

University Undergraduate Academic Council
April 6, 2022
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Adams Center Classroom

Present: K. Witemeyer, J. Smith, D. Mayhall, A. Sutherlin, S. Martinez, J.D. Wallace, D. Kneip, M. Long

Absent: G. Broderick, K. Cha, R. Jessup

Ex-officios: B. Fang, E. Gumm, S. Jones (L. Merchant was absent)

Guests: L. Sharp-Penya, R. Brown, J. Drachenberg, C. Riley, D. Kennamer, R. Morgan, D. McGregor, R. Green

The meeting began at 3:35 p.m.

1. Call to order by J. Smith.
2. Prayer by J. Smith.
3. Approval of the minutes from 3.2.22

With no amendments or corrections requested, minutes were accepted as approved.

Information Items

4. COMM 225 – Revise to be Majors Only
5. COMM 231 – Revise Course Terms
6. COMM 322 - Revise Course Terms
7. COMM 461 – Revise Course Terms
8. COMS Minor – Revise Course Selection
9. ENGR 217 – Revise Prerequisites
10. PHYS 110 – Add PHYS 111 as Corequisite
11. PHYS 112 – Add PHYS 113 as Corequisite
12. PHYS 453 – Revise Title, Description, Prerequisites, and Course Terms
13. GLST Minor – Replace HIST 370 with HIST 270
14. LATS Minor – Replace HIST 370 with HIST 270

15. NUTR 423 – Remove NUTR 222 Prerequisite
16. NUTR 426 – Remove NUTR 222 Prerequisite
17. Legal Studies Minor – Add PLAW 301

Action Items

18. CHEM 393 – Change Variable Credit from 1-3 hours to 0-3 hours

A Sutherlin - This is our faculty-mentored research course. We want to offer this for zero hours as well as for credit because students who are doing research but not taking the course are not well-tracked. A zero-hour option will allow students who don't have room in their block to take the research course without having to pay tuition. It will also show on the transcript. The zero-hour students will not have to write the paper that is required for those taking it for credit. D. Kneip - Are there students getting paid for research? A. Sutherlin - There is a stipend for the students whether they take it for credit or not. S. Jones - Is it repeatable? A. Sutherlin - Yes. J. Smith - How does this help you track faculty involvement? A. Sutherlin - We can generate a report that shows each faculty member and the students enrolled in their sections. We will rework the syllabus to include the different requirements for the zero-hour version.

Motion to approve by D. Mayhall; seconded by D. Kneip; all in favor; motion passes.

19. COMM 412 – New Course – Risk Communication

L. Sharp-Penya - Risk Communication is an exciting addition for us since we have a new faculty member with this specialty. This fits well alongside our crisis communication and health communication courses. Students will learn to apply the risk concept in many different contexts. We ran a pilot this semester. There will be a graduate-level version of this course as well. J. Smith - The intent is to offer this as an option for your students, not a requirement? L. Sharp-Penya - Yes, this will be added to the career options menu. D. Kneip - Is this a new area in your field? L. Sharp-Penya - It is a fairly well-developed area, but we didn't have faculty that could teach it before. Our faculty member has worked in the nuclear power industry, and there is a great deal of need for risk communication in that kind of setting.

20. COMM 392 – Change Number to 492, Revise Description/Content, Add Capstone Element

L. Sharp-Penya - We have developed a philosophy in our department that we want our independent research courses to be at the 400-level. This also fits the capstone research requirement, so we would like to use this to fulfill that learning outcome for capstone since it has a substantial paper. J. Smith - There is no substantive change to the course itself, correct? L. Sharp-Penya - Yes.

21. COMM 499 – Revise Capstone Content

L. Sharp-Penya - We would like to lighten the capstone load on this course, and since the research paper element of the new 492 addresses that component, we would like to move that capstone piece to 492. Both courses are required for the major.

Motion to approve items 19-21 by D. Kneip; seconded by J. Wallace; all in favor; motion passes.

22. BA COMS-COCN – Add COMM 412

L. Sharp-Penya - We want to add the new course to each of our tracks.

23. BA COMS-COS – Add COMM 412

See discussion above.

24. BA COMS-COPA – Add COMM 412, Change Track Name to Persuasion and Advocacy

L. Sharp-Penya - We would like to change the name because we believe it will aid in marketing the program to students and parents. Persuasion is a broader term that is easier to understand.

25. BS COMS-COCN – Add Comm 412

See discussion above.

26. BS COMS-COS – Add COMM 412

See discussion above.

27. BS COMS-COPA – Add COMM 412, Change Track Name to Persuasion and Advocacy

See discussion above.

Motion to approve items 22-27 by A. Sutherlin; seconded by D. Kneip; all in favor; motion passes.

28. PHYS 451 – Change Number to 351, Revise Title, Description, and Prerequisites

J. Drachenberg - This course is about 20 years old. We need to make some updates to make sure it reflects current terminology in the discipline. We also want to make it more

accessible to our engineering students. Making it 300-level as well as offering a prerequisite option that engineering students take will make it viable. All students would be required to take MATH 186 as a prerequisite, then they can have either CS 120 or ENGR 117 for the second prerequisite. J. Smith - Any change in student workload? J. Drachenberg - It remains similar. It might adjust slightly based on opening it up to engineering students, but it still remains true to upper-level courses. We are focused more on practical aspects and less with theory.

Motion to approve by J. Wallace; seconded by A. Sutherlin; all in favor; motion passes.

29. BSE All Tracks – Revise Math/Science Selection Menu

R. Brown - The root problem is that ABET does not like us to have engineering courses in our Math/Science menu. As our program has grown, we've cross-listed some courses as ENGR courses. Now we need to remove them from this menu. J. Smith - This will keep electrical engineering students from double-dipping. E. Gumm - This is adding to exclusions that already exist, so it should not create new confusion.

Motion to approve by J. Wallace; seconded by D. Mayhall; all in favor; motion passes.

30. COMP – Add PHYS 111 to Science Menu

J. Drachenberg - This brings us in line with Biology and Chemistry with corequisite labs. It matches the industry standard. J. Smith - Communication Sciences and Disorders have a menu of options that included PHYS 110, but PHYS 111 was not listed. Now that PHYS 111 is becoming a corequisite, we need to add it into the menu. The menu was already set to 3 or 4 hours, so it doesn't require a change to the overall degree hours.

Motion to approve by A. Sutherlin; seconded by D. Mayhall; all in favor; motion passes.

31. PLAW 301 – New Course – Legal Studies Externship

C. Riley - This course came about as a result of the experiential learning process. We envision an externship for students with alumni host sites to provide shadowing experiences. In a legal environment, there is not much our students can do in an internship situation since they don't have a law degree yet. An externship allows them to have relationships and shadowing experiences in the workplace. We set up these relationships one-on-one based on student interest. Sometimes students have people in mind already. J. Wallace - Can this be done virtually? C. Riley - It is possible, yes. The idea is to be on-site, however, so they can attend hearings, etc. A. Sutherlin - How many students? C. Riley - Right now we have about 12 students in the minor.

32. PLAW 320 – New Course – LSAT Preparation

C. Riley - This is a copy of what Cynthia Powell did with their MCAT prep course. The fee will go directly to Kaplan.

Motion to approve items 31-32 by D. Mayhall; seconded by A. Sutherlin; all in favor; motion passes.

33. HIST 370 – Change Number to HIST 270

R. Morgan - We created this course a couple years ago. With the changes coming to our general education, it would allow us to market this to the main student population. It is also an entry point for the Latin American Studies minor. J. Smith - Is there a change in the student workload? R. Morgan - At the 300-level, we require a book review. That is not done at the 200-level. That is the primary difference.

Motion to approve by D. Kneip; seconded by D. Mayhall; all in favor; motion passes.

34. BA HST – Add HIST 270 to Lower-Level Requirements

R. Morgan - This is just incorporating the change of the new course number.

35. BA HIST-PUBL – Add HIST 270 to Lower-Level Requirements

See discussion above.

36. HSTT – Remove HIST 370 from Non-Western History Menu

R. Morgan - The courses in those menus need to be upper-level. And since it is no longer an upper-level course, it no longer fits there. D. Kennamer - Those menus are designed for higher-level thought that comes with upper-level courses.

37. HSST – Remove HIST 370 from Non-Western History Menu

See discussion above.

38. BA GLST – Add HIST 270 to Global Selections Menus

See discussion above.

Motion to approve items 34-38 by D. Mayhall; seconded by M. Long; all in favor; motion passes.

39. Art Therapy – New Program Application

D. McGregor - We've had an art therapy minor on the books for quite some time. The majority of the students interested in that minor tend to be psychology students. To be accredited as an art therapist, you must have a master's degree. But any undergrad degree going into grad school is fine as long as you have the prerequisites. We wanted to open this up for art students interested in delving deeper into studio art courses. This program doesn't require new courses or new faculty.

J. Smith - We want to look at new programs from an institutional perspective as well. I want to ask about the rigor of the program compared to other programs at the university as well as the mission fit of the program to the university.

J. Wallace - How many students in the minor? D. McGregor - At least six. J. Wallace - Are you trying to steal psychology students? D. McGregor - We see this as a potential recruiting option. We have only found one undergraduate program in Art Therapy in Texas. For prospective students interested in this field, we will have a way to bring them in. Having it as a listed major in our materials will help us recruit. We developed this program with Psychology, so we still have a robust curriculum. We are hoping to bring new students in instead of moving them over from Psychology. The helping nature of the profession is attractive to students of faith. It fits the mission that way. R. Green - There are graduate programs that emphasize different aspects. Some are art-heavy. Others are psychology-heavy. I think our art students are looking for ways to put their gifts into service to others. This is a way we can help them do this. Putting art into action in the community. J. Smith - Thinking about marketing, there is an option for competitive advantage. But there also might be an issue with lack of audience, too. As we start a new program, we should remember that there is no requirement for a new program to be large.

D. McGregor - We will make it very clear to students that they will need to pursue becoming a therapist, even if they are not titled Art Therapist. However they practice therapy, they can utilize art in their practice. We want to be very explicit that they will need to pursue a graduate degree in order to practice the discipline. M. Long - Does the curriculum allow students to go to graduate school with the coursework they are taking? D. McGregor - Yes. D. Kneip - Can a student with this major earn a Psychology minor? E. Gumm - Technically, yes. A student would have to declare it. And there are currently 11 students in the minor. About half are psychology. A. Sutherlin - How does this compare to the BFA? D. McGregor - This program will have fewer studio classes.

J. Smith - We have the "Pre-" language for several programs here at ACU (pre-occupational therapy, pre-vet, etc.). D. McGregor - We initially planned to do "Pre-Art Therapy" but when we went to college council, the discussion turned to calling it "Art-Therapy." We had a departmental meeting and took a vote. We did some benchmarking and found that most undergrad programs are calling it Art-Therapy. We think it will benefit our students to remove the "pre." We revised the catalog language to emphasize the need for a graduate degree.

S. Martinez - It would be nice if there was at least one course that could blend the two fields together. J. Smith - It might be something to consider as far as developing new courses to fit with this degree down the road. D. McGregor - Our benchmarking schools don't have that, but I could see an intro to the major type of course. D. Kneip - There could be cocurricular things that could happen, too, like retreats. D. Mayhall - I've seen how well art therapy works with children, and I see that as a great mission fit. D. Kneip - I also like the community aspect of using gifts to give back.

Motion to approve by A. Sutherlin ; seconded by D. Kneip; all in favor; motion passes.

Meeting ended at 5:00 p.m.