

COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM
16 April 2012
Meeting Minutes

Present: Douglas Daley, Janine DeBaise, Jo Anne Ellis, John Hassett, Whitney Marshall, Shijie Liu, William Smith, John Wagner, Christopher Whipp

Others in Attendance: Susan Anagnost, Kelley Donaghy, Benette Whitmore

Ex-officio: S. Shannon, S. Vandeburg

The meeting came to order at 10:32 AM

Approval of previous meeting minutes from March 19, 2012.

- ES Curriculum Proposal for adjustments to the Communication, Culture and Writing option within the Environmental Studies degree tabled from March meeting. All revisions were made according to the notes. D. Daley Moved, J. Ellis seconded. Does not need to go to Faculty Governance. Approved.
- Construction Management - Curriculum Proposal to modify 2012-13 Construction Management Curriculum. The proposal does not need to be approved by Faculty Governance because it is a course sequence change, not a program change. Catalog revisions go to S. Shannon and S. Vandeburg.
- ERE 339 Fluid Mechanics – There was discussion regarding the learning outcomes, and it was suggested that one of the learning outcomes (4) be reworded as “understand” is not a measureable outcome. The word “understand” is part of Bloom’s Taxonomy. According to Bloom’s, it means: “Comprehending the meaning, translation, interpolation, and interpretation of instructions and problems.” No other substantive comments were made. D. Daley will keep original wording. The course proposal was approved by CoC.
- ERE 405/ERE 605 Sustainable Engineering – Shared resources courses. J. Hassett moved to reject based on similar outcomes. There needs to be different learning outcomes for graduate-level courses as there are higher expectations. Also need higher level of synthesis. A question was raised whether it is being taught at a 600 level. What about making it a 500 level course instead? If it is changed to a 500 level course then undergraduate students need permission from the instructor to take. W. Marshall indicated graduate students don’t have enough 600 level courses as is so this should not be changed to a 500 level. D. Daley requested comments be synthesized and sent to S. Diemont/J. Im. D. Daley withdrew ERE 405/ERE 605 for revisions. Revisions have since been made and the courses are up for review at the 5/18/2012 meeting.

- ERE 425/ ERE 625 Ecosystem Restoration Design – These two shared resources courses have the same “learning outcomes” concerns as ERE 405/605. The learning outcomes for ERE 625 need to be raised. The proposals make no mention of the requirement for hard hats, steel toed boots, etc. It was discussed that a template be created that would include a list of all of the necessary equipment students need for going into the field. SUNY policies for study abroad include all the health and safety issues required. It was noted that Carolyn Salter needs a list of all the required items for students studying abroad. Send all comments/questions to S. Diemont and J. Im. Courses tabled until revisions could be made. Revisions have since been made and the courses are up for review at the 5/18/2012 meeting.
- ERE 440 Water Pollution Engineering –J. Wagner moved to approve. All were in favor. ERE 440 was Approved by CoC.
- ERE 475/ERE 675 Ecological - Engineering II - Another shared resources course with similar learning outcomes. The learning outcomes on the 600 level course need to be different. It was noted that there are other courses on the books that have fallen into the same situations that have been approved this year. J. Hassett will mention at Faculty Governance. Also, the catalog descriptions cannot be identical for 400/600 level courses. Title clarification needed whether it should be “Ecological Engineering for Water Quality Improvement” or “Ecological Engineering II” as it was listed both ways in the proposal. These were tabled for revisions. Revisions, including name change, have been made and the courses are up for review at the 5/18/2012 meeting

Note: The policy listed in the catalog on “Shared Resource Courses” is conflicting. That policy needs to be clarified. Issue to be taken up at a future meeting.

- ERE 489 Environmental Resources Engineering Planning and Design – All were in favor. CoC Approved.
- ERE Catalog changes BS in Environmental Resources Engineering - change from “Free Elective” to “Elective” in Senior Year of the ERE. Recommended to Faculty Governance. Approved by Faculty Governance 5/2/2012.
- Changes to M.P.S., M.S., and Ph.D. Environmental Resources Engineering – proposal adds six new options to the graduate programs, removes one M.P.S. option, and clarifies the language in the Catalog related to the graduate programs in ERE. Recommend to faculty governance. Approved by CoC. Approved by Faculty Governance 5/2/2012.
- ES - Certificate of Graduate Study in Environmental Decision Making – Recommended to Faculty Governance for vote. Approved by Faculty Governance 5/2/2012.
- Natural Resources Management - Curriculum Proposal—The Gen Ed. requirements are not clear. The proposal needs to show how all the Gen Ed courses are covered..

The current proposal has all but about 6 credits explicitly tied to a course. Remove “The Arts” as a Gen Ed requirement.” Need to be sure all the Gen Eds are explicitly covered. J. Wagner will address the wording changes expressed by S. Sanford. The math requirement needs to be changed. The co-requisite for FCH 150 is APM104, thus by only requiring APM103, it will not satisfy the co-requisite for FCH150 for the NRM students. It was also noted if APM103 is used to satisfy the math requirement, it means both the AAS and the BS students now have the same requirement. APM 103/104 co-req. AS/BS math requirement the same. Tabled until end of the week pending revision. CoC to vote electronically before the May 2 Faculty Governance meeting. With revisions made, CoC voted to recommend to Faculty Governance. Approved by Faculty Governance on 5/2/2012.

- FOR 205 Principles of Accounting required course – approved by CoC.
- APM 307 Multivariable Calculus - geometry of three dimensions, parametric curves, partial derivatives, the gradient, optimization in several variables, multiple integration with change of variables across different coordinate systems, line integrals, and add “understand” Green's Theorem. Outcome is not to “introduce,” it is to “explain.” Tabled for revisions.
- FOR 322 Natural Resources Measurements and Sampling – approved by CoC.
- FOR 340/FOR 540 Watershed Hydrology – shared resources courses – should list pre-requisite. Course descriptions are identical. Tabled for additional information. Revisions have since been made and the courses are up for review at the 5/18/2012 meeting .
- Withdrawal Grade Policy – **Week 4:** After the **last day to add** (as per the academic calendar), students may drop a course without record of registration, until the end of the 4th week of classes. Students who withdraw from a course after the last day of the **4th week and by the last day of the 9th week** will receive a W (Withdraw) grade on his or her permanent transcript, and the student will remain on the course roster. The W grade will not affect the GPA, and is not replaceable with an R grade. Students who withdraw from a course after the last day of the **9th week and by the last day of the 14th week** will receive a W or a WF (withdraw failing) at the discretion of the instructor, and the student will remain on the course roster. The WF grade will not count in the student’s GPA. W and WF grades are not be replaceable with an R grade. The W (when assigned after the last day of the 9th week) and WF grade will be assigned by the instructor at the end of the semester. The default grade will be a “W.” This is a very lenient policy. Currently it’s difficult to drop beyond the 9th week. This policy will apply to both graduate and undergraduate students. Students won’t get the free ride up to the 9th week, but there is little consequence if they drop beyond the 9th week. Motion by J. Wagner, 2nd by D. Daley to recommend to the Faculty Governance. Approved by Faculty Governance on 5/2/2012.

- Course Prefixes, Naming, and Numbering Policy – someone has to own the prefix. Needs to be overseen by department or division. Assignment of prefixes is decided by Faculty Governance CoC . Need to add a sentence after the bullets. All proposals for new course prefixes should be submitted to Faculty Governance for approval. Add another sentence under last bullet. Proposals for new prefixes must be submitted by the department or division. Forward to Faculty Governance after S. Shannon to makes revisions. Approved by Faculty Governance on 5/2/2012.
- SCME Course Proposals: MCR 484/785, MCR 485/685, MCR 570, MCR 682, MCR 683, MCR 783, MCR 685 were approved by COC with new prefix of “MCR.”
- Timely Feedback of Student Work - A minimum level of performance is expected regarding student feedback on assignments, exams, projects, and theses. Having a policy in place will give a benchmark. After making minor changes to couple of timelines, it was agreed to send to Faculty Governance for approval. The policy was approved by Faculty Governance on 5/2/2012.
- EST 296 as a Gen. Ed. Course - The CoC voted unanimously to treat EST 296 - American History: From Discovery to Civil War as a general education course as it complies with the SUNY general education guidelines and may be listed as meeting the ESF American History general education requirement for the summer, 2012 session.

Administrative approvals – posted on website as approved.

Administrative Approvals:

- GPES Area of Study Name Change (ESRM to CNHS)

CoC will ask Faculty Governance for authority in making decisions on curriculum proposals received on or before 4/16/2012 in the last meeting of the semester as it will be after the last Faculty Governance meeting. . Faculty Governance approved of giving CoC authority for making the final decisions on curriculum proposals reviewed at the 5/18/2012 CoC meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.