

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I = Information Item¹ R = Advise & Respond²

Course Number _____ or Degree Plan(s) _____

State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

The Department of Communication and Sociology requests the following changes be made to Communication courses and degree plans (see attached memo and supporting documents).

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

		COUNCIL'								
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A		I			I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A		I			I	I
3.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A		I			A	A
4.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A		A			A	A
5.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I		I			I	I
6.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A		A			A	A
7.	Prerequisites	A	A	A		I			I	I
8.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A		--			A	I
9.	From U to G or G to U	A	A	A		A			A	A
10.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A		A			A	A
11.	Department of record	A	A	A		A			A	A
12.	Open or close a course	A	A	A		A			A	A
13.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s)	A	A	A		A			A	A

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature of the issue.

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		COUNCIL ¹							Board of Trustees
		Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	
Change to a Degree Plan									
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	--
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	A
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	A
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A		A		A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A		A		A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A		A		A	A
8.	Major — Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A		A		A	A
9.	Major — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)				See below.				
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A		A		A	A
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A		I		I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A		A		A	--
13.	Minor — Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A		A		A	--
14.	Minor — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)				See below.				
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A		A		A	A
16.	Degree — Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A		A		A	A
17.	Degree — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)				See below.				
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A		A		A	--

		COUNCIL ¹							Board of Trustees
		Provost	Department	Dean	TEC	UUAC	Graduate	Faculty	
Provost-Proposed Change									
1.	Major/Graduate Program — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R		A		A	A
2.	Minor — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R		A		--	A
3.	Degree — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R		A		A	A

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COUNCIL ³										
	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
5.	Other academic policy changes	--	--	--		A		A	--	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about "Information" items. These items are approved as "Consent Agenda."

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost's recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU's University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and "not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession" (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

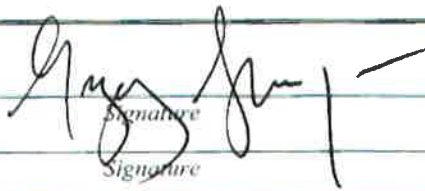
⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that "general requirements for graduation" means the enumerated items in the "General Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees" section of the catalog.

Revised 10-16-13

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)	
 Signature	<u>18 March 2015</u> Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

College Academic Council(s)	
 Signature	<u>3-20-15</u> Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Dean(s)	
 Signature	<u>3/23/15</u> Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Teacher Education Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

General Education Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Undergraduate Academic Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Graduate Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Provost	
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Faculty	
_____ Chair of faculty senate	_____ Approval date

President	
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Department of Communication and Sociology Requested Changes Memo

The Department of Communication and Sociology requests the following changes be made to courses and degree plans in Communication.

Change to a Course

Course Description Changes

1. Change prefix for all courses, both graduate and undergraduate, from COMS to COMM.
2. COMS 236 General Communication Theory: Change course description to clarify.
Content of course remains the same:
COMS 236 General Communication Theory (3-0-3), spring. ~~Introduces results of communication research dealing with intrapersonal, interpersonal, organizational, small group, and intercultural communication as well as source, message, and receiver variables. Introduces students to the essential features of current communication theories dealing with interpersonal, organizational, small group, public, intercultural, and gender, to establish a framework that will provide a context for each theory and show interrelationships among them.~~
3. COMS 331 Small Group Communication: Change semester offered from Fall to Spring to allow for other changes to occur in course sequencing.
4. COMS 345/545 Intercultural Communication: Change offering from Fall, Summer to Fall, Spring, Summer to allow for student demand.
5. COMS 375/575 Persuasion: Change the semester offered from Fall to Spring to allow for other changes to occur in course sequencing.
6. COMS 430: Conflict Management. Change offering to fall, spring, summer to allow for student demand.
7. COMS 436/536: Nonverbal Communication. Change offering to spring, summer to allow for student demand.
8. COMS 450/550: Gender Communication. Change course description to the following.
Content of course remains the same:
COMS 450 Gender Communication (3-0-3), spring. ~~Explores the role of gender in communication processes. Communication differences between men and women in contexts of family, school, and work organizations; the influence of media in gender stereotypes. Graduate students will design and conduct research to examine various questions/hypotheses. Explores the role of gender in communication processes including both physical and psychological dimensions. Topics include sex roles, perceived/actual differences in verbal/nonverbal communication behaviors, influence of gender in contexts such as family, school, and work organizations, and a discussion of media influence in creating/maintaining gender stereotypes. Prerequisite: advanced standing.~~
9. COMS 483 Advanced Public Speaking. Change offering to fall only to allow for student demand.
10. COMS 491 Rhetorical Theory. Change to offering spring each year and delete "odd years" to allow for student demand.
11. COMS 631 Leading Organizational Change. Change semester offered from fall to "spring" and course description to the following because the Heritage Institute training

was a certificate that was to be offered through the Conflict Resolution Department but was never implemented.

COMS 631 Leading Organizational Change (3-0-3), fall-spring only. This course introduces students to the concept of the learning organization, equipping them with skills to create educational strategies for organizational change, and preparing them to reflect ethically on the implications of organizational change. This course is specifically aimed toward meeting the professional and continuing education needs of certified wealth counselors who completed the Heritage Institute training.

12. COMS 641 Seminar in Interpersonal Communication. Change to "on demand" to allow for student demand.
13. COMS 683 Cultural Case Studies. Change to "on demand" to allow for student demand.
14. COMS 686 Communication Consulting and Assessment. Change to "on demand" to allow for student demand.
15. COMS 687 Principles of Rhetorical Criticism. Change to spring to accommodate other scheduling changes.

Change to Course Description & Content

COMS 408/508 Crisis Management in Organizations: Course objectives and description have been revised (see COMS 408 and 508 requested changes document for rationale and old/revised course objectives). Delete "even years" because this course is offered every year and change semester offered from Spring to Fall to allow for research projects to more easily be submitted and presented to our national conference and the ACU Undergraduate Research Festival.

COMS 408/508 Crisis Management in Organizations (3-0-3), spring-fall, even years.

Examines the theory and practice of crisis management in organizations communication strategies in corporate and legal advocacy processes from both social science and rhetorical perspectives. Legal advocacy emphasizes attorney courtroom communication and juror decision making, while corporate advocacy emphasizes crisis communication and reputational management in organizations. Using a case study approach and best practices for crisis management, students explore how to use communication to prevent, mitigate, and learn from crises in a way that benefits both organizations and stakeholders.

Form:

Form:

Change to Course Description and/or Prerequisites

1. COMS 222 Discussion, Dissent and Debate: Add to description "Prerequisite: COMS 211 or permission of instructor"
2. COMS 384 Interview Communication: Change semester offered from Spring to Fall to allow for students to more easily apply for summer internships. Add to description "Prerequisite: COMS 211."

Remove Cross Listing

COMS 620 Quantitative Methods. Remove cross listing with COMP 620. This course used to be shared. However, it is now taught separately by each department in a more discipline-specific manner (see email from Dr. Baggs agreeing to removal of cross listing).

Close courses

1. COMS 286 Speech Activities in Elementary School. This is no longer required by education department and is no longer taught.
2. COMS 407 Communication in Society. This course is being reconceptualized as COMS 392 Rhetoric of Pop Culture and is being brought through councils as a new course.

3. COMS 576 Family Communication. This is no longer taught as a graduate course.
4. COMS 591 Rhetorical Theory. This is no longer taught as a graduate course.

New Course

392 Rhetoric of Pop Culture and is being brought through councils (see attached documents).

Degree plan changes

General education requirements

The department is clarifying the wording of some of its course competencies for COMS 211 and adding two competencies related to global and civic engagement (see COMS 211 competencies attachment). Eric Gumm requested that 211 be put on the general education chart to fulfill the civic engagement objective (see attached email). Both global and civic engagement competencies simply codify what we have been doing in the course since its inception. However, competencies were simply not articulated.

Revision of undergraduate majors (B.S. and B.A.)

1. Add the following courses to the major requirements of the communication core in degree plans. These changes improve departmental outcomes, giving students skills necessary for employment (COMS 343, 384) and enhancing research literacy and skills (COMS 392):
 - a. COMS 343 Business and Professional Communication
 - b. COMS 384 Interview Communication
 - c. COMS 392 Rhetoric in Pop Culture. This is a new course that was taught as special topics course in Fall 2014.
2. Remove COMS 407 Communication in Society. This course is being reconceptualized as COMS 392 Rhetoric of Pop Culture and will be brought through councils as a new course.
3. Change the names of areas of emphasis (see degree plans). These changes clarify the content of the emphases.
4. Add courses to and remove courses from areas of emphasis (see degree plans). These changes reflect moving some courses from areas of emphasis into the communication core and adding courses to provide students with needed knowledge/skills in these areas of emphasis.
5. The addition of hours to degree plans decreases the number of electives in the undergraduate degree plans.

Revision of Graduate Degree

1. Add COMS 621 Qualitative Research Methods to the core of required courses. Making this course required rather than recommended will enhance research literacy and skills. Note that this increases the number of hours in the communication core and reduces the number of hours in the concentration (see graduate degree plan).
2. Remove the following courses as they are being closed:
 - a. COMS 576 Family Communication. This is no longer taught as a graduate course.
 - b. COMS 591 Rhetorical Theory. This is no longer taught as a graduate course.
3. Add COMS 631 Leading Organizational Change into the relevant areas of concentration in the graduate degree (see graduate degree plan).

Requirements for the MA in communication are:

1. Communication core, 41/2 hours

COMS 620 Quantitative Methods

~~COMS 621 Qualitative Research Methods~~

COMS 636 Seminar in Communication Theory

COMS 687 Principles of Rhetorical Criticism

+ 2. Selection, 24 1/2 hours:

(Students may choose to select courses in one or two areas of concentration. 12-15 1/2 hours is required for each concentration. 6 hours of thesis may be taken as part of concentrations a-c. Courses from other departments must be approved by the graduate advisor.)

a. Organizational communication emphasis:

~~COMS 508 Crisis Communication~~ Crisis Management in Organizations

COMS 521 Leadership and Communication

COMS 543 Business and Professional Communication

COMS 583 Communication in Multi-National Organizations

COMS 585 Organizational Communication

COMS 586 Training and Development

COMS 631 Leading Organizational Change

~~COMS 642 Seminar in Communication-Interviewing~~

COMS 685 Seminar in Organizational Communication

COMS 686 Communication Consulting and Assessment

b. Interpersonal/intercultural communication emphasis:

COMS 536 Nonverbal Communication

COMS 545 Intercultural Communication

COMS 550 Gender Communication

~~COMS 576 Family Communication~~

COMS 583 Communication in Multi-National Organizations

COMS 641 Seminar in Interpersonal Communication

COMS 675 Seminar: Persuasion and Social Change

COMS 683 Cultural Case Studies

c. Persuasion and public advocacy emphasis:

~~COMS 508 Crisis Communication~~ Crisis Management in Organizations

COMS 515 Political Communication

COMS 521 Leadership and Communication

COMS 575 Persuasion and Attitude Change

~~COMS 604 Rhetorical Theory~~

COMS 631 Leading Organizational Change

COMS 675 Seminar: Persuasion and Social Change

2. Comprehensive exam or thesis defense

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Terry Baggs

4:17 PM (14 minutes ago)

Lynette

We would support that change in the evolution of programs/departments and curricula. This change is reasonable.

Terry

On Wed, Feb 25, 2015 at 2:51 PM, Lynette Sharp Penya <lpnya@acu.edu> wrote:
Terry,

The Department of Communication and Sociology would like to remove the cross listing for COMS 620 with COMS 620. I propose including the following rationale. Please let me know what you think of this statement as I would like to include an email in my documentation to councils of mutual support from both departments to remove this cross listing.

I COMS 620 Quantitative Methods. Remove cross listing with COMS 620. This course used to be shared. However, it is now taught separately by each department in a more discipline-specific manner.

Thanks

Lynette

On Wed, Feb 25, 2015 at 2:51 PM, Lynette Sharp Penya <lpnya@acu.edu> wrote:
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Thanks
Lynette