



UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER

College Curriculum Committee Report Academic Year 2012 - 13

The notes below summarize the activities of the College Curriculum Committee for the academic year 2012-2013. These include the approval of several new majors (most significantly, East Asian Studies), minors, and clusters, and changes in several curriculum-related policies. In addition, the Committee had discussions with Rob Clark and Eric Frederickson about online courses, Mark Bocko about the Education Technology Committee report, and Ernie Nordeen about the Experiential Learning Committee report. The Curriculum Committee is enthusiastic about many of the recommendations outlined in these two committee reports, and urges all departments to consider how they might start moving in the recommended directions.

Approved Majors

- English – current major with 4 tracks converted to 4 distinct majors:
 - The English Major in British and American Literature
 - The English Major in Creative Writing
 - The English Major in Language, Media, and Communications
 - The English Major in Theater

- East Asian Studies
 - An interdisciplinary major in which students will study theories and methods of researching East Asia through courses from at least three disciplines chosen from among anthropology, history, language, literature, film studies, visual culture, and religion. This may be completed as either a Humanities or a Social Science major. (Note: a 5-course Minor was also approved that may similarly be completed either in the Humanities or the Social Sciences depending on the majority of courses.)

Approved Minors

- American Studies
 - A six-course minor to complement the existing major. It can be in either the Humanities or the Social Sciences, depending upon the division of the majority of courses.

- Digital Media Studies
 - A six-course minor, in either natural sciences/engineering or humanities, in which students will learn the history, theory, aesthetics, and social dimensions of media and they also learn to become reasonably proficient producers of the digital media forms of their choice.

New Clusters

- **Introduction to Economics - Economics**
Provides exposure to the two broad areas of economics analysis – macroeconomics and microeconomics
- **Continental Philosophy – Modern Languages and Cultures**
Introduction to Continental European thinkers from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
- **LGBTQ Studies in the Humanities – Women’s Studies**
Art, literature, and related areas explored through the lens of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Queer studies
- **Theory and Philosophy of Feminism – Women’s Studies**
Provides an in-depth exploration of the theory and philosophy of feminism
- **Engineering and Technology in Antiquity - Mechanical Engineering**
An exploration of basic mechanics and options through a study of engineering and technology in antiquity

Changes/Modifications

- **Cluster policies:**
 - Courses completed on any study abroad program may, with the consent of the department offering the cluster, be used in a cluster
 - Unique exception approved for Bioethics cluster; may be considered Humanities even if only one of the three courses is in Humanities in the College.
- **Enrollment policy**
 - Students are expected to maintain full-time enrollment during the fall or spring semester for no fewer than seven semesters.
 - Semesters spent on UR study abroad academic year programs that permit continuation of UR financial aid are considered the equivalent of full-time semesters in residence.
 - Total credit from Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, credits in excess of 16 per semester, and summer and transfer credit cannot be used to accelerate by more than one semester
- **Extend “Grade Hook” date**
In an effort to increase the response rate on SCOQs, students who have completed all their evaluations will be able to see all grades that have been submitted. Students who have not completed SCOQs will not be able to see their grades until the last day that faculty can submit grades (rather than at the end of exam period).
- **Quest Program**
 - Terminated – 2012 -13 academic year
 - John Jaenike, CCC chair notified department chairs by letter, October 2012

- Naval Science Course Credit Policy
Work in Naval Science courses may be credited toward the fulfillment of the requirements of the B.A. or B.S. degree to the maximum extent of five academic courses.
- Dance Course Credit Policy
Eight credit limit toward degree for dance technique and ballet courses rescinded.
- Minor changes in the majors in Classics, Computer Science (B.A.), Music, public health programs (Epidemiology, Health Policy, and Health, Behavior and Society), Environmental Studies (BA), Environmental Science (BS), and Business.
- Changes to the minors in Sustainability, Legal Studies, and Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Discussions

- Online courses
Rob Clark, Dean of the Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Senior Vice President for Research and Eric Fredricksen, Associate Vice President for Online Learning led a discussion of plans for, and curricular issues associated with, online courses.
- Education Technology Committee Report
 - Mark Bocko, Chair of the Arts, Sciences, and Engineering Education Technology committee and Barbara Masi, College liaison to the committee attended the CCC meeting to discuss the committee's final report. Professor Bocko briefly explained the following topics in the report:
 - Employing Technology to transform Undergraduate Education
 - Models for Integrating Learning Technology into Undergraduate Education
 - Digital Portfolios and the portfolio-centered curriculum
 - Infrastructure: The Center for Education Innovation Initiatives
 - Creating an environment to encourage faculty participation
 - The report will be made available for the faculty to review.
- Experiential Learning Initiatives Committee
 - Ernest Nordeen, Chair for the Arts, Sciences and Engineering Experiential Learning Initiatives committee and Barbara Masi, College liaison to the committee attended the CCC meeting to highlight the committee's final report. Professor Nordeen briefly highlighted key points from the report
 - Theme-based experiential learning
 - Improving access through undergraduate research
 - Increasing faculty support for undergraduate research mentoring
 - Barriers to curricular innovation
 - The report will be made available for the faculty to review
- Common exam times and other exam issues

- Recent complaints have been sent to the deans' office regarding the failure of students to leave some common exams by the 9:30 close, creating problems for faculty teaching at 9:40, in those same rooms or elsewhere.
- Other instructors, having no connection to the common exam times, permit students to remain in exams past the close of class, creating similar problems.
- Observance of Religious Holidays – policy review
 - New York State Education Law provides that students who choose not to take exams on certain days because of their religious beliefs be given an equivalent opportunity to make up the exams they miss without penalties. The policy as described in the Adviser's Handbook is a bit softer in tone than the more direct language in the Bulletin. We need to provide clearer guidance to faculty about what is appropriate, and provide a readily accessible list of religious holidays.
 - Dean Feldman has asked Denise Yarbrough, Director of Religious and Spiritual Life and Nancy Specht, University Registrar to compile a general list of specific holidays.
- Proposed undergraduate degrees in business
 - Discussion of the possibility of adding Bachelor of Science programs, in partnership with the Simon School, in Corporate Finance/Accounting; Marketing; and General Management with a Specialty areas.

Committee Members:

Chair, John Jaenike	Biology
Matt BaileyShea	Music
Paul Funkenbush	Mechanical Engineering
Bruce Jacobs	Political Science
Mike Jarvis	History
Stephanie Li	English
Steve McAleavey	Biomedical Engineering
Lynne Orr	Physics and Astronomy
Richard Feldman	College Deans' Office
Suzanne O'Brien	College Deans' Office