

Abilene Undergraduate Academic Council
February 19, 2025
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Adams Center Classroom

Present: K. Witemeyer, W. Crawford, B. Burton, R. Ashlock, T. Sensing, R. Brown, J. Drachenberg

Absent: R. Slaymaker, T. Womble

Ex-officios: A. Sutherlin, E. Gumm, S. Hamm (C. Riley was absent)

Guests: S. Jones, D. Kennamer, J. Ehrke, K. Pybus, P. Vardiman

The meeting began at 3:33 p.m.

1. Call to order by W. Crawford.
2. Prayer by D. Kennamer.
3. Approval of the minutes from 11.6.24

Motion to approve minutes by J. Drachenberg; seconded by R. Ashlock; 4 in favor; 1 abstention motion passes.

Information Items

4. JMC 492 – Change Course Terms
5. ACCT 324 – Change Prerequisites
6. FIN 412 – Change Prerequisites
7. MGMT 439 – Change Prerequisites
8. CS 116 – Change Prerequisites

Note: On 4/16/25 it was decided to cancel this prerequisite change due to the unfavorable impact on shared course CSO 116 in Dallas.

9. BIOL/BIOO 291 - Change Course Content
10. BIOL/BIOO 292 - Change Course Content

W. Crawford – I have a question about the language “examine” in the SLO's. It might not be the best choice. It's hard to measure.

11. BIOL/BIOO 293 - Change Course Content
12. BIOL/BIOO 294 - Change Course Content

Action Items

(Items 13-17 were previously approved by AUAC but revised at the provost's request.)

13. DET 380 – New Course – Game Engines II (Revised SLO's)

B. Burton - The provost asked for some additional detail, and we added that.

Motion to approve by B. Burton; seconded by R. Brown; all in favor; motion passes.

14. DET 460 – New Course – Game Production Studio (Revised SLO's)

See above.

Motion to approve by R. Ashlock; seconded by R. Brown; all in favor; motion passes.

15. DET 465 – New Course – Virtual Production Studio (Revised SLO's)

See above.

Motion to approve by J. Drachenberg; seconded by R. Ashlock; all in favor; motion passes.

16. DET-GD – Revise Degree Plan (Expanded Rationale for Removing ITC 499)

B. Burton - ITC 499 is still there, it is just in a menu instead of a separate requirement.

Motion to approve by B. Burton; seconded by J. Drachenberg; all in favor; motion passes.

17. DET-VP – Revise Degree Plan (Expanded Rationale for Removing ITC 49)

See above.

Motion to approve by R. Brown; seconded by J. Drachenberg; all in favor; motion passes.

18. CS-CT – Revise Degree Plan

B. Burton - Very minor changes. We are changing the electrical engineering class to reflect the updated subject code of ECEN and adding PHYS 453 along with ECEN electives into the menu.

Motion to approve by R. Brown; seconded by B. Burton; all in favor; motion passes.

19. CS-GD – Revise Degree Plan

Same as above.

Motion to approve by R. Ashlock; seconded by J. Drachenberg; all in favor; motion passes.

20. CS-SE – Revise Degree Plan

Same as above.

Motion to approve by J. Drachenberg; seconded by B. Burton; all in favor; motion passes.

21. JAPR – Remove SOCI 111 & Replace BUSA 419 with MKTG 388

K. Pybus - This recognizes changes going on in Communication and Sociology. Psychology really is a better fit for our majors. We would like to steer our students toward that option. Jennifer Golden's Digital Marketing course is such a good fit for our majors, that we would like to include that in our degree plan. COBA is in support of that. W. Crawford - Is SOCI 111 and PSYC 120 part of a menu? K. Pybus - No. That is a separate requirement.

Motion to approve by B. Burton; seconded by J. Drachenberg; all in favor; motion passes.

22. BUSA 311 – New Course – Global Business Foundations

P. Vardiman - BUSA 311 and 312 are both 1.5 hour courses that go together. The 312 course takes place in study abroad in working with an international client. These two courses work together to fulfill the same requirement as BUSA 419. E. Gumm - Both courses have to be taken together to fulfill the requirement. W. Crawford - The rationale sounds like the Finance and Accounting majors could not participate in a trip. Does this make it easier for those majors to take the requirement? I'm unclear on why that was included in the rationale. P. Vardiman - I'm not sure. This would be an option to take in place of existing International Business courses. E. Gumm - If a student takes BUSA 311 without 312, they can get elective credit for those 1.5 hours but it would not fulfill the international requirement.

R. Ashlock - The learning outcomes have some wording issues. It's not very concise. How do you define a "better understanding"? How will you measure if it got better? What is meant by "diagnose"? Some of the verbs might need to be changed. Perhaps verbs like "reflect" or "critique." W. Crawford - I think these are appropriate questions. R. Ashlock - The outcomes are the course, so I think they should be sharpened. S. Jones – In the measurement sections, #2 mentions analyze, #3 mentions assess - those are better words. B. Burton - The same questions exist on BUSA 312. R. Ashlock - I would prefer that we vote on this after revisions are made.

23. BUSA 312 – New Course – Global Business in Action

See above.

Motion to table items 22 & 23 by R. Ashlock; seconded by B. Burton; all in favor; motion passes.

24. BUSA 419 – Change Number to BUSA 319

P. Vardiman - Both BUSA and MKTG 419 are changing to 319 to allow more flexibility for students. We want to encourage students to participate in study abroad. The course does not need to be a 400-level course. The students are typically juniors when they take the course.

Motion to approve by B. Burton; seconded by R. Brown; all in favor; motion passes.

25. MKTG 419 – Change Number to MKTG 319

See above.

Motion to approve by R. Brown; seconded by R. Ashlock; all in favor; motion passes.

26. MATH 287 – Close Course

J. Ehrke - We have reviewed our course catalog and compared it to what we are actually doing, thinking of how it would appear to incoming and first-year students. After doing that review, we noticed several courses that we are not currently offering. We wanted to move them to “on demand” but I was told that we couldn’t do that, so we are closing them instead. These courses have not been taught in quite some time, except for MATH 334. If we have students interested in the content, we can offer them as special topics.

E. Gumm - Our institutional policy is to enable students to plan their degree plan by using the information in the catalog. “On demand” doesn’t allow students to make plans to complete their degree in a timely fashion if they can’t plot out their timeline. J. Ehrke - If a student wants a course that we don’t offer in the catalog, how do they do that? E. Gumm - Independent Study courses are designed to meet a specific student’s need to fit their interest. J. Ehrke - We regularly get students who are interested in taking an extra course in a particular sequence. Is special topics the only way they can do that? E. Gumm - Yes, for now. We don’t recycle course numbers at ACU, so if you decide to reopen one of these courses at a point in the future, you can.

J. Ehrke - We are good with closing these. MATH 334 is the only one that we had questions about. If there was ever an industrial engineering track, we would want to bring this course back.

27. MATH 334 – Close Course

See above.

28.MATH 432 – Close Course

See above.

29.MATH 442 – Close Course

See above.

30.MATH 483 – Close Course

See above.

Motion to approve items 26-30 by J. Drachenberg; seconded by R. Brown; all in favor; motion passes.

31. MATH 371 – New Course – Combinatorics and Graph Theory

J. Ehrke - This course replaces MATH 334 in the regular rotation. This will be an every-other year course and will be part of our degree plans. Our faculty would prefer to teach courses where we can mentor students. This is a great area for students interested in undergraduate research. W. Crawford - The syllabus has 11 SLO's, the application shows 5. Eleven is a LOT of outcomes. R. Ashlock - Course goals are different from student learning outcomes. If they are all categorized as SLO's, you will have to measure them all. W. Crawford - Perhaps copy the SLO's from the application to the syllabus. J. Ehrke - I can send in an updated syllabus.

Motion to approve after syllabus is updated by J. Drachenberg; seconded by R. Ashlock; all in favor; motion passes.

32.MATH 473 – New Course – Complex Analysis

J. Ehrke - We are modernizing this course and replacing MATH 483. Its intended audience is senior-level students, and it would appeal to theoretical physics students.

R. Ashlock - Wording on an outcome - reflect on item #2. J. Ehrke - I'd address it with an essay question to address the reflection. B. Burton - Outcome #5 - "Work with" is hard to measure. J. Drachenberg - Perhaps "demonstrate proficiency"? R. Brown - Change to "compare and contrast."

Motion to approve with change to wording by J. Drachenberg; seconded by R. Brown; all in favor; motion passes.

33. BA MATH-APMA – Remove MATH 334 & 483, Add MATH 371 & 473

J. Ehrke - This is to add the new courses to our degree plans.

34. BA MATH-PURE – Remove MATH 334 & 483, Add MATH 371 & 473

See above.

35. BS MATH – Remove MATH 334 & 483, Add MATH 371 & 473

See above.

Motion to approve items 33-35 by J. Drachenberg; seconded by R. Brown; all in favor; motion passes.

Meeting ended at 4:39 p.m.