

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

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

Course Number _____ or Degree Plan(s) Information Technology (IT)

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

We request that the Information Technology degree be closed and removed from the 2018-19 catalog. This decision was approved unanimously by vote of all SITC faculty on Wednesday, January 17.

We have announced this decision to all current IT majors, in meetings on January 25 & 26. The letter given to each of the students during these meetings is attached to this form. All current IT majors will be able (if they choose) to complete the IT degree with minimal course substitutions, although after May 2019 the upper-level elective options will narrow. A sample plan for an anonymized freshman IT major is also attached, built by the course advisor; this is not meant to be prescriptive, but to demonstrate the viability of finishing the IT degree, even for current freshmen.

Our motivation and goal in closing the degree plan is explained in the letter. An attached graph shows the low trending enrollment for the IT degree, with some information about recent class sizes. We must choose carefully how to best allocate our limited resources; as the IT and Information Systems (IS) degrees look increasingly similar, we decided to invest in one (not two) degree plans that explore the convergence of business and technology. We believe fully that the IS degree, supported by both SITC and Management Sciences, will support future students who may have been interested in IT and provide the best available opportunity for enrollment growth.

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

		COUNCIL ³							
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	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.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I			I	I
4.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I			A	A
5.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A			A	A
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I			I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A			A	A
8.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I			I	I
9.	Course fee(s)	A	-	A	-			A	I
10.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A			A	A
11.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A			A	A
12.	Department of record	A	A	A	A			A	A
13.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A			A	A
14.	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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	Change to a Degree Plan	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	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	A	--
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	--	--	A				A	--	A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
8.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
9.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A	I				I	--	I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
13.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
14.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
16.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
17.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--

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

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COUNCIL³

	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 3-8-17

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)	
<u>John Hower</u>	<u>2.01.18</u>
Signature	Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

College Academic Council(s)	
<u>David Perkins</u>	<u>2-2-18</u>
Signature	Approval date
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Dean(s)	
<u>Brad Carr</u>	<u>2/2/18</u>
Signature	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

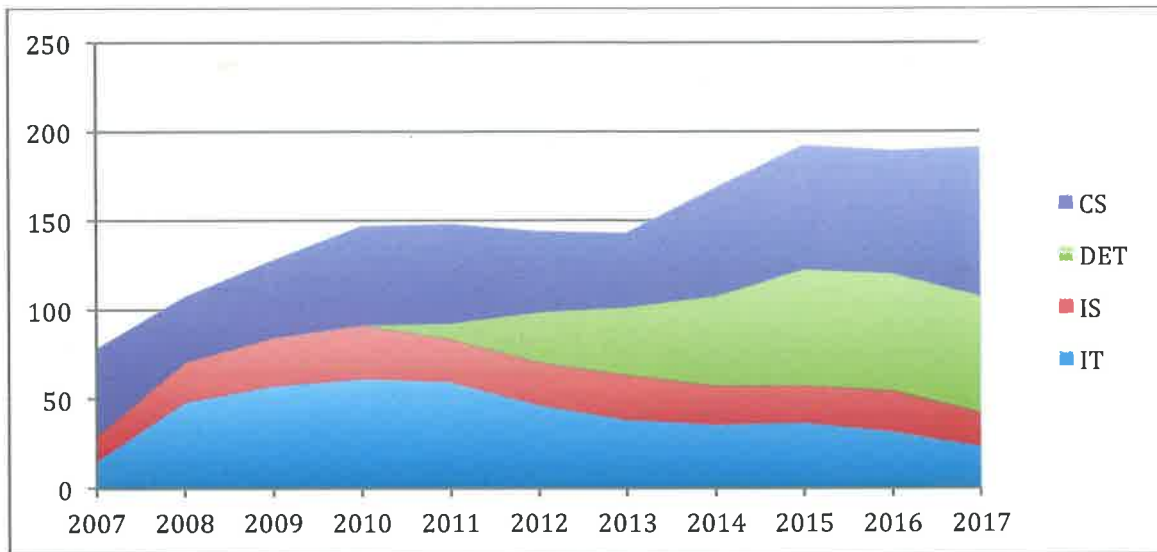
Graduate Council	
_____ Chair's signature	_____ Approval date

Provost	
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

Faculty	
_____ Chair of faculty senate	_____ Approval date

President	
_____ Signature	_____ Approval date

School of Information Technology & Computing Enrollment 2007-2017



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
CS	49	37	44	56	56	46	42	61	70	69	84
DET	--	--	--	--	9	28	38	50	65	66	65
IS	14	22	27	30	24	24	25	22	21	23	19
IT	15	48	57	61	59	46	38	35	36	31	23

**Sample four-year plan, based on a current (anonymized) freshman IT major,
to complete the IT degree with a Business & Technology concentration
and also complete a Business minor (as many IT students do)**

Notes: *this student transferred in 6 credit hours – ENGL 112, HIST 117. Fall 2017 shows completed courses; Spring 2018 shows current courses.*

Fall 2017

- BIBL 101
- CORE 110
- CS 115
- ENGL 111
- ITC 110

Spring 2018

- AENV 130 (Science)
- BIBL 102
- CS 116
- IT 220
- MATH 109

Summer 2018

- BIBL 211
- Sophomore English

Fall 2018

- IT 221
- IT 225
- ECON 261
- MATH 124
- BUSA 120

Spring 2019

- IT 410
- IT 325
- Science
- MATH 130
- ECON 260

Fall 2019

- IT 310
- IS 322
- Cultural Awareness
- IS 324
- Elective (open)

Spring 2020

- IS 405
- CS 330
- COMM 211
- Advanced Bible
- MATH 131

Summer 2020

- ITC 499 – Internship

Fall 2020

- IS 415
- IS 432
- CS 315
- ITC 460 (capstone/WI)
- PEAC

Spring 2021

- Elective (open)
- CS 316
- Advanced Bible
- PEAC

IT Major Selection

Advanced CS / IT: CS 315; CS 316; IT 325
CS, IT, DET, IS, ITC: IS 324; CS 330
 (or other alternatives are available)

Business and Technology Support Area

BUSA 120
 ECON 260
 IS 324

Business Minor

BUSA 120
 ECON 260
 IS 324

ECON 261

IS 405

IS 322

January 26, 2018

Dear STUDENT_NAME,

We have seen in recent years an increasing convergence in business and technology. Ten years ago, our Information Technology (IT) degree plan and our Information Systems (IS) degree plan were clearly distinguishable. Since that time, however, ACU has made curriculum changes to reflect ongoing changes in workplace practices that move these two degree plans increasingly toward a shared focus. Working with the college dean and selected faculty from the department of Management Sciences, we have decided to merge these two majors into one program. This action is advantageous because it will consolidate two majors with lower enrollment patterns into one larger program. We believe that this action will better focus our resources toward supporting and equipping our current and future students and continuing our established trend of strong student outcomes.

Toward that goal, the faculty of the School of Information Technology and Computing (SITC) have agreed unanimously to recommend closure of the IT degree plan and removing it from the university 2018-19 catalog, which will prevent new students from entering under the IT degree plan in fall 2018. This decision by SITC faculty will be submitted for consideration by appropriate college and university committees next month. We are communicating this decision to current IT majors now with an assurance that we are fully committed to supporting you in your continuing work at ACU.

Any current IT major, such as yourself, will have the opportunity to complete the requirements and graduate with a degree in Information Technology. Some current upper-level IS or IT courses, however, may be discontinued over the next few semesters, as we merge these two degree plans and build shared courses. For current juniors and seniors, you will likely see little or no difference in course offerings before you graduate. For current freshmen and sophomores, if you continue in the IT degree, you will find that some upper-level courses will not be available and may require course substitutions from related fields, such as IS, Computer Science, or Management. Your advisor is working closely with SITC faculty to identify these substitutions to best advise your course selections.

Some of you, especially freshmen or sophomores, may elect to change your major. We encourage you to consider a change to Information Systems, in which you will be instructed and supported by both business and computing faculty. Some of you may wish to consider a change to another SITC major, such as Digital Entertainment Technology or Computer Science. Attached to this letter, you will see individualized plans that show what courses you would still require after a change to any of these majors. We encourage you to discuss these possibilities with SITC faculty and at your advising appointment this spring.

We understand that this change will feel sudden or surprising to you; it's a lot to take in. Please know that careful consideration and much discussion has gone into making this decision. We believe that this action will facilitate the best possible outcomes for current and future students. We are committed to helping and supporting you in your efforts, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

John Homer, Ph.D., SITC director

Mary Beth Cuevas, M.Ed., Advisor