

## University Curriculum Committee Meeting

Meeting #3, October 9, 2023

**Members (those present in bold; \* indicates a voting member):**

**Dave Paul, Chair\***

Dean Panttaja

**Francesca Sammarruca**

**Erin James\***

**Stacy Isenbarger\***

**Stacey Doumit\***

**Magdy Noguera\***

**Manoj Shrestha\***

**Steve Shook\***

**Erkan Buzbas\***

**Emad Kassem\***

Jerry Long (**Tim Murphy** standing in for Law)\*

Hanwen Dong\*

**Lindsey Brown**

Emma Johnston\*

Nate Trachimowicz

**Gwen Gorzelsky**

**Guests present:** Ted Unzicker, Janis Johnson, Annette Folwell, Sarah Campbell, Leonard Garrison, Robin Johnson, Sydney Freeman, Mark Nielsen, Benjamin Barton, Philip Stevens, Andrew Scheef

- I. Chairperson Dave Paul called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.
- II. Announcements and Communications  
Chairperson Dave Paul clarified parliamentary procedure and its modifications for UCC.
- III. October 2, 2023 Minutes were approved.
- IV. New Business

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Add Chemical Addictions: Principles and Practice Certificate and Professional Skills in Chemical Addictions Counseling Certificate; Edit Religious Studies Minor

**Speaker:** Benjamin Barton

**Discussion:** Two new certificates were proposed. Benjamin Barton explained that the curriculum for these certificates was taken from the current Addictions minor, which requires 24 credit hours and may not be feasible for students. This gives students other options to gain experience without having to take the full Addictions minor credit load.

The Religious Studies minor had a change in curriculum (removal of HIST/RELS 341 and addition of IS 325).

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit Black Studies Minor

**Speaker:** Janis Johnson and Sydney Freeman

**Discussion:** This proposal requested a name change from Africana Studies to Black Studies. Francesca Sammarruca asked for the rationale for the name change, and Janis Johnson explained that it will be more understandable to students since many people already have a sense of Black culture, which is worldwide, but they may not have that same understanding with Africana culture. Stacy Isenbarger asked if the seminar title would change, and Janis said that it was currently in the works, as well as a new prefix and a new introductory course.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Reactivate THE 190 and 514

**Speaker:** Annette Folwell and Sarah Campbell

**Discussion:** The THE 190 proposal asked for reactivation and edits to the course repeatability status, course description, corequisites, and typically offered section. Annette Folwell explained that students had previously been doing more work than was shown through their received credits, so this was a way of accounting for that additional time.

The THE 514 proposal requested a reactivation, a joint-listing with THE 414, and edits to the course description and the typically offered section. It also added online availability to the face-to-face option. Lindsey Brown asked if they would still like it to be available as a special topics course, and Annette said that it was previously offered as a special topics course, but they would now like a permanent number for the course. Lindsey then asked if the (s) should be removed from the title to remove its subtitle-able status because of that, and Sarah Campbell explained that it should still be subtitle-able because it will act like the other THE studio courses that have different emphases and topics in different semesters.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit THE 389 and THE 390

**Speaker:** Sarah Campbell

**Discussion:** The THE 389 proposal requested changing the course name, credit amount, repeatability, course description, and typically offered section. Similarly, THE 390 requested changing the course name, removing the subtitles, updating the course description, and adjusting when it's typically offered.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit MUSA 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, and 180

**Speaker:** Leonard Garrison, Annette Folwell, and Sean Butterfield

**Discussion:** All courses were changing their credits amounts to either 0-1 or 0-3 credits and updating the maximum credits. Stacy Isenbarger asked why giving a 0-credit option was being requested. Sean Butterfield explained that there are already existing 0-credit courses and that this occurs to provide an option for students with specific scholarship requirements. He added that taking these courses for 0 credits would not be prioritized, but it would be available when needed. This proposal is also being made in conjunction with desired future changes to reduce course sections offered in the School of Music.

Stacy also asked why the student fee would still be required for a 0-credit course, and she clarified that this committee did not approve student fees but that it may be something to consider while other changes are moving forward. She also commended them for working toward these changes because she saw many students struggle within the music program and hoped this would help them. Sean agreed and added that they were also working to make other changes to the curriculum to further reduce student stress and anxiety.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit MUST 435, CRIM 336, FTV 122, and JAMM 276; Add MUSH 511

**Speaker:** Dave Paul

**Discussion:** The MUST 435 proposal requested removing the repeatability, editing the course description, and updating when it's typically offered. CRIM 336 requested changing the course description, dropping a prerequisite, and updating when it's typically offered. FTV 122 requested dropping the prerequisite. The JAMM 276 course proposal requested removing a former prerequisite and adding new prerequisites.

MUSH 511 had previously been a special topics course, but they were requesting that it be a regularly offered course.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit AIST 453

**Speaker:** Philip Stevens

**Discussion:** This course proposal requested removing the cross-listing of ANTH 314 and adding ANTH 457 and 557. Lindsey Brown asked what was happening to the ANTH 314 course, and Philip Stevens explained that the course would still be connected with the AIST 453 course, but the number was just changing to the 400 level course to be able to add the graduate level option.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Add JAMM 480 and 495

**Speaker:** Robin Johnson

**Discussion:** Dave asked if the course description of JAMM 480 was too specific regarding the programs used. Robin Johnson said that the programs had all existed for a substantial amount of time and were unlikely to be going away soon. Lindsey Brown requested that the industry-specific acronym used in the

description be spelled out, and Ted Unzicker said that the Registrar's Office would reach out for that editorial change later. Erin James added that it could be removed from the description to simplify it, but Robin explained that including those terms in the description may make the course more appealing to students.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Inactivate THE 468, THE 469, and MUSA 250

**Speaker:** Dave Paul

**Discussion:** No discussion occurred/was needed.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-015

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit the Art Teaching Major, Art Teaching Minor, and Social Science Teaching Major

**Speaker:** Dave Paul

**Discussion:** The curriculums for the Art Teaching Major and Minor were being changed due to an inactivation of a course and a credit change for one of the courses. The Social Science Teaching Major had a change in the number of credits needed and the course description that aided the program in better aligning with the State Board of Education requirements.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-015

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Add EDCI 111, 112, 113, 114, and 375; Edit EDCI 447

**Speaker:** Andrew Scheef

**Discussion:** The EDCI 100 level courses were being added as part of the new Vandal QUEST program that helps students increase their employability skills. EDCI 375 was created after receiving feedback from alumni that students would like more experience in classroom management, and this course is a more specific course for secondary educators beyond the generic classroom management course.

Lindsey Brown asked if these courses had been brought before UCC previously, as she remembered them being discussed before, and Andrew Scheef explained that they had changed the formatting of the program by removed an accompanying certificate that had been the main cause of discussion. Lindsey also asked if the course descriptions could be altered to remove the course subject code and number, and Andrew agreed to the edit.

EDCI 447 had a change in when it was typically offered and in its corequisites. Erin James pointed out that the corequisite was incorrect (the corequisite was listed as being EDCI 447 in addition to being the course number), and Andrew clarified that it should be EDCI 449 instead.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-016

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Add NRS 444 and WLF 553

**Speaker:** Steve Shook

**Discussion:** Steve Shook explained that the NRS 444 course was needed as part of the new National Resource Enterprise Management degree as the college moved away from the discontinued Natural Resources and Society degree.

Dave asked if anything was too specific in the course description for the WLF 553 course, and Steve explained that the terms were needed.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-016

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Add NRS 515

**Speaker:** Steve Shook

**Discussion:** Dave asked for clarification on the teaching location, as the rationale describes it as an “online, self-paced class”, but the course was marked as being only available at the McCall campus. Steve clarified that it should be an online course. After a brief discussion of different interpretations of the rationale, the decision was made to postpone the course by sending it back. Erin added a suggestion to remove the first sentence of the course description because it was not needed (a demand is evident based on the existence and attendance of the course). While reviewing the course for other changes to be looked over by the proposal author, Lindsey asked if the course was intentionally made to be Pass/Fail, and Steve said that it had been.

**Outcome:** Postponed

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-016

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Add WLF 558

**Speaker:** Steve Shook

**Discussion:** Steve raised a concern that by offering an applied statistics course in the Fish and Wildlife Sciences department, it limited the amount of knowledge students would gain because they weren’t able to gain a full understanding of the underlying principles through a math specific course. He also had concerns about whether these types of courses were made in consultation with the math department and asked for Erkan Buzbas’ thoughts. Erkan explained that for larger universities, there tended to be more specialized math courses, but that it may not be needed at the University of Idaho since it is a smaller campus.

Magdy Noguera added that she had also been seeing this with the teaching of Python in various colleges and departments, and a discussion at the university may be needed on this topic in the future.

Steve also had concerns about whether this would add to academic load and reduce efficiency. In response, Stacy Isenbarger pointed out that the rationale did include a line about the department having the capacity to teach the course, but it could be a concern later if the department no longer has that capacity in the future.

Stacey Doumit gave an example of this type of discussion occurring in her own college due to situations where they were unsure as to whether a certain biology course addressed the information needed for students to be successful in upper division agriculture courses.

In connection with conversation on consulting with the field experts, Gwen Gorzelsky said that generally there’s some type of communication occurring between departments regarding the curriculum. She

continued by explaining that national research and University of Idaho research has shown that introductory level math courses result in the highest loss of students. This research also shows that when a student can see applicability through applied math courses, the retention rates increase. She connected it back to Steve's point by saying that at the upper division level, students should have a good understanding of the core mathematical principles beyond the applied, but that having applied math courses helps students to care more about the subject to get them to stay in their programs.

**Outcome:** Postponed

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-016

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit FIRE 526, FOR 330, FSP 201, and NRS 555; Edit the Rangeland Ecology and Management Minor

**Speaker:** Steve Shook

**Discussion:** The FIRE 526 proposal requested a change to the course description, the typically offered section, and the teaching location (moving the course to be an online only course due to the removal of field trips). FOR 330 had requested a change in the credit hours from four to three. The FSP course proposal had a change in the course description, which Steve Shook clarified was in consultation with the committee working on the sustainability certificate.

The NRS 55 proposal made a change to make the course available cooperatively with WSU. Steve asked Lindsey why this was a change that needed to pass through UCC, and she said that she wasn't sure of the history behind it, but that it had a financial impact. She said that she could research it and get back with him on the reasoning behind that decision.

The Rangeland Ecology and Management Minor had a few changes in their curriculum with the removal of the REM 411 course and the addition of REM 280.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-017

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Inactivate the International Business Minor; Add MHR 315 and FIN 435; Edit the Small Business Management Certificate and the Business Analytics Minor

**Speaker:** Magdy Noguera

**Discussion:** Magdy Noguera said that they no longer had the capacity to offer the minor nor was there the student interest to sustain it.

The MHR 315 course was created to be part of the sustainability certificate as well as the Small Business Management certificate. The Small Business Management certificate also requested removing its online availability. Additionally, Erin James suggested removing part of the course description for MHR 315 to provide greater clarity, which Magdy agreed to.

The FIN 435 course was also added to be part of the sustainability certificate, and Magdy added that it would also be part of another certificate coming through UCC later.

The Business Analytics minor proposal requested changing the program credits from 19 to 18 and updated the curriculum to fit the new credit hours count.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

**UCC Agenda Item Number:** UCC-24-014

**Item(s) Under Consideration:** Edit ECON 447, ACCT 511, and ACCT 512

**Speaker:** Dave Paul

**Discussion:** The ECON 447 proposal requested changing the course description and the details of the course outline to make its connection to the sustainability certificate more explicit. The ACCT 511 and ACCT 512 proposals requested changing the credit hours from three to one.

**Outcome:** Approved unanimously

V. Chairperson Dave Paul closed the meeting at 4:38 pm.

Sydney Beal

UCC Secretary