

College Curriculum Committee Report Academic Year 2023-2024

The notes below summarize the activities of the College Curriculum Committee for the academic year 2023-24.

New Majors:

- EESC consolidated major – Consolidating degree programs into a single BS degree with three tracks – proposed start date would be Fall 2024 - ***To be approved by Faculty Council, then the NYSED. It is currently being circulated among council members.**

New Minors:

- Korean – Addition of Korean minor under the Modern Languages and Cultures department – proposed start date is Spring 2024. ***This was approved pending a commitment from the Deans to support a minor dependent on a single faculty member. This has not gone to Council yet as we are waiting on Deans commitment approval.**
- Aerospace Engineering – Addition of Aerospace Engineering minor under the Mechanical Engineering department – proposed start date is Fall 2024. Exemption has been granted to allow ME majors to complete the Aerospace Engineering minor.

New Clusters:

None.

Change/Modifications to Programs of Study:

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

- Bioethics; Environmental Health; Epidemiology; Health Policy; and Health, Behavior, and Society Major – Eliminated PHIL 102 as a core requirement for these five Public Health majors, added appropriate elective to each major. PHLT 102 no longer required for the Introduction to Public Health cluster. Addition of HIST 242 and HIST 242W as an elective course for Health, Behavior, and Society (HBS).
- Legal Studies Minor – Addition of four courses to the list of Legal Studies courses: ANTH 233 Cultural Politics of Prison Towns, LAW 250 Business Law: Transactions & Other Topics, PSCI 214 Race and the Law, and RELC 183 Incarceration Nation. Addition of one course to the list of Cognate courses: PSCI 255 Poverty and Development.
- Sustainability Minor – Addition of three courses to the core options: ANTH 226 Culture and Consumption, GSWS 213 Politics of Nature, and PSCI 243 Environmental Politics. Addition of new electives courses: ANTH 243 Energy and Power, PHLT 232 Environment Health Policy, PHLT 238 Environment Health and Justice in the Rochester Community, and PSCI 235 The Political Economy of US Food. Removal of CASC 267 EcoMedia: Environment Media (II).
- Anthropology Major– Removal of serving as a Teaching Assistant in ANTH 101.
- Statistics Major – Addition of three courses to the BA/BS major: STAT 275W, STAT 215, and STAT 219. Allowing students to use any 200-level STAT course toward the elective requirement. Addition of STAT 275E as a choice in Computational courses. Renaming STAT 212 to STAT 180, STAT 213 to STAT 190, STAT 216 to STAT 217, and STAT 223 and 226W from “STAT 223: Introduction to Bayesian Inference” to “STAT 223: Bayesian Inference” and “STAT 226W:

Introduction to Linear Models” to “STAT 226W: Linear Models”.

- Statistics Minor – Addition of the STAT 275 course.
- Health, Behavior, and Society (HBS) Major and Minor – Addition of RELC 180 “Religion and Public Health: Collaboration on the Frontlines” as an elective course for both the HBS major and the HBS minor.
- Health, Behavior, and Society (HBS) Major – Removal of the PSYC 230 and PSYC 262 from the HBS elective list and including them as options for the PSYC courses that are required for the HBS major.
- English Department divisional cluster – Updating the name of the following clusters: Poems, Poetry, and Poetics to Poetry, Novels to Fiction, Literature and Cultural Identity to Race and Identity, and Gender and Writing to Gender and Sexuality.
- AME Course Number Changes – updated course numbering structure.
- Earth and Environmental Sciences Major – Addition of two courses to the major: EESC 262: Radioisotope Geochemistry and EESC 224: Geophysical Flows. Removal of the EESC 222: Energy Resources and EESC 231: Ice Sheets, Glaciers, Climate Change courses.
- Geomechanics Major – Replacing PHYS 101 as it is no longer taught with PHYS 09, replacing CSC 161 with ME 160, and allowing EES 225 to fulfill the lab requirement.

New Certificates:

- Operations Research – Addition of the Certificate Program in Operations Research under the Mathematics and Statistics department – proposed start date is Fall 2023.

Faculty-led Study Abroad:

None.

Policy and Procedure Updates:

- The committee confirmed policy and practice in the following areas:
 - Approval process for new courses and course changes – Elaine Sia to continue to approve new courses on behalf of the committee. Clarified the parameters of what types of new courses or course changes should be brought to the committee.
 - Department of Chemical Engineering (CHE) exemption request – CHE requested an exemption to be able to allow CHE students to receive a minor in the same department as their major (CHE and Environmental Engineering (EE)). CHE has been offering a minor in EE for the past 10 years with students actively pursuing this minor. Due to the EE minor and CHE major being significantly different the committee approved this request.
 - Modern Languages and Cultures (MLC) Double Major Issue – MLC’s exemption request for double majors between two distinct programs was approved with the exception of Russian/Russian Studies.
 - Hajim Annual Design Day Policy Exemption/Updates to Reading Period Policy – Committee recommendations are as follows:
 - Inconsistent language surrounding what is prohibited during Reading Period (between the AS&E academic policy, advising handbook, first day memos) be updated to state “no examinations or required presentations.”
 - Allowing exceptions to be made by the Dean for specific events: Capstone presentations in the Spring of senior year that are not part of a specific or regularly meeting course (e.g., Hajim’s Senior Design Day, honor thesis colloquia/poster

presentations).

- Removing the clause in the Reading Period policy that states ““Although the practice is discouraged” while keeping the clause ““exams and quizzes of a non-comprehensive nature may be given during regular class time in the last week of the semester.”
- Incompletes policy –Updated the policy to include clarifying language for instructors that highlights the criteria for an incomplete. The policy includes stricter guidelines to align with how it was originally intended.
- Latin Honors – One of the Latin Honors Summa Cum Laude requirements is that students must graduate in the top 2% of the class, due to concern over the health and well-being of the students the proposed policy update is to have Summa Cum Laude set to the top 5%, Magna Cum Laude top 12%, and Cum Laude top 15%.

Ongoing Discussions:

- **Updating the “N” Grade Policy** – Briefly discussed in tandem with the updates made to the Incompletes policy. The committee will return to this issue in the Fall 24 semester.
- **LACX New Major Proposal** – Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx studies (LACX) is an interdisciplinary major whose coursework will draw primarily from the humanities and social sciences. There were several concerns that were raised by the committee regarding this proposal. Tabling for now. The committee will return to this proposal in the Fall 24 semester.