graduation review. These courses are replacements for the previously offered ACCT 3350.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

c. College of Education and P-16 Integration

1. Human Development and School Services

- **Revise Course:** ECEC 3307
 - Department Representative: John Lowdermilk
 - Changing only Prefix. ECEC were all changed to ECED last year. ECEC was overlooked so this is just clean-up.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Nelson; 2nd: Graham; Unanimous Approval
- **Revise Program:** Minor in Early Care and Early Childhood Studies
 - Program is being revised to reflect the above Pre-fix change which has been a source of great confusion. Courses no longer offered are being removed. Additional courses are either being modified or renamed and program revision will reflect these changes.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Ryman; 2nd: Ward: Unanimous Approval

2. Bilingual and Literacy Studies

- **Revise Course:** READ 4344

- No department representative present but Dr. Saenz explained the revision
- This course is required for the ELA/R 7-12 Certification Program but the listed pre-req is not a requirement so the pre-req is being removed so that students do not take an unnecessary course.
- **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Nelson; Unanimous Approval

d. College of Fine Arts

1. Music

- Department Representative: Jason Mitchell
- **Revise Course:** MUAP 4291
 - Revising the prerequisites so the Music Technology minors can take course
- **Delete Course:** MUEN 3137
 - Removing course as part of the technical review because it has never been offered
- **Add Program:** Minor in Music Technology
 - Presented again with corrected hours – 17 SCH. No policy regarding min/max hours for a minor so this can be approved.
- All music agenda items voted on as a group
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Ward; 2nd: Graham; Unanimous Approval

2. Art

- Department Representative: Donald Lyles
- **Add Course:** ARTS 3322
- **Revise Course:** ARTS 2316, ARTS 3321, ARTS 4321
 - Adding ARTS 3322 for non-degree seeking students and revising ARTS 2316, 3321, 4321 to create a more robust program and introduce a developmental arc to the program. The program has grown to the point where it needs this.
 - ARTS 3321 – not changing schedule type. Only changing Prerequisite/Topic Variation/Repeat. Clarification provided on how many total credits it can be repeated for – 9 total credits allowed.
 - ARTS 4321 – same changes as 3321, however this can be repeated for a total of 12 credits.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval
- In addition, Dr. Lyles requested an update on the Course Description change requested and approved by committee last year for drawing course. Description change not appearing in Assist. Rosa Peña will check on this.

e. College of Liberal Arts

1. Criminal Justice

- No department representative. Presented to committee by Dr. Saenz
- **Blanket Substitution**
 - CRIJ 1310 from STC substituted for CRIJ 3310
- **Blanket Waivers**
 - Waiver of advanced-level hours in the major and overall for UTRGV and UTPA legacy degree plans

- Allows 1310 to be used for 1310 and waives the 3 advanced credit hours that would have been earned via taking 3310. This is only being applied to Spring 2019 & Summer 2019 graduates to account for an error in application of transfer credit from STC. Once these students are processed through this substitution will no longer apply for any future students.
- Also noted that this course is one that needs to be looked at to determine why we are offering this as an upper division course when most courses offer this as a lower division
- **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

2. Writing and Language Studies

- Department Representative: Jim Frost
- **Add Program:** Minor in Professional Writing
 - Adding minor to reflect a need in the job market. Would be reflected on student's transcript giving them additional qualifications to fill this need.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Nelson; 2nd: Graham; Unanimous Approval

3. Philosophy

- Department Representative: Greg Gilson; Marianna Alessandri
- **Revise Course:** RELS 2352, RELS 2354, RELS 2356, RELS 3307
 - Converting these courses from lower division to upper division. More appropriate for course content. More likely that courses will fill. Course description also being revised to indicate that these are not introductory level.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Nelson; Unanimous Approval
- **Add Course:** PHIL 1304, PHIL 3307, PHIL 3353, PHIL 3354, PHIL 3356, RELS 3301, RELS 4350, RELS 4399
 - Creating Philosophy versions of Religious Studies and vice/versa in some cases. These courses are appropriate in both subject areas and are more likely to fill if cross-listed as PHIL (there are more PHIL majors)
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ryman; Unanimous Approval
- **Revise Program:** Minor in Religious Studies
 - Revise program to reflect the course revisions and additions addressed above. In addition, students will be given a choice between PHIL 1304 & PHIL 2351 to meet one of the core requirements. Also, the following courses will be deleted as elective options: PHIL 3303, PHIL 3304. Not enough inherent religious studies content in these courses to justify them as options in Religious Studies minor.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Nelson; 2nd: Graham; Unanimous Approval

f. College of Engineering and Computer Science

1. Computer Science

- Department Representative: Andres Figueroa
- **Blanket Waivers for BSCS in Computer Science**
 - 2015 Degree plan – Category 090
 - 2016 Degree plan – Category 090
 - 2018 Degree plan – Technical Electives

- These waivers correct an error from the transition. Degree plans in 2015 & 2016 state that students must take an extra humanities class in 090. The rest of the degree plan already covers 090. DegreeWorks was crediting this but an update to DegreeWorks this year is creating an issue here and students are not being credited with meeting this requirement.
- 2018-19 Degree Plan is all correct. These waivers only address earlier UTRGV degree plans
- **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

2. Civil Engineering

- Department Representative: Thuy Vu
- **Revise Course:** CIVE 4335
 - Removing the corequisite from this course because one of the corequisite courses was moved from a required course to an elective so can no longer be listed as corequisite.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Ward; 2nd: Nelson; Unanimous Approval

g. College of Health Professions

1. Health and Human Performance

- Department Representative: Lin Wang
- **Blanket Waiver:** 2011-2013 BS in Kinesiology with Health Education Minor
 - For non-certified Kinesiology majors with Health Ed minors on the 2011-13 catalog. These catalogs require 2.5 GPA for the Health minor. DegreeWorks is not recognizing this requirement so it is showing insufficient for graduation. Asking for waiver to be approved so that legacy students can be accommodated for graduation.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ryman; Unanimous Approval

2. Communication Disorders

- Department Representative: Rosemary Landa
- **Revise Course:** ASLI 3325, ASLI 3330, ASLI 3335, ASLI 3340, ASLI 3345, ASLI 4315, ASLI 4330, ASLI 4335
 - Changes in prerequisite to accommodate new admission requirements outlined in Program Revision below.
- **Revise Program:** BS in American Sign Language Interpretation
 - Admission and graduation requirements are being revised.
 - Admission Requirements: Students can apply to program after completing 45 hours toward degree. Those 45 hours must include ASLI 1310; 1320; 2310 all with grade "C" or better. Students must complete 60 hours to be officially admitted with minimum GPA of 2.8. ASLI 3310 may be in progress at the time of application but must be completed with "C" or better before admittance to program.
 - Graduation Requirements: Must complete all ASLI courses with a grade of "C" or better and all concentration courses with a "C" or better.

- **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Ward; Unanimous Approval

h. School of Nursing

- Department Representative: Judy Voss; Betty Jong
- **Delete Course:** NURS 2301
 - The course content is included in another course
- **Revise Course:** NURS 3306
 - Adding corequisites with minimum grade of “C” and changing course numbering to reflect proper course sequencing.
 - **Motion to Approve** (Delete & Revise voted together): 1st: Ward; 2nd: Nelson; Unanimous Approval
- 1. **Add Course:** NURS 3101, NURS 3105, NURS 3202, NURS 3203, NURS 3212, NURS 3303, NURS 3304, NURS 3305, NURS 3311, NURS 3312, NURS 3411, NURS 4101, NURS 4102, NURS 4201, NURS 4202, NURS 4203, NURS 4301, NURS 4304, NURS 4305, NURS 4306, NURS 4307, NURS 4401
- 2. **Revise Program:** BSN in Nursing
 - Added courses and program revisions reflect an effort to update the program to the current standard and prepare students for new licensing exam
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Graham; 2nd: Nelson; Approved

i. Undergraduate Curriculum Policies

1. Degree Plan Template
2. Curriculum definitions
 - All programs of study have gone through a technical review. In doing that work, it was clear that there were not standardized definitions/terminology being used in the same way across all degree plans. A degree plan template was created to standardize definitions/terminology.
 - **Motion to Approve:** 1st: Ward; 2nd: Ryman; Unanimous Approval

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. College of Liberal Arts feedback on Language Proficiency Requirement

- Sheila Dooley presented to the committee an update on the ongoing discussion surrounding the current Language Proficiency graduation requirement for all degree plans. Only 20% of students actually meet this requirement by taking courses. Most test out or come in with transferred credits. Dr. McHatton stated at Town Hall that this is a compliance issue to require 6hrs above the 120 hours for the degree. Faculty are confused as to why this is now a compliance issue when we have been doing this for 3 years now. Suggested to include this in the Core but THECB has not allowed this. Primary issue as presented by Dr. Dooley is that if UTRGV is going to be a global university and stay true to its mission, this is something that we need to have. Discussion will be continued.

b. Summer Meetings

- Any routine items that come up over the summer can be handled electronically rather than holding meetings through the summer.

c. Committee Retirements

- Timothy Brush, Clara Downey, Margaret Graham are retiring from the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee at end of current academic year. Thank you to all for their service.

E. MEETING ADJOURNED @ 11:45AM