

College Curriculum Committee Report Academic Year 2022-2023

The notes below summarize the activities of the College Curriculum Committee for the academic year 2022-23.

New Majors

- Liberal Studies major for the Rochester Education Justice Initiative (REJI) program – BA, humanities division - fully approved by NYSED; proposed start in Fall 2023.
- Audio Arts and Technology major – BA, natural sciences division - **under review by NYSED**; proposed start in Fall 2023.

New Minors

None.

New Clusters

- Indigenous Studies (S1INT021) – interdepartmental cluster, with History as sponsor.

Change/Modifications to Programs of Study

Changes were approved for the following majors/minors – these were all fully approved by the Steering Committee of the Faculty Council

- Actuarial Studies – addition of new course option for certificate.
- African and African-American Studies (Black Studies) – restructured major and minor requirements to streamline pathways for students; changing name of major and minor to Black Studies
- Biology: Biochemistry – changes to course requirements in the track.
- Chinese – changes to minor requirements.
- Earth and Environmental Sciences – adding additional course options for Environmental Science and Environmental Studies.
- Economics – adjustment to ECON 209H and restructuring of honors program to streamline pathway for students.
- English: Theatre – changes to structure and courses for major, reducing requirement to 10 courses to align with other English majors.
- Public Health: Epidemiology – restructured major to eliminate pre-requisite courses; introduced new course work in statistics.
- Public Health: Health Policy – addition of newly available courses and requirement to complete three course sequence of introductory health policy courses in minor, addition of newly available course electives in major.
- Legal Studies – addition of newly available course for minor.
- Literary Translation – addition of new course option for certificate.
- Mathematics – adoption of “add-on” ULW sections of 0.5 credits to the four majors within the department.
- Psychology – reduction of number of minors from seven district minors to one minor that provides both breadth of study in discipline and flexibility in coursework.
- Statistics – addition of new elective options in the BS and BA majors.
- UX Certificate – added new course option.

New Certificates

None.

Faculty-led Study Abroad

None.

Policy and Procedure Updates

- The committee confirmed policy and practice in the following areas:
 - Precedent of Programs of Study Satisfying the Rochester Curriculum – the committee ruled that the “highest” level of program officially satisfies a divisional requirement within the curriculum. The hierarchy is major, minor, cluster.
 - Overlap Policy – the committee ruled that overlap rules apply to all programs of study (major, minors, clusters) regardless of whether the program satisfies a divisional requirement.
 - Number of Minors – students will not be able to declare more than three minors starting in Fall 2023. This change makes restrictions on minors consistent with the existing policy that limits students to a maximum of three majors.
 - Intended majors –students may declare up to two intended majors when matriculating at the university. Once a student has declared a major, the student is discontinued from all existing intended majors.
 - Certificates – these programs do not satisfy divisional requirements in the Rochester Curriculum; however, they will be added to the degree audit for tracking purposes.

- Internships – the committee reviewed and approved recommendations to define a part-time internship as less than 20 hours of work per week. Students would only be allowed to complete part-time internships during the academic year; full-time internships (i.e., internships with over 20 hours per week) would not be allowed.
 - The committee requested additional information on a proposal to make an exception on full-time internships for seniors in their final semester. The committee wanted more information on the impact of full-time internships on student coursework before making a decision on the exception.

- **College Courses in High School Policy** – the committee approved a new rule that would limit students to a maximum of 16 credits total through both examination scores (AP, IB, A-Level, CAPE) and college coursework on a college campus while in high school. College credits beyond this would still be used for placement purposes, general degree requirements, and major/minor requirements as allowed by individual departments. The addition of college coursework while in high school to this overall credit limit will go into effect in Fall 2024.

Ongoing Policy Discussions

- **Credit Hour Policy** – the committee reviewed the current credit hour policy, particularly the “fourth hour” of enriched independent study required under the policy. The committee discussed instructor requirements to utilize this fourth hour, patterns in utilization across various types of courses (e.g., lab-based courses, independent studies, and research), and

questions arising in the application of this policy. The committee will return to this issue in the future.

- **Upper-Level Writing** – the committee discussed a dean’s office initiative to survey departments on the effectiveness of the upper-level writing (ULW) requirement. The goal of the survey was to understand how the ULW requirement was integrated into undergraduate majors, how well implementation of this requirement was working for departments and students, and opportunities to support departments in achieving their goals. The survey results suggested a need to evaluate labor requirements and departmental resources needed to implement the ULW requirement successfully, identified a need for greater consistency in ULW requirements and guidelines across departments, identified some departments’ confusion about who “owns” the policy and sets the standards, and found that many departments and programs have fully integrated ULW requirements into the curricular objectives of their majors (awards, senior theses, core coursework). The committee will continue to review recommendations and resources developed by the dean’s office in response to the survey results.