

Undergraduate Curriculum Council
March 3, 2023
Minutes

Members Present

Kim Shaw	Bob Fuller
Sacha Dawkins	
Kris Lee	Bob Sample
Kristi DiClemente	Amanda Dahl
Wesley Garrett	Kimberly Dorsey
Russell Brandon	

Ex-Officio Members Present

Shannon Lucius Carla Lowery

Guests:

Dee Dee Larson	Dorothy Berglund
Jon Fessenden	Ross Whitwam
Kendall Dunkelberg	

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee met via Zoom on March 3, 2023. The minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved.

University Administration Actions

The following council actions from the November meeting were approved:

1. Modify an Existing Course – MA 100 Intermediate Mathematics
 - a. Change from 3 credit hours to 4 credit hours
2. Offer a New Course – BSB 360 Comparative Biomechanics
3. Offer a New Course – PSY 222 Psychology and the Legal System
4. Offer a New Course – PSY 442 Behavioral Genetics
5. Offer a New Course – PSY 448 Career Pathways in Psychology
6. Modify an Existing Curriculum – RN to BSN Advanced Placement Option
 - a. Addition of part time option to full time
7. Modify an Existing Course – HED 310 Social & Behavioral Aspects of Public Health
 - a. Change Title to Theoretical Foundations of Health Behavior
8. Offer a New Course – HED 199 Navigating Health Insurance and Managed Care
9. Offer a New Course – HED 270 Health & Wellness Counseling and Education
10. Offer a New Course – HED 355 Planning and Evaluation Models in Public Health
11. Offer a New Course – HED 386 Men's Health Issues
12. Modify an Existing Curriculum – BAS in Public Health Education
13. Modify an Existing Curriculum – BS in Public Health Education
14. Modify an Existing Curriculum – BAS in Public Health Education
 - a. Add a Healthcare Navigator track
15. Modify an Existing Curriculum – BS in Public Health Education

- a. Add a Healthcare Navigator track
- 16. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Public Health Education Minor
- 17. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Certificate of Sexual Health for Public Health Education Majors
 - a. Change to Certificate in Sexual Health
- 18. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Certificate in Sexual Health
 - a. Reduce required credits from 18 to 12 credit hours

Council Actions for March 3, 2023

College of Arts & Sciences

Ross Whitwam presented the following proposal:

1. Offer a New Course – BSB 451 Conservation Biology

This proposal seeks to create an interdisciplinary course integrating ecology, botany, zoology, plant physiology, animal physiology, and other foundational sciences to investigate biodiversity, its global loss and underlying causes, the effects on animals, plants, and other species, and the potential steps that humans can take to correct these problems. Course material will focus on how ecosystems are affected by human influence by examining measures of biodiversity, population genetics, ecological principles, habitat use, climate change, and methods that can be enacted to counteract the human effects on the environment.

Mathematics faculty feel that this course will fulfill a need for students to use genetics and ecology along with organismal biology in an integrated and interdisciplinary way to understand how the planet's biodiversity is changing to human and natural reasons. In addition, the course will fill a void with a regularly offered upper-level biology course that requires use of knowledge from other courses and integrates higher-level critical thinking into a course that is required in many wildlife or environmental-science related jobs.

Amanda Dahl made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Kris Lee seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

Kendall Dunkelberg presented the following proposals:

2. Create a Certificate Program -- Certificate of Competencies in Spanish Language and Culture

This proposal seeks to create a certificate program to be offered by the Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy that focuses on developing language skills that will help students interact effectively with the Hispanic culture. The included

courses focus on developing reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills and provides cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world.

Faculty feel that there is a need to enhance students' Spanish language abilities and cultural competencies to allow them to engage effectively and competently with the growing Latino population in our area. Furthermore, this Certificate would be an asset to students completing degrees, minors or certificates in health care, social work, business, political science, history, education, teaching English as a second language, paralegal studies, speech language pathology, and culinary arts.

Kris Lee made a motion to approve the proposal as presented pending submission of an updated form including the minimum grade requirement of a B or higher in courses completed toward earning the certificate. Kim Dorsey seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

3. Modify an Existing Curriculum -- Creative Writing Minor
 - a. Adding new courses to the list of Creative Writing courses

This proposal seeks to update the list of courses that count as Creative Writing courses to include EN 313 Digital Writing and remove TH 315 Playwriting, replacing it with the cross-listed EN 315 Playwriting.

EN 313 Digital Writing had previously been created but the minor curriculum had not been updated to include it. TH 315 Playwriting had previously been changed to EN 315 Playwriting, but the minor curriculum had not been updated to reflect the change.

Russell Brandon made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Amanda Dahl seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

4. Modify an Existing Course – EN 201 Survey of Early English Literature
5. Modify an Existing Course – EN 202 Survey of Late English Literature
6. Modify an Existing Course – EN 203 Survey of Early American Literature
7. Modify an Existing Course – EN 204 Survey of Late American Literature
8. Modify an Existing Course – EN 231 Survey of Early World Literature
9. Modify an Existing Course – EN 232 Survey of Late World Literature
 - a. Change prerequisite from EN 102 to EN 101

These proposals seek to change the prerequisite from EN 101 and EN 102 to only EN 101. Faculty feel that students do not need to write research papers in literature survey courses, therefore EN 101 is sufficient for adequate preparation. In addition, changing the prerequisite will allow students to take a literature survey sooner if they wish, considering other classes in the Humanities and Fine Arts general education category do not have any prerequisites, which often means a literature survey is the last requirement students take.

Bob Fuller made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Russell Brandon seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

10. Modify an Existing Course – EN 409 Young Adult Literature
a. Change course description

This proposal seeks to change the course description of EN 409 to make it more attractive to potential students and reflect current trends in teaching young adult literature. In 2021 the course title was changed to Young Adult Literature, but the course description was not changed. After teaching the course under the new title, the instructor proposed an updated course description to more accurately reflect the course title.

Russell Brandon made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Amanda Dahl seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

11. Modify an Existing Course – WS 200 Intro to Women's Studies
a. Change course title and course description to reflect the change of program name to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

This proposal seeks to change the course description of WS 200 Intro to Women's Studies to align with the new program name. The proposed course title is Introduction to Women's Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Faculty feel that since the name of the program has changed, it is necessary to change the name of the course to reflect the broader focus.

Russell Brandon made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Wesley Garrett seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

Kristi DiClemente presented the following proposals:

12. Modify an Existing Curriculum – History BA
a. Reduce credit hours from 124 to 120

This proposal seeks to reduce the required number of credit hours from 124 to 120. History faculty feel that this change is necessary to align the program with credit hour trends in the field, department, and university, and improve students' time to degree by allowing full-time students to graduate within 4 years taking 15 credit hours a semester. Currently, assuming no intermediate or failed coursework is involved, students must take 16-18 credit hours in at least 2 semesters or summer courses to graduate in 4 years. The reduction in credit hours will not change the current curriculum plan nor will it impact major or core courses. The reduction will come from the abundance of required general elective hours.

Russell Brandon made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Bob Fuller seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

13. Modify an Existing Curriculum – History BA with Concentration in Public History
 - a. Reduce credit hours from 124 to 120
 - b. Additional interdisciplinary requirement options

This proposal seeks to reduce the required number of credit hours from 124 to 120 and provide additional interdisciplinary requirement options. History faculty feel that this change is necessary to align the program with credit hour trends in the field, department, and university, and improve students' time to degree by allowing full-time students to graduate within 4 years taking 15 credit hours a semester. Currently, assuming no intermediate or failed coursework is involved, students must take 16-18 credit hours in at least 2 semesters or summer courses to graduate in 4 years. The reduction in credit hours will not change the current curriculum plan nor will it impact major or core courses. The reduction will come from the abundance of required general elective hours.

Also, due to course rotations, students are not always able to get into the specific interdisciplinary courses listed. Expanding the list will help with that. Expanding the list also makes sense with the path students are taking with this degree and reduces the amount of course overrides faculty are currently completing for the courses that are proposed to be added (BU 334 Fundraising Principles, GEO 3** Any 300 level Geography, MGT 374 Nonprofit Management, MGT 381 Principles of Management, and POL 375 Applied Law for Religious and Other Nonprofits).

Bob Fuller made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Russell Brandon seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

14. Offer a New Course – IS 105 Social Studies Education and Praxis Lab
15. Inactivate an Existing Course – HIS 105 History Education and Praxis Lab

This proposal seeks to change the course prefix from HIS to IS 105 and change the course title to Social Studies Education and Praxis Lab. Faculty state that the course is interdisciplinary by design and the new prefix reflects that better as many of the students who take it are political Science-Social Studies majors, not History majors. Offering a new course better reflects the goal of the course and aligns with the title of the Praxis II exam for which the course is preparing students.

The UCC discussed the proposal at length and determined that because both the prefix and title of the original course are changing, not the content, the best course of action would be to submit a proposal to inactivate an existing course (HIS 105 History Education and Praxis Lab) and a proposal to create a new course (IS 105 Social Studies Education and Praxis Lab). UCC unanimously approved alternative actions, pending submission of new forms. New forms have since been submitted and are included.

Wesley Garrett made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Russell Brandon seconded the motion and these proposals were approved unanimously.

16. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Political Science with Concentration in Social Studies

This proposal seeks to modify the Social Studies concentration in Political Science to clarify double counting rules, update the name of a required course, and reorganize the categories of requirements. Faculty aim to amend the social studies concentration to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of a one-hour pre-professional course and ensure courses required for the major may be counted toward both the general education and major requirements. The one-hour pre-professional course required in the POL-SS degree is interdisciplinary, and the revisions being made to that course (see item 14) should be reflected in the POL-SS curriculum.

Additionally, at times, there has been confusion in the Registrar's Office over whether hours required in the major may also be counted toward those in the general education curriculum. HIS 105 will be removed from the History Core (dropping HIS core to 15 hours) and listed in a separate category: Social Studies Core (formerly Social Studies Elective). The curriculum will still require a total of 49 credit hours. No changes will be made to the Government, Civic, or Politics categories. The provision that limits double counting will be clarified to allow credits in the major to satisfy general education requirements while still preventing a credit being used to satisfy more than one major requirement.

Russell Brandon made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Kim Dorsey seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

Jon Fessenden presented the following proposals:

17. Offer a New Course –MUS 121G Major Guitar
18. Offer a New Course –MUS 122G Major Guitar
19. Offer a New Course –MUS 221G Major Guitar
20. Offer a New Course –MUS 222G Major Guitar
21. Offer a New Course –MUS 321G Major Guitar
22. Offer a New Course –MUS 322G Major Guitar
23. Offer a New Course –MUS 421G Major Guitar
24. Offer a New Course –MUS 422G Major Guitar

These proposals seek to create a sequence of six new major guitar courses. Currently, music performance majors have no option to concentrate in guitar performance. The addition of these courses will provide a sequence of courses required to become a music performance major in guitar and allows students to study guitar on campus rather than cross register at Mississippi State University. This will also allow the music department to recruit and graduate music students primarily interested in guitar.

The submission and approval of a Proposal to Modify a Curriculum is necessary to award credit for students who take the newly created courses. Chair has been notified that a proposal should be submitted for the April UCC meeting.

Bob Sample made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Russell Brandon seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

Dorothy Berglund presented the following proposals:

25. Offer a New Course – PSY 377 Persuasion and Social Influence

This proposal seeks to create a new course focused on how individuals and groups use and are affected by persuasion and social influence across a wide range of contexts. This course is a Psychology elective designed to increase elective offerings for majors and minors and other students outside the department who may have an interest in the subject matter. It was previously taught as a Special Topics course (PSY 499). No changes are expected to be made in the way the course has been taught, only that it now has its own course number and title.

Bob Sample made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Amanda Dahl seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

26. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Family Science Minor

This proposal seeks to update the Family Science Minor by moving the FSC 382 Theories in Family Science and FSC 468 Parenting in Contemporary Society to the 300/400 level FSC elective category and require minors to take two upper-level electives rather than one to maintain the 18-credit hour minimum requirement for minors.

Faculty noticed that several students in the Family Science Minor struggle with the completion of FSC 382 which introduces the major theories in family science and how to use theory to frame research; as such, the course is more useful and meaningful to majors who plan for work and further study in the field. Removing the course as a requirement for the minor, but retaining it as an elective, will allow students to choose the course if it fits with their professional and educational goals. FSC 382 is currently a minor requirement, there are no plans to replace it. Instead, to maintain the 18-credit hour minimum requirement for minors, faculty would like to add that two electives are required rather than one.

Additionally, FSC 468 is already offered in the FSC major. To give students another elective option, including it as an elective in the minor would accomplish that and make the minor more flexible for all students and more accessible to students outside the department.

Russell Brandon made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Bob Sample seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

27. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Psychology BA
28. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Psychology BS
 - a. Add an exit survey and exam to the curriculum

These proposals seek to add an exit survey and exam to the curriculum. For several years the Department of Psychology and Family Studies has been administering a nationally normed exam on psychological knowledge for assessment purposes. The exam has been completed as a course requirement by students in PSY 455 Research in Human Behavioral Sciences. In the past PSY 455 students have been majority seniors. Because the psychology program has increased opportunities for students to develop research skills, faculty have been steering students toward earlier completion of PSY 455.

This is not ideal for assessment purposes because the test is designed for graduating seniors, and the data from juniors or first-semester seniors is less useful. In addition to better assess issues such as those related to employment and strengths and weaknesses of the program, faculty also proposes the adding a short exit survey that is tailored to our program to the curriculum requirements. Including the exit exam and exit survey as requirements for graduation would ensure the ability to collect useful information on all graduating seniors.

Bob Sample made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Kim Dorsey seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

College of Business & Professional Studies

Kim Dorsey presented the following proposals:

29. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – General Business Concentration
30. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Health Care Management Concentration
31. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Human Resource Management Concentration
32. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Management Concentration
33. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Management Information Systems Concentration
34. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Marketing Concentration
35. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Nonprofit Management Concentration

36. Modify an Existing Curriculum – Bachelor of Applied Science Business Administration – Sports Management Concentration

These proposals seek to add a minimum grade C required for concentration courses in those curriculums. A solid understanding of the required business topics is important for all business professionals. A minimum grade of C in these business concentrations ensures that our graduates have at least obtained average mastery in the required courses for the concentration.

Bob Fuller made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Bob Sample seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Kim Shaw presented the following proposals:

37. Inactivate an Existing Course – KIN 308L Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries and First Aid Laboratory

This proposal seeks inactivate KIN 308L. Lab activities are incorporated into KIN 308 Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries and First Aid. The same course at other institutions in our region is worth 3 credit hours. This change would simplify transferring credit for the course from one institution to another.

Amanda Dahl made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Kris Lee seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

38. Modify an Existing Course – KIN 308 Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries and First Aid

- a. Change to Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries
- b. Change course description
- c. Prerequisite change

This proposal seeks change the course title to Prevention and Care of Athletic Injuries, update the course description, and change the prerequisites. The course name is excessively long, and first aid knowledge is a given in the care of acute injuries. The course description is choppy and does not read well nor is it enticing to students outside the major. Furthermore, the course only requires a basic knowledge of the musculoskeletal system. KIN 308L is not needed to meet the objectives of the course as lab skills have been integrated into lectures (see item 37). A grade of C or higher is required for all Kinesiology major courses.

Bob Sample made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Kim Dorsey seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

39. Modify an Existing Course – KIN 390 Anatomical Kinesiology
a. Prerequisite Change

This proposal seeks change the prerequisites for KIN 390 to a grade of C or higher in KIN 147, BSB 141, and NU 291 (also listing NU 291 as a corequisite). A grade of C or higher is required for all Kinesiology major courses. NU 291 gives students a foundation in vocabulary commonly used in exercise science courses and reduces the amount of time spent in KIN 390 on verbiage necessary to understand the content of the course. Thus, increasing the amount of time the instructor can apply to satisfying course objectives.

40. Modify an Existing Course – KIN 403 Graded Exercise Testing
a. Prerequisite Change

This proposal seeks change the prerequisites for KIN 403 to a C or higher in BSB 141 and BSB 142. A grade of C or higher is required for all Kinesiology major courses.

41. Modify an Existing Course – KIN 406 Research Methods in Health Sciences
a. Prerequisite Change

This proposal seeks change the prerequisites for KIN 406 to a grade of C or higher in EN 102 AND either HED 240 OR KIN 210. A grade of C or higher is required for all Kinesiology major courses. The course is a very basic introduction to research methodology and does not go in-depth in statistical analyses.

42. Modify an Existing Course – KIN 408 Biomechanics
a. Change title to Human Biomechanics
b. Prerequisite Change

This proposal seeks change the course title and prerequisites for KIN 408 to Human Biomechanics and a grade of C or higher in MA 114, KIN 390, and PSP 211. The new title better describes the course and is less likely to be confused with the biomechanics course offered through the Department of Sciences and Mathematics. The course requires a variety of trigonometric calculations. MA 114 is not currently a prerequisite for PSP 211. Students would be better prepared and more successful in this course after having completed MA 114.

Bob Fuller made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Kim Dorsey seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

43. Offer a New Course – KIN 414 Senior Seminar in Exercise Science

This proposal seeks to create KIN 414 Senior Seminar in Exercise Science, a major course that will focus on professionalism and assisting students in their preparation to enter an exercise science/related career, graduate, or professional school. Faculty evaluated that many students are uneducated on how to communicate

professionally with potential employers, what should be included in a professional resume, or how to prepare for an interview. Students often wait until the last minute to find internship sites. When this happens, many times, sites are not selected because it is a good fit for the student's career goals but because they can get the paperwork submitted quickly. This can be detrimental to a student's learning experience and ultimately be a waste of their time. This course will teach much needed professional communication skills, guide them in selecting and securing a meaningful internship site, and assist them in applying for jobs or graduate/professional school.

Bob Sample made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Amanda Dahl seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

44. Modify an Existing Course – KIN 416 Internship
a. Prerequisite Change

This proposal seeks change the prerequisites for KIN 416 to a grade of C or higher in KIN 414 and advisor approval. Students often wait until the last minute to find internship sites. When this happens, many times, sites are not selected because it is a good fit for the student's career goals but because they can get the paperwork submitted quickly. This can be detrimental to a student's learning experience and ultimately be a waste of their time. KIN 414 teaches much needed professional communication skills and guides students in selecting and securing a meaningful internship site.

Amanda Dahl made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Wesley Garrett seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

45. Modify an Existing Curriculum – BS Kinesiology: Exercise Science

This proposal seeks add courses more closely related to the major and related professions and will remove course options that have little translation to basic exercise science. The proposed change will be more competitive with regional institutions offering the same major and will cut down on confusion regarding major requirements and matriculation through the program. These changes will also provide students with a more solid foundation in exercise science and allow them to be more successful with pursuing professional certifications.

The changes include requiring students to earn a grade of C or higher in all courses required for the major with the exception of the general education non-major courses, adding more foundational course requirements (NU 291, MA 114, and KIN 414) to better prepare students for their major course, including additional course options that satisfy the general course objective of the original requirement (reducing the need for substitution forms primarily for students who change their major from Nursing to Exercise Science or from Exercise Science Pre-PT to Exercise Science), removing science options that have no translation to undergraduate exercise science concepts (BSM 131/131L), and combining previous requirements for 9

hours of Health and Kinesiology electives and 18 hours of general electives to include a new requirement of 21 hours of Approved Electives presented in an exhaustive list of appropriate courses to choose from to better assist students in tailoring their education to fit their career goals.

Kim Dorsey made a motion to approve the proposals as presented. Bob Sample seconded the motion and the proposals were approved unanimously.

46. Modify an Existing Curriculum – BS Kinesiology: Exercise Science, Pre-Health Professions

This proposal seeks to combine the current Pre-Physical Therapy and Pre-Occupational Therapy degree concentration options into one, all-inclusive, Exercise Science Health Professions Bachelor of Science selective admission degree concentration. The proposed change will be more competitive with regional institutions offering the same or similar major, will cut down on confusion regarding major requirements and matriculation through the program, and give our students the best chance to be successful with applying to professional graduate programs. These changes will also provide students with a degree concentration that prepares them to apply to multiple professional schools within multiple disciplines without needing to change their major when they change their career plans to another health profession. These changes will also help students realize the competitive nature of professional school admissions and put them in the best position to be successful.

The changes include the addition of a selective admissions process. Students may apply once they have completed 60 hours of coursework. Minimum requirements for application include a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a grade of B or higher in all math, science, and KIN courses. Except for general education non-major requirements, students must earn a B or higher to progress. MA 114, NU 291, and KIN 414 will be added as major requirements to improve the foundational coursework and ensure student success in upper-level major courses. The concentration will include additional course options that meet similar learning objectives (KIN 285 OR MIS 157 OR NU 275), additional course requirements that are listed as prerequisites for application to professional programs (PSC 112/112L and PSP 212/212L) and add a list of approved electives to assist students in tailoring their learning experience to align with their career goals. Finally, the concentration will remove science options that are not relevant to the discipline and are not common prerequisites for professional school admissions (BSM 131, BSM 131L)

Kristi DiClemente made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Bob Sample seconded the motion and the proposal was approved unanimously.

Our next meeting is scheduled for: **April 7, 2023 at 1:30 pm**
Proposals will be due by noon March 29, 2023.