UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
University Hall 282
Minutes, December 4, 2013

PRESENT: Suzanne Carpenter, Mirari Elcoro, Catherine Gilbert, Robert Harris, Jackie Kim, David Lake, Kam Fui Lau, Denene Lofland. Lauren Mason, Rick McGrath (Chair), Anthony Parish, Phyllis Fulton (Catalog Editor)

ABSENT: Becky da Cruz, Sara Gremillion

GUESTS: Donna Brooks, Tom Cato, Maya Clark, Chris Curtis, Delana Gajdosik-Nivens, Steve Primatic, Jason Tatlock

CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Rick McGrath at 3:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The minutes of November 6, 2013 were approve as presented. It was noted that some changes were made by the Faculty Senate. Both versions will be posted for historical purposes.

ITEMS

I. College of Education (no items)

II. College of Health Professions

Item 1 from the College of Health Professions was discussed and approved by the committee. It is being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

1. Create the following course:
   HLPR 2200 Interprofessional Teams in Healthcare Organizations 3-0-3
   Prerequisite: Eligibility for ENGL 1101
   Description: An introduction to theory and skills related to interprofessional practice in healthcare organizations.

   Rationale: Interprofessional education and collaborative practice have emerged as learning and clinical initiatives. This course is designed to investigate the knowledge and skills needed to participate effectively in interprofessional practice.

   Effective Term: Fall, 2014
CURCAT:
Major Department: Dean's Office College of Health Professions
Can course be taken for additional credit? NO
Maximum number of credits: 3
Grading Model: Normal
Instruction Type: Lecture

A. Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences

Item 1 from the Department of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences was discussed and approved by the committee. It is being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

1. Modify the following course:
   RADS 4800 Research Methodologies in Radiologic Sciences 2-0-2

CURCAT
   Major Department: Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences
   Can Course be repeated for Additional Credit? No
   Maximum number of credit hours: 2
   Grading Mode: Normal
   Instruction Type: Lecture
   Course Equivalent: RADS 4430 None

Rationale: Due to previous curriculum realignment RADS 4430 and RADS 4800 are no longer equivalent.

Effective Date: Fall, 2014

B. Health Sciences (no items)
C. Nursing (no items)

D. Rehabilitation Sciences

Items 1-3 from the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences were discussed and approved by the committee. They are being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

1. Modify the following program of study:

   PROGRAM FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE
   Communication Sciences and Disorders Track

   B. Additional Requirements 18 hours
CSDS 1220 – Introduction to Communication Disorders
HLPR 2000 – Introduction to Research in the Health Professions
HLPR 2010 – Culture, Illness, Diagnosis and Treatment
HSCC 2200 – Health Communication
HSCC 2500 – Health Issues and Resources
PHSC 1211/PHSC 1211L – Physical Science with lab
PSYC 1101 – Introduction to Psychology or PSYC 2950 – Lifespan Developmental Psychology

Rationale: To keep Area F consistent with change proposed for the program of study for the bachelor of science degree in communication sciences and disorders.

Effective Term: Fall, 2014

2. Modify the following program of study

PROGRAM FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

A. General Requirements (Core Areas A, B, C, D.2B, and E) 42 hours
   Core Area F ................................................................. 18 hours
   CSDS 1220 – Introduction to Communication Disorders
   HSCC 2500 – Health Issues & Resources
   PHSC 1211 – Physical Science
   PHSC 1211L – Physical Science Lab
   HLPR 2000 – Introduction to Research in the Health Professions
   HLPR 2010 – Cultural, Illness, Diagnosis, & Treatment
   HSCC 2200- Health Communication
   PSYC 2950 – Lifespan Developmental Psych

Rationale: The course content in HLPR 2010 overlaps with a required major course.

Effective: Fall, 2014

3. Modify the following course:
   CSDS 4190 CLINICAL METHODS IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY 3-0-3
   Prerequisite: CSDS 3420 and CSDS 3430 and CSDS 3450
   Corequisite: CSDS 4170 and CSDS 4180

Rationale: CSDS 4170 and CSDS 4180 were previously deleted and are no longer a part of the curriculum.

Effective Term: Fall 2014
III. College of Liberal Arts

A. Art, Music, and Theatre

*Items 1-17 from the Department of Art, Music, and Theatre were discussed and approved by the committee. They are being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.*

**Art**

1. **Create the following course:**
   ARTS 4891 Selected Studies in Art History
   Prerequisites: ARTS 2710 or ARTS 2720
   Description: Offered on demand to meet special institutional and community needs in art history. May be repeated for credit.

   **Rationale:** Selected studies in art history are currently created through ARTS 4890 Selected Studies in Art. This creates a problem in separating and counting special topic studio courses from art history courses in Degree Works for the BFA in Visual Art degree.

   **Effective Term:** Fall 2014

   **CURCAT:**
   - Major Department: Art, Music & Theatre
   - Can Course be repeated for additional credit? YES
   - Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 4
   - Grading Mode: Normal
   - Instruction Type: Lecture and Lab

2. **Modify the following course:**
   ARTS 4890 SELECTED STUDIES IN STUDIO ART
   Description: Offered on demand to meet special institutional and community needs in studio art. May be repeated for credit.

   **Rationale:** Defines the selected study course as a studio art topics course.

   **Effective Term:** Fall 2014

3. **Modify the following Program of Study:**

   **PROGRAM FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN VISUAL ART**
   - Art History Courses
     - 9 hours
ARTS 2720 – Art History II  
ARTS 5750U – Contemporary Art & Criticism  
ARTS 4890 – Topics in Art History  
ARTS 4891 – Selected Studies in Art History  

Rationale: Removes the ARTS 4890 class and adds the new ARTS 4891 class specifically addressing selected studies in art history.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

Music

4. **Modify the following course:**  
MUSC 2100 CHROMATIC MUSIC THEORY 3-0-3  
Prerequisites: MUSC 1500, MUSC 1510, and MUSC 1530; or permission of instructor or department.  
Corequisites: MUSC 2110, MUSC 2130  
Focuses on the principles of chromatic harmony, its implications for modulation and structural design. **Must be completed with a grade of C or better in order to continue in the theory/keyboard harmony sequence.**

Rationale: Eliminating MUSC 2130 as a co-requisite for MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110 provides some flexibility with student scheduling, particularly with transfer students. Since MUSC 2100, 2110 and 2130 are the final courses in the lower level theory/keyboard classes, the sentence regarding continuing in the sequence is moot. Also, MUSC 2130 is no longer repeatable for additional credit (omission from previous course alteration).

Effective Term: Fall 2014

5. **Modify the following course:**  
MUSC 2110 AURAL SKILLS III 0-2-1  
Prerequisites: MUSC 1500, MUSC 1510, and MUSC 1530  
Corequisites: MUSC 2100, MUSC 2130  
Techniques using the principles of the solfege system for sight singing chromatic melodies, and dictation of musical patterns found in common chromatic practice (rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic). **Must be completed with a grade of C or better in order to continue in the theory/keyboard harmony sequence.**

Rationale: Eliminating MUSC 2130 as a co-requisite for MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110 provides some flexibility with student scheduling, particularly with transfer students. Since MUSC 2100, 2110 and 2130 are the final courses in the lower level theory/keyboard classes, the sentence regarding continuing in the sequence is moot. Also, MUSC 2130 is no longer repeatable for additional credit (omission from previous course alteration).
Effective Term: Fall 2014

6. Modify the following course:
MUSC 2130 KEYBOARD HARMONY III 0-2-1
Prerequisites: MUSC 1500, MUSC 1510, and MUSC 1530; or permission of instructor or department.
Corequisites: MUSC 2100, MUSC 2110
Keyboard techniques that reinforce theoretical concepts covered in MUSC 2100, Chromatic Music Theory, and MUSC 2110, Aural Skills III, including those skills needed to fulfill the piano proficiency exam. **Must be completed with a grade of C or better in order to continue in the theory/keyboard harmony sequence.**

CURCAT:
Major Department: Art, Music & Theatre
Can Course be repeated for additional credit? YES NO
Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 1
Grading Mode: Normal
Instruction Type: Lab
Course Equivalent: MUSC 2130

Rationale: Eliminating MUSC 2130 as a co-requisite for MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110 provides some flexibility with student scheduling, particularly with transfer students. Since MUSC 2100, 2110 and 2130 are the final courses in the lower level theory/keyboard classes, the sentence regarding continuing in the sequence is moot. Also, MUSC 2130 is no longer repeatable for additional credit (omission from previous course alteration).

Effective Term: Fall 2014

7. Modify the following course:
MUSC 3400 APPLIED MUSIC 0-2-2
Prerequisite: MUSC 2100, MUSC 2110, MUSC 2130, 2 semesters of MUSC 2400 with a grade of “C” or higher, permission of instructor or department and passage of rising junior exam
Corequisite: MUSC 3540 or MUSC 3560

Rationale: Students are expected to apply knowledge learned in the lower level theory/piano classes to the study of advanced repertoire. Adding these pre-requisites also supports a balanced progression through the degree. Students should not be progressing into upper levels of applied study without mastering the foundations of music. The addition of the MUSC 2400 prerequisite ensures that students have met the 2-semester requirement of MUSC 2400 before continuing in the upper level.
Effective Term: Fall 2014

8. **Modify the following course:**
   MUSC 2400 APPLIED MUSIC  0-2-2
   Prerequisite: permission of instructor or department and **2 semesters of**
   MUSC 1400 **with a grade of “C” or higher.**

   Corequisite: MUSC 3540 or MUSC 3560

   **Rationale:** The clarification of the MUSC 1400 prerequisite ensures that
   students have met the 2-semester requirement of MUSC 1400 before
   continuing in the applied course sequence.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

9. **Modify the following course:**
   MUSC 2201 JAZZ IMPROVISATION I  0-2-1
   Prerequisite: MUSC 1112, MUSC 1200 and MUSC 1210

   **Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

10. **Modify the following course:**
    MUSC 2810 CONDUCTING  1-1-1
    Prerequisite: MUSC 1112, MUSC 1500 and MUSC 1510

    **Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

    Effective Term: Fall 2014

11. **Modify the following course:**
    MUSC 3120 FORM AND ANALYSIS  2-0-2
    Prerequisite: MUSC 2112, MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110

    **Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

    Effective Term: Fall 2014

12. **Modify the following course:**
    MUSC 3610 ORCHESTRATION AND ARRANGING  2-0-2
    Prerequisite: MUSC 2112, MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110

    **Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

    Effective Term: Fall 2014
13. **Modify the following course:**
MUSC 3710 MUSIC HISTORY I  3-0-3
Prerequisite: MUSC 1100 and MUSC 1111 and MUSC 1130 MUSC 1200 and MUSC 1210 and MUSC 1230

**Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

**Effective Term:** Fall 2014

14. **Modify the following course:**
MUSC 3720 MUSIC HISTORY II  3-0-3
Prerequisite: MUSC 1100 and MUSC 1111 and MUSC 1130 MUSC 1200 and MUSC 1210 and MUSC 1230

**Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

**Effective Term:** Fall 2014

15. **Modify the following course:**
MUSC 4110 COMPOSITION  V-V-V
Prerequisite: MUSC 2112 MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110

**Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

**Effective Term:** Fall 2014

16. **Modify the following course:**
MUSC 4120 COUNTERPOINT  2-0-2
Prerequisite: MUSC 2112 MUSC 2100 and MUSC 2110

**Rationale:** Reflects change in theory curriculum implemented this year.

**Effective Term:** Fall 2014
17. Modify the following program of study:

Music Minor:
Music 18 hours
MUSC 1100, 1200, 1210, 1230
Three semester hours from: MUSC 1300, 1400, 1500, 1510, 1530, 3520, 3530, 3540, 3550, 3560, 3570, 3580
Seven semester hours from: MUSC 3710, 3720, 4160, 4200, 4210, 4420, 4250, 5430 or any other upper division music course
Two courses (4-6 semester hours) selected from MUSC 3710, 3720, 4200, 5430U

4-6 semester hours from any music course

NOTE: Nine semester hours must be 3000-level or above.

Rationale: These changes ensure that a student earning a minor in music will take at least two upper-level music lecture courses, and not just satisfy upper-level hours with ensemble participation. The intention is to provide a diverse foundation while still allowing choice.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

B. Criminal Justice, Social, and Political Science

Items 1-5 from the Department of Criminal Justice, Social, and Political Science were discussed and approved by the committee. They are being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

1. Create the following course:
POLS 4210 POLITICS OF PUBLIC POLICY 3-0-3
Prerequisite: POLS 2100 or POLS 2200
Description: This course provides students with the analytical tools to assess the role of politics in policy making. Approaches policy making process as a multi-level analysis of interrelated government institutions and facilitates student processing and evaluation of complex political information embedded in the theory and practice of public policy formation.

Rationale: Course creation reflects the objectives within the Student Learning Outcomes for the Political Science Major to “provide political science majors with and educational experience required to pursue successful careers in academics, government, and private sector or to pursue professional post-graduate degrees”.

Effective Term: Fall 2014
2. Create the following course:

POLS 4220 POLITICS OF ECONOMIC INEQUALITY 3-0-3
Prerequisite: POLS 2100 or SOCI 1101 or POLS 2200

Description: Explores the relationship between economic inequality and political voice, institutional governance, and public policy. It considers the causes of economic inequality, historical struggles in political development, and the socio-economic context of economic inequality all within a theoretical framework of equality and inequality. Cross-listed with SOCI 4220.

Rationale: Course creation reflects the objectives within the Student Learning Outcomes for the Political Science Major to “Demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking and analytical skills…and knowledge of political ideas, processes and systems”. It also contributes the Sociology Minor’s discipline specific knowledge of social reality and comprehension of theoretical application.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

3. Create the following course:

SOCI 4220 POLITICS OF ECONOMIC INEQUALITY 3-0-3
Prerequisite: POLS 2100 or SOCI 1101 or POLS 2200

Description: Explores the relationship between economic inequality and political voice, institutional governance, and public policy. It considers the causes of economic inequality, historical struggles in political development, and the socio-economic context of economic inequality all within a theoretical framework of equality and inequality. Cross-listed with POLS 4220.
Rationale: Course creation reflects the objectives within the Student Learning Outcomes for the Political Science Major to “Demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking and analytical skills…and knowledge of political ideas, processes and systems”. It also contributes the Sociology Minor’s discipline specific knowledge of social reality and comprehension of theoretical application.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

CURCAT:
- Major Department: Criminal Justice, Social and Political Science
- Can Course be repeated for additional credit? No
- Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 3
- Grading Module: Normal
- Instruction Type: Lecture
- Cross-listed: POLS 4220
- Course Equivalent: POLS 4220

4. Modify the following course:
POLS 2100 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE 3-0-3
Prerequisite: eligibility for ENGL 1101
Description: Study of political ideologies and governmental systems that emphasize the development of the state and its functions including: constitutionalism, politics, and individual rights. Introduction to the science of politics through discipline specific writing skills and analytical analysis.

Rationale: Catalogue description changes need to be made in order to accurately reflect the course objectives within the Student Learning Outcomes for the Political Science Major.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

5. Modify the following program of study:

Program of Study for the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

B. Major Field Courses

American Political Institutions
- POLS 3150 American Supreme Court
- POLS 3160 – Judicial Politics and Strategies
- POLS 3190-Military Law
- POLS 3980 – African Americans & the American Political System
- POLS 3990 – Special Topics in Political Science
- POLS 4100 – Independent Study in American Government
- POLS 4110 – American Presidency
E. History

*Items 1 from the Department of History was discussed and approved by the committee. It is being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.*

1. Create the following course  
   GEOG 3112 Geographic Information Systems 3-0-3  
   **Prerequisite:** GEOG 1100 or GEOG 2120 or HIST 1100 or POLS 1100 or permission of the instructor  
   A basic understanding of the methods and theories of spatial analysis, allowing students to apply GIS knowledge to their professional endeavors. Particular attention will be given to application in the humanities and the social sciences.

Rationale: This is an essential methodological course not only for geography but also for Armstrong students at large. GIS is increasingly a skill that is desirable in both the private and public sectors for locational and spatial analysis.

**Effective Term:** Fall 2014

**CURCAT:**  
- **Major Department:** History  
- **Can Course be repeated for additional credit?** NO  
- **Maximum Number of Credit Hours:** 3  
- **Grading Mode:** Normal  
- **Instructional Type:** Lecture  
- **Course Equivalent:** None
Items 2-5 from the Department of History were discussed and the undergraduate portions approved by the committee. They are being submitted to the Graduate Curriculum Committee and therefore is marked “For Information Only” for the report to the Senate.

2. **Modify the following course:**

   GEOG 5530U/G **ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY/HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS** 3-0-3

   Undergraduate prerequisite: GEOG 1100 or GEOG 2120 **or permission of instructor**
   Graduate prerequisite: none

   **Survey of interrelationships between the growth and dispersal of human populations,** and of other living organisms, such as crop plants, domesticated animals, weeds, and microbes the key themes, ideas, and methodological approaches within the discipline of geography that seek to understand the relationship between humans and their environment (i.e. cultural/political ecology) over the last century. An interdisciplinary approach will be provided, with a focus on anthropology.

   **Rationale:** The Geographic Education Council states that Human/Environment Interactions is a key theme within the discipline of Geography. The name change reflects the roles of humans as both a part of their environment and key shapers of their environment. This course could make a nice addition to the Environmental Studies Minor as well as tap into the disciplinary interest among Armstrong students in anthropology. Graduate students enrolled in the course will be given additional work to complete.

   **Effective Term:** Fall 2014

3. **Modify the following course:**

   GEOG 5550U/G **GEOGRAPHY OF SOUTH ASIA/TOPICS IN REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY** 3-0-3

   Undergraduate prerequisite: GEOG 1100 or HIST 1111 or HIST 1112 or HIST 1112H **or permission of instructor.**
   Graduate prerequisite: None

   **An historical survey of the physical, cultural, historical, and economic geography of the Indian subcontinent as a world region. May be repeated as topics vary.**

   **Rationale:** Provides flexibility to accommodate the various regional specialties and changing regional research focus of the geography faculty member. Graduate students enrolled in the course will be given additional work to complete.

   **Effective Term:** Fall 2014

**CURCAT:**

- Major Department: History
- Can Course be repeated for additional credit? **NO**
- Maximum Number of Credit Hours: **39**
4. Create the following courses:
GEOG 5860U/G Tourism Geographies 3-0-3
Undergraduate prerequisite: HIST 1100 or POLS 1100 or HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 or permission of instructor
Graduate prerequisite: None
A critical/cultural analysis of the influence of tourism on communities and landscapes, focusing on its economic, social, and environmental impacts through case studies.

Rationale: The city of Savannah averages 12 million visitors a year. The discipline of geography is uniquely poised to explore tourism from a variety of perspectives, such as economic, cultural, and environmental. Graduate students enrolled in the course will be given additional work to complete.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

CURCAT:
Major Department: History
Can Course be repeated for additional credit? NO
Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 3
Grading Mode: Normal
Instructional Type: Lecture
Course Equivalent: None

5. Delete the following course:
GEOG 5870U/G HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY IN NORTH AMERICA 3-0-3

Rationale: A new faculty hire has necessitated a reorientation of the upper level course offerings in Geography. GEOG 5870 corresponds to the specialization of a previous faculty member. GEOG 5860 is being proposed as its replacement.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

F. Languages, Literature, & Philosophy (no items)
G. Liberal Studies (no items)
H. Honors Program (no items)
IV. College of Science and Technology

Item 1 from the College of Science and Technology and the College of Liberal Arts was discussed and approved by the committee. It is being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

1. From the College of Science and Technology and the College of Liberal Arts: Modify the following program of study:

Environmental Studies Minor

Environmental Studies .................................................... 15 hours
Nine credits must be 3000 level or above. At least nine credits must be from a discipline other than your major.
Select at least two science courses from this list (cannot be used to fulfill Core Area D requirements):
- BIOL 1103 (and Lab), BIOL 1107 (and Lab), BIOL 1108 (and Lab), BIOL 1120, BIOL 1140, BIOL 3050 (and Lab), BIOL 3100, BIOL 3250, BIOL 3470, BIOL 3600 (and Lab), BIOL 4550 (and Lab), BIOL 4970 (and Lab), CHEM 1100, CHEM 1211 (and Lab), CHEM 1212 (and Lab), CHEM 2200, CHEM 4100, 4200, 4300, 4600 (topics as appropriate), GEOL 2010, OCEA 3100, SCIE 1212/1212L
Select at least two non-science courses from this list:
- ARTS 3680, ECON 3450, ENGL 5280U, ENST 4000, GEOG 5530U, HIST 5580U, HSCC 3760, PHIL 3200, POLS/LWSO 4190, POLS 5530U

Rationale: CHEM 1100 was not approved at the BOR level to be in the core. We have instead adjusted the description and pre-reqs for SCIE 1212 and that course meets the original objectives of CHEM 1100. Plan of Study has been approved by COLA Curriculum.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

A. Biology (no items)

B. Chemistry and Physics

Item 1 from the Department of Chemistry and Physics was postponed. It has been removed from the minutes.

Item 2 from the Department of Chemistry and Physics was discussed and approved by the committee. It is being submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

2. Modify the following course couple:
   a. SCIE 1212 Chemical Environment 3-0-3
      Pre-requisite: eligibility for Math 1001 or MATH 1111
Fundamental concepts, laws, and theories of chemistry applied to the environment. For non-science majors interested in a quantitative survey of environmental issues, the chemistry underlying our world, including classification of the elements, basic chemical reactions, atomic structure, and earth science.

b. SCIE 1212L Chemical Environment Laboratory 0-2-1
Pre- or Co-Requisite: SCIE 1212
Laboratory investigations of environmental chemistry, of the fundamental concepts, laws and theories of chemistry.

Rationale: Last year we implemented a curriculum change to add CHEM 1100 Chemistry of the Environment to the Core D offerings. It was denied at the BOR level. This course has been dormant for a number of years and this proposal would allow it to be taught in a fashion that allows us to be topical yet fulfill our mission to core students. This is already in Core D and so a minor editing change would allow it to be taught closely to the content designed for CHEM 1100 while not having to drive it through core analysis.

Effective Term: Fall 2014

C. Computer Science and Information Technology (no items)
D. Engineering Studies (no items)
E. Mathematics (no items)
F. Psychology (no items)

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Prerequisites. Dr. McGrath distributed a memo in response to questions has received regarding prerequisites, graded attempts, and degree requirements. He asked Ms. Fulton to distribute it to deans, assistant deans, and department heads on behalf of the committee. See Attachment 1.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis L. Fulton
Catalog Editor and Secretary to the Committee
A Note on Prerequisites
from the
University Curriculum Committee Chair

Some confusion has recently surfaced on how prerequisites are met. Changes in grading policy do not affect how prerequisites are met. Two related issues are discussed.

Prerequisites are based only on the last graded attempt of a course. They are not related to the calculation of GPA, and there is no averaging of grades to meet prerequisites. The policy for prerequisites has not changed. This is of particular concern when a course has a C prerequisite. A student who receives a grade of F in a course is not required to earn a grade of A on a retake to average a grade of C. Only the last attempt determines if the prerequisite is met. I have no knowledge of the University Curriculum Committee ever approving grade averaging for prerequisite courses.

Degree requirements that specify minimum grades are not prerequisites. Many majors require a grade of C in particular courses as a degree requirement. This is not the same as a C prerequisite. Suppose Course X is a prerequisite for Course Y. Also suppose the major department requires a grade of C in course X as a degree requirement. The student is entitled to register for Course Y after receiving a grade of D in Course X. The student must retake Course X and earn a grade of C to graduate but is still entitled to register for Course Y. The student may be advised to wait before taking Course Y, but can’t be told it is not allowed.

The major department does not have the authority to require a C in Course X before taking course Y unless the department goes through the curricular process to have the prerequisite changed to a C in Course X. Departments wishing to have grade prerequisites for specific course must propose those changes through the usual path with evidence justifying those changes.

If there is a question about whether Banner is consistent with policies approved by UCC, the issue must be researched. Otherwise, Banner is assumed to be correct on prerequisites. The Registrar will make no changes on the word of a department head or dean based on what was intended rather than what was approved.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Regards,

Rick McGrath
Professor of Economics
and UCC Chair