

Curriculum Committee Report

Academic Year 2025-2026

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Overview

The Curriculum Committee is responsible for:

- Reviewing all newly proposed undergraduate programs, and modifications to existing programs (i.e., majors and minors)
- Reviewing newly proposed clusters, and modifications to existing clusters
- Reviewing proposed changes to graduation requirements, including the primary and upper-level writing requirements
- Continually monitoring the general educational principles and evaluating the curricular consequences of those requirements
- Recommending any changes to the Faculty Council that the committee believes will enhance undergraduate education, including the creation of new policies and the modification of existing policies

Committee Composition and Meetings

Membership

Member	Department	Division	School
Voting Members			
Loisa Bennetto (<i>Chair</i>)	Psychology	SS	SAS
Maya Ravindranath Abtahian	Linguistics	SS	SAS
Mike Jarvis (<i>fall 2025</i>)	History	SS	SAS
Bethany Lacina (<i>interim, spring 2026</i>)	Political Science	SS	SAS
Harry Groenevelt	Business	Business	Simon
Supritha Rajan	English	H	SAS
Allen Topolski	Art & Art History	H	SAS
Alison Frontier	Chemistry	N	SAS
Tom Weber	Earth & Environmental Sciences	N	SAS
Steve McAleavey	Biomedical Engineering	E	HSEAS
Melodie Lawton	Chemical Engineering	E	HSEAS
Non-Voting Members			
Paul Funkenbusch	Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences Dean's Office		
Joe Ciminelli	School of Arts & Sciences Dean's Office		
Kris Condello	Academic Affairs		
Soren Kilmer	Academic Affairs		
Amy Fisher	School of Arts & Sciences Dean's Office		
Becky Fletcher-Roberts	Center for Advising Services		
Matt DeMayo	Office of the University Registrar		

Meeting Schedule

Fall 2025	Spring 2026
September 8, 2025	February 2, 2026
September 22, 2025	February 16, 2026
October 6, 2025	March 2, 2026
October 20, 2025	March 16, 2026
November 3, 2026	March 30, 2026
November 17, 2026	April 23, 2026
December 1, 2026	April 27, 2026

Programs

The tables below represent proposals reviewed by the Curriculum Committee during the 2025-2026 academic year. Some proposals are still pending review at later stages (by Steering Committee, Faculty Council, and/or New York State). Not all programs require formal review and approval at all stages. The statuses of the post-Curriculum Committee approvals for each proposal are current as of May 8, 2026.

Key

Term	Abbreviation
Curriculum Committee	CC
Steering Committee	SC
Faculty Council	FC
New York State Education Department	NYS

Majors

New Majors	
Department/Program	Outcome
Program of Dance and Movement: Dance (BA) Research Honors	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Computer Science: Artificial Intelligence Major (BS)	Passed CC, SC, FC Status: Pending NYS approval
Department of Economics: Economics Major (BS)	Passed CC, SC, FC Status: Pending NYS approval
Simon Business School: Accounting Major (BS)	Passed CC Status: Pending NYS approval

Revised Majors		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Undergraduate Business Program: Business Major (BS)	Adding a new concentration in Artificial Intelligence.	Passed CC Status: Awaiting NYS approval
Department of Computer Science: Computer Science Major (BA)	Increasing the number of required courses from two to three and increasing the structure of the core requirements such that students take at least one theory/formulation course and one systems course. Decreasing the number of required electives from seven to six.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Program of Dance and Movement: Dance Major (BA) (Creative Expression and Performance, and Dance Studies concentrations)	Removing DANC 235 from the Creative Expression category in both DCE and DST concentrations, removing DANC 102 from the Additional Embodied Practices category in DCE, and adding DANC 126 (new course) to the Embodied Practices course options for both DCE and DST.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Georgen Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence: Data Science Major (BA)	Creating a new concentration in Artificial Intelligence.	Passed CC, SC, NYS Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Georgen Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence: Data Science Major (BS)	Creating a new concentration in Artificial Intelligence.	Passed CC, SC, NYS Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Undergraduate Program in Digital Media Studies: Digital Media Studies Major (BA)	Adding DMST 175 as an alternative to DMST 102 in the core. Updating course listings to reflect new course offerings.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Economics: Economics Major (BA)	Revising the major to focus more on empirical applications and data literacy. This includes reducing the calculus pre-major requirement to one course, replacing the economic statistics (ECON 230) and econometrics (ECON 231W) courses with a new course in Data Methods and Economics, and adding a fifth elective. Discontinuing the honors program.	Passed CC, SC, FC Status: Awaiting NYS approval
Department of Economics: Financial Economics Major (BS)	Changing the major from a BS to a BA. Removing MATH 143 from the pre-major calculus requirement. Adding ECON 211 to and dropping MATH 210 from the finance-accounting core. Adding two allied field electives focused on quantitative methods and applied analysis. Specifying that at least one upper-level ECON elective must be from a list of STEM courses. Discontinuing the honors program.	Passed CC, SC Status: Awaiting NYS approval
Department of Film and Media Studies: Film and Media Studies Major (BA)	Replacing the required upper-level course in film and media studies in both tracks with FMST 393. Reducing the production-related area requirement in the production track from five to four courses and adding FMST 161 as a required course.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Linguistics: Linguistics Major (BA)	Revising tracks.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Modern Languages and Cultures: Comparative Literature Major (BA)	Replacing the CLTR 200 requirement.	Status: Withdrawn by the department
Department of Modern Languages and Cultures: French Major (BA)	Replacing the CLTR 200 requirement.	Status: Withdrawn by the department

Department of Modern Languages and Cultures: All MLC Majors (BAs)	Adding a statement to all MLC majors (Comparative Literature, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish) that students may take CLTR 200 or another advisor-approved 200-level MLC course to satisfy the CLTR 200 requirement.	Status: Withdrawn by department
The Institute of Optics: Optics Major (BS)	Replacing the OPT 211 (2-credit) requirement with OPT 197 (4-credit). OPT 197 will inherit two credits of programming content from OPT 211, and two credits of lab content from OPT 201 and 202. OPT 201 and 202 will both be reduced from two credits to one credit accordingly.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
The Institute of Optics: Optical Engineering Major (BS)	Replacing the OPT 211 (2-credit) requirement with OPT 197 (4-credit). OPT 197 will inherit two credits of programming content from OPT 211, and two credits of lab content from OPT 201 and 202. OPT 201 and 202 will both be reduced from two credits to one credit accordingly.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Psychology: Psychology Major (BA)	Adding a required course in Research Methods and offering a lecture-based alternative course (PSYC 218) in addition to the two existing research methods courses, changing the total number of required courses from 11 to 12. Revising the required foundational courses for the major. Adding additional options for how to satisfy the Cognitive and Neurobiological Foundations area of the major.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2025
Undergraduate Program in Public Health: Epidemiology Major (BA)	Discontinuing undergraduate-only sections of Preventative Medicine (PMU) and adding an additional four-credit elective.	Passed CC, SC, FC, NYS Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Minors

Revised Minors		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Program of Dance and Movement: Dance Minor Movement Studies Minor	Adding DANC 126 to the Embodied Practices course offerings and reducing non-credit technical production requirement.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Modern Languages and Cultures: Chinese Minor	Reducing the 24-credit introductory and intermediate language sequence to a 16-credit sequence by reducing each course from six to four credits and reducing the minor from six to five courses.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Psychology: Psychology Minor	Adding a course option (PSYC 112) that would satisfy the Psychology as a Natural Science area of the minor.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program: Writing Studies Minor	Adding BUS 201 to the “Theory and Practice of Writing and Speaking,” “Digital and Multimodal Communication,” and “General Writing Studies” tracks.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Spring 2026
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Clusters

New Clusters	
Department/Program	Outcome
Department of Anthropology: Race, Gender, and Inequality	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Anthropology: Environmental Anthropology	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Afro-Latin America	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Black Lives & Worlds	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Global Black Cultures	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Race, Gender & Sexuality	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Black Arts, Media & Culture	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Politics, Law & Criminalization	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Black Studies: Black Health, Medicine & the Body	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Undergraduate Program in Digital Media Studies: Graphic Design	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Linguistics: Computational Linguistics	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Undergraduate Program in Public Health: Gender and Health	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Undergraduate Program in Public Health: Health Humanities	Passed CC Status: Pending SC review
Department of Religion and Classics: Archaeology	Passed CC Status: Withdrawn by department
Department of Religion and Classics: Religion, Culture, and the Arts	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Revised Clusters		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Department of Anthropology: Culture, Language, and Media [S1ANT001]	Updating the name of the cluster and adding more course options.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Anthropology: Medical Anthropology [S1ANT009]	Updating the required course options and adding more elective courses.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Anthropology: Political and Economic Anthropology [S1ANT002]	Updating the name of the cluster and adding more course options.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Art and Art History: Architecture, Space, and Institutions [H1AH011]	Adding more course options to the cluster.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Art and Art History: Art History and Visual Culture [H1AH010]	Adding more course options to the cluster.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Art and Art History: Gender, Ethnicity, Identity [H1AH012]	Adding more course options to the cluster.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Mathematics: Math and Statistics [N1MTH013]	Adding PSCI 200 to the list of statistics course options.	Passed CC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Mathematics: Math and Statistics for the Social Sciences [N1INT014]	Removing PSCI 200 from the list of course options.	Passed CC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Religion and Classics: Classical Civilizations [H1REL020]	Changing the name of the cluster from Classical Tradition to Classical Civilizations.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Religion and Classics: Judaism and Jewish Studies [H1REL001]	Combining Judaism and Jewish Studies into one cluster, entitled Judaism and Jewish Studies	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Department of Religion and Classics: Religion, Politics, and Society [H1REL015]	Changing the name of the cluster from Religion and Society to Religion, Society, and Politics.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program: Digital and Multimodal Communication [H1WRT002]	Adding BUS 201 as a course option.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Spring 2026

Discontinued Clusters		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Department of Black Studies: All existing Black Studies clusters: African American Politics [S1AAS002] Aspects of History [S1AAS001] Economics and the African Diaspora [S1AAS003] Race and Social Issues[S1AAS004] Representation and Leadership [S1AAS006] Visual and Literary Arts of the Diaspora [H1AAS001]	Discontinuing all existing Black Studies clusters and replacing with new clusters (see above).	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Certificates

Revised Certificates		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Undergraduate Program in Digital Media Studies: U/X Design Certificate	Adding DMST 175 as the required Concepts/Introduction course. Moving DMST 104 to the Solutions (Design) section. Removing inactive courses from the Solutions (Design) section.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Undergraduate Program in Statistics: Actuarial Science Certificate	Reorganizing and updating the requirements to better reflect what courses students will need to become professionals in the field.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Courses

New Courses		
Course	Summary	Outcome
CIS 279: Generative AI and Business Applications	Creating a four-credit course that will be eligible for use in the Business Information Systems and Business Analytics tracks, the BA Business degree program, and the Business minor.	Passed CC Status: Approved Effective: Spring 2026
CIS 299: Simon AI Seminar	Creating a one-credit course that will be eligible for use in the Business Information Systems and Business Analytics tracks, the BA Business degree program, and the Business minor.	Passed CC Status: Approved Effective: Spring 2026
ENT 230: Ignite Impact Lab	Adding a four-credit course that will be eligible for use in the Entrepreneurship track, the BA Business degree program, and the Business minor.	Passed CC Status: Approved Effective: Spring 2026
HIST 258/458 & 358: Archaeology Field & Research Methods	Reactivating and revising an existing study abroad course. Adding a graduate-level version of the course. Adding a 300-level version of the course for students who have already taken HIST 258 and would like to participate in the abroad experience again at a higher level.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Summer 2026
ITAL 207: Sustainability, Food, and Local Cultures in Italy	Creating a new summer study abroad course.	Passed CC Status: Approved Effective: Summer 2026
Theatre courses (THTR)	Creating a new subject code, THTR, for theatre courses.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026

Revised Courses		
Course	Summary	Outcome
KORE 107: Elementary Korean in Korea	Reactivating and revising an existing study abroad course	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Summer 2026
KORE 157: Intermediate Korean in Korea	Reactivating and revising an existing study abroad course	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Summer 2026
KORE 207: Advanced Intermediate Korean in Korea	Reactivating and revising an existing study abroad course	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Summer 2026

Policies

New Policies		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Education Abroad Grading Policy	Creating a new policy regarding how grades for study abroad courses are reflected on student records.	Passed CC Status: Pending SC review

Revised Policies		
Department/Program	Summary	Outcome
Policy Exception for Completion of a Major and Minor in the Same Program for two Earth & Environmental Science majors and the Sustainability Minor	Requesting a formal exception to the rule stating that students cannot complete a major and minor from the same department. Specifically, they are requesting that students be permitted to complete a BS in Earth, Environmental, & Planetary Sciences or a BA in Geological Sciences alongside the social sciences version of the Sustainability minor.	Passed CC, SC Status: Approved Effective: Fall 2026
Reading Period Policy	Revising the policy to better articulate what can be offered/required during the last week of classes, reading period, and final exam period. Clarifying what a comprehensive exam is, and when one may be offered. Clarifies that the final examination period is counted in the credit hour requirements for courses.	Passed CC Status: Pending SC review