



University Courses and Curricula Committee 2024-2025

February 19, 2025
 Hosted Via Zoom
 Call to Order: 1:15 PM

Members Present:

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|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Duggins (Chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> FAC COE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rachel Levy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renee Harrington (Past Chair) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Heckman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mihai Diaconeasa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zachary Lewis (Chair Elect) | <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Bush | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Kuzenski |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shannon Pratt Phillips | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joseph Roise | <input type="checkbox"/> Tristan Mullins |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fernanda Santos (Spring '25 Proxy) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whitney Jones | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karley Lusby |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kami Kosenko | <input type="checkbox"/> FAC TEX | <input type="checkbox"/> STU |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steven Lechner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Leaf (Proxy) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kofi Boone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hannah Rainey | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Cannon | | |

Absent Members: Tristan Mullins, Kimberly Bush

Guests: Jeffrey Reaser (ENG 287,288,289,370,372,381,402, Prof Wri Certi), Leigh Shamblin (MIE 201), Praveen Kolar (Bio Ag Eco BS), Eileen Taylor (Acc BS), Amy Adkins (BME 215), Clodagh Bastian (COM 474)

Ex-Officio Members Present: Li Marcus, Lexi Hergeth, Annabel Breen, John Harrington, Kyle Pysher, Helen Chen, Latasha Wade, Levent Atici, Kaitlyn Mittan, Tamah Morant

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- **Remarks from Chair Jonathan Duggins** – Chair welcomed members and guests.
- **Remarks from OUCCAS/DASA** – Li extended a general invitation to members to attend FAD Workshops or ask questions pertaining to FAD implementation.
- **Approval of the UCCC Minutes from February 5, 2025 - UCCC Minutes – Approved**
 Discussion: No discussion was shared.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Consent Agenda - Approved**
 Discussion: No discussion was shared.
- **Accounting (BS) – Approved**
 Discussion: This curricular action was presented by Kuzenski. Eileen Taylor was in attendance to represent the course. No feedback or discussion was shared.
- **Biological Agricultural and Ecological Engineering (BS) – Approved**
 Discussion: This curricular action was presented by Pratt Phillips. No feedback or discussion was shared.
- **BCH 351 : General Biochemistry – Approved with Suggestion**
 Discussion: This new course was presented by Pratt Phillips. Suggestion to remove the list of prerequisites from the catalog description. No additional feedback or discussion was shared.
- **HS 201A : The World of Horticulture: Principles and Practices – Approved with Suggestions**
 Discussion: This new course was presented by Santos. Member noted a capitalization inconsistency within the topic outline and suggested editing that for consistency.

- **ELM 484 : Student Teaching in Elementary Education – *Approved with Suggestions***

Discussion: This course was presented by Cannon. Suggestion to edit the minor typos in the SLOs, such as a correction to the word “displays” and “identify”. Kaitlyn Mittan also drew attention to SLO 1 and encouraged rewording of “planning learning experience” as the focus of the SLO.

- **EMS 373 : Instructional Materials in Science – *Withdrawn***

Discussion: This course was presented by Cannon. Request to adjust the workflow of the course and have it presented at the next UCCC meeting. Course withdrawal.

- **EMS 450 / 550 : Teaching Environmental Education – *Approved***

Discussion: This course was presented by Cannon. No feedback or discussion was shared.

- **EMS 490 : School Mathematics from an Advanced Perspective – *Approved Pending***

Discussion: This course was presented by Cannon. Question regarding clarification of “Advanced Undergraduate Standing” in the UGRD Course Prerequisites; presenter clarified that this likely means “juniors and seniors”. John Harrington was asked for clarification and confirmed with Kyle Pysher that “Advanced Undergraduate Standing” understands it to mean junior or senior, absent any other directives. Suggestion to adjust the prerequisites to include the 400-level courses and restriction to math education majors. Suggestion to add ranges to the SEMs. Approved pending changes to wording within the restrictive/prerequisite statement, to include math education majors only and course work withstanding preferred configuration. The topic outline also needs to have a 16th week and members suggested reassessing the SEMs for broader categories of evaluation methods to allow flexibility and future-proofing.

[Discussion: Definition and naming of UG certificates (Chen)]

Helen Chen invited members and participants to share their thoughts and ideas pertaining to the naming conventions of baccalaureate certificates (versus minors, professional certificates, etc.) Should there be smaller certificates? Is there a need? Should there be a new category, such as microcredentials. Chen opened up discussion to the whole committee and guests for comment and input.

- **Concerns re: Credential Value:** Members expressed concerns pertaining to corporatization of credentials, macro oversight of over-credentialing, and possible narrowing of holistic/broad higher education. Members also expressed concern about the validity of accumulation of credits, and the number thereof, that qualifies as verifiable skill development evidence.
- **Concerns re: Financial Aid:** Members also expressed concerns pertaining to financial aid repercussions and how students may be limited by financial aid qualifications. Li shared that “students who are able to double-count into areas like free electives in their degree, those courses should count towards financial aid”.
- **Concerns re: Student Audience and Purpose/Motivations:** Helen Chen reiterated that the audience of certificates and micro-credentials may not be a “traditional” 4-year student but may extend into students who are not seeking to pursue a full degree, already have a degree and wish to skill build in alternative areas, etc. Members posited how students are able to broaden their educational horizons/experiences externally to a traditional degree program or certificate program; motivations for why students may want to try different options and explore outside of their field more broadly. Additional participants added that clarity of purpose is critical.

- **Concerns re: Impact to Existing Programs:** Other members mentioned existing PBC options, such as the ones offered by the Department of Computer Science, and if they would be impacted by changes to overall policy to certificate. The current definition of a certificate is based on the comparative synthesis of major, subplan, and minor programming. Li shared that the efforts to expand the certificate credentials are meant to broaden, not restrict current certificate parameters.
- **Concern re: Limiting Holistic GEP Requirement:** Members observed that selecting particular skill sets to gain credentials in becomes reflective of trade school, which could open a potential route to evade the GEP requirements when pursuing a 4-year degree and thereby avoid the holistic higher education education that a BA/BS/BEng/etc. provides.
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- **BME 215 : Biomedical Mechanics Laboratory – Approved with Suggestions**

Discussion: This new course was presented by Heckman. Suggestion to edit the small typo in the new catalog description (missing space between “techniques” and “and”). Suggestion to add a period and divide in the middle of the catalog description after the word “methods”. Amy Adkins from BME agreed with the suggestions. Chair highlighted that “BME students only” is listed in the catalog description, but not in the restrictive statement. Suggestion to move that statement to the restrictive statement.

- **EED 495 : Special Topics in Engineering Education – Approved**

Discussion: This course was presented by Heckman. No feedback or discussion was shared.

- **Professional Writing (Certificate) – Approved**

Discussion: This course was presented by Kosenko. Question pertaining to various concentration courses, specifically how there are Writing Electives following the Data Science electives and how there is a missing category on the corresponding Google document associated with the certificate course list. Jeffrey Reaser stated that the coding in CIM necessitated the layout that is present in the course list as the final list duplicates each course on the concentration list. The certificate is nine hours of elective plus six required hours. Li suggested that there are other ways to structure this in CIM-P that might be more helpful and more easily navigable, if desired. Jeffrey Reaser agreed to meet with OUCCAS to ensure additional avenues of structure and clarity. No suggestions were made.

- **COM 474 : Artificial Intelligence in Strategic Communication – Approved**

Discussion: This new course was presented by Kosenko. Clodaugh Bastian, instructor of the course, was encouraged to connect with Rachel Levy/David Stokes pertaining to adding this course to DSA programming.

- **PSY 442 : Psychology and Law – Approved**

Discussion: This new course was presented by Lechner.

- **WL 440/540 : Practicum in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) – Approved with Suggestions**

Discussion: This course was presented by Lechner. Suggestions to adjust SLO 6 with the parenthetical statement directly below and add more space/formatting for clarity regarding which outcomes are graduate-specific. Suggestion to make the topic outline into ranges.

- **FOR 273 : Forest System Mapping and Mensuration II – Approved**

Discussion: This course was presented by Roise. No feedback or discussion was shared.

- **FOR 474 : Forest Measurement, Modeling, and Inventory – Approved with suggestion**

Discussion: This course was presented by Roise. Suggestion to adjust the contact hours for the PRB component to 1 to avoid an error with 0-credit hour entry.

Discussion: [Follow up and vote on SPTP Classes with Prerequisites \(Marcus\)](#)

Members unanimously supported the SPTP Classes with Prerequisites motion.

Meeting adjourned: 2:35 PM

Respectfully submitted by Annabel Breen