

University Curriculum Committee Meeting

Meeting #3, September 30, 2024

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

Erin James, Chair*

Barb Kirchmeier

Francesca Sammarruca

Dave Paul*

Stacy Isenbarger*

Stacey Doumit*

Young Park*

Dan Cordon*

Steve Shook*

Erkan Buzbas*

Norman Lee*

Mark Adams*

Derrick Phillips*

Dwaine Hubbard

Paul Tietz*

Anya Zuercher*

Gwen Gorzelsky

Guests present: Ted Unzicker, Rebecca Frost, Annette Folwell, Lindsey Brown, Andres Trujillo-Barrera, Katharine Kolpan, Kristine Levan, Philip Stevens, Florian Justwan, Katherine Kolpan, John Shovic, Robin Johnson, Tim Prather, Gabriel Potirniche, Eric Coats, Kelly Stout, Andres Trujillo-Barrera, Senay Ugar

- I. Chair Erin James called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.
- II. September 23, 2024 minutes were approved with a minor correction to the date.
- III. Announcements and Communications
- IV. New Business

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-011

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit CE 4290, ME 3250, ME 4150, ME 4660, and ME 4800

Speaker: Erin James

Discussion: These proposals largely involved editing prerequisites and updating course descriptions. No further discussion was needed.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-011

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit the Mechanical Engineering Minor and Robotics and Automation Undergraduate Certificate

Speaker: Gabriel Potirniche and Eric Coats

Discussion: The mechanical engineering minor was updated to reflect recent curriculum changes and a change in total credits. The proposal also included other previously approved changes such as updating courses with subject prefix changes. The robotics and automation certificate had a slight name change

and a drop in credits by making one of the required courses an optional elective. The reason for the name change is to differentiate between this certificate offered by the Computer Science Department, which focuses more on software, and another certificate that is still in the workflow process that is also on robotics but focuses more on the engineering hardware itself.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit AGECE 5290, ASM 1000, ASM 3050, and ASM 3150

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: There was also a discussion about changes to agriculture and economics courses, including a change in credits for the agriculture and economics class research methods. The team also discussed changes to ASM courses, including moving one from the 2000- to the 1000-level and adding prerequisites. For the proposal involving this level change (ASM 1000), Lindsey Brown pointed out that it should instead have been submitted as a new proposal because the original course (ASM 2000) is a standard course number. Stacey Doumit agreed to the change in paperwork, and it was decided that the committee could approve the course change with the understanding that it would be re-filed as a new course by the Registrar's Office to preserve the standard course number.

The ASM 3050 proposal requested a title change, and both ASM 3050 and 3150 requested joint-listings with graduate level courses. Erin asked about joint-listing between a 3000-level course and a 5000-level course, and Ted Unzicker said it was acceptable.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits to ASM 1000

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit AVS 2720 and AVS 4740

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: The AVS 2720 proposal requested moving the course from the 1000-level to the 2000-level and adding prerequisites, and AVS 4740 requested a change in the course description. Dave asked why the addition to the course description (regarding the formatting of the course with the lab) needed to be added, and Stacey explained that it was standard for the rest of their courses. She also explained that for the course number change to AVS 2720, they've found that freshman students tend to struggle in the course, so they hope to ease that by having sophomore students take it instead.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit PLSC 2070, 3380, 3070, 3400, 4000, and 4010

Speaker: Tim Prather

Discussion: Erin led a discussion about course changes, primarily focusing on editing course descriptions, adding/editing prerequisites, and changing course titles. A notable change was the move of Plant Science 3070 from the 4000- to the 3000-level, which was based on a new instructor teaching it. Tim explained that this was largely a clean-up to course descriptions and when courses were typically offered to better inform students and assist advisors.

Steve asked if PLSC 2070 has always been taught by a Plant Science instructor, and Tim said that it had, though due to changes in department names, it may not appear that way. Steve followed up by asking if both departments in the cross-listing were contributing in some way to the course and what purpose

the cross-listed GENE 2070 served. Tim explained that it increases the course's marketability to students outside of the Agricultural and Life Sciences College.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit PLSC 4080 and 4100

Speaker: Tim Prather

Discussion: PLSC 4080 had a change in the course title, description, and prerequisites. She also raised a question about the graduate credit for Plant Science 4080, as graduate credit was mentioned, but there was no joint-listed course included. Erin also pointed out that in the proposal for PLSC 4100, new prerequisites were added, but there was no reason given for that change in the rationale.

Tim said he would talk with the new faculty member teaching the course and clarify whether it was intended to be joint listed with a graduate level course, but based on the formatting of similar courses, he guessed adding the graduate level course had simply been missed. The committee decided to approve it with the understanding that the Registrar's Office and Plant Science Department would be communicating outside the meeting to rectify the issue. Lindsey suggested changing the language regarding graduate credit to allow more flexibility for faculty (from "A comprehensive term paper is required for graduate credit" to "Additional work required for graduate credit.") for PLSC 4080 through PLSC 4900. The team, including Tim, agreed to make a friendly amendment to the course description for all the applicable courses.

On the PLSC 4100 prerequisite additions, Tim explained that the newly added prerequisites (FOR 2100 and PLSC 2050) were correct, and the explanation was missed in the rationale section.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit PLSC 4330, 4440, 4460, 4510, 4760, 4900, and 5010

Speaker: Tim Prather

Discussion: These proposals primarily focused on changing prerequisites, updating when the courses are offered, and editing course descriptions. Tim explained that these changes were largely made to help advisors, with Stacey Doumit adding that they also included basic language updates per changes in the industry. Erin pointed out an extraneous word to be removed from the course description in PLSC 4760 ("the" in the second sentence following "creation of"), and Tim agreed to the change.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edit to PLSC 4760

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Inactivate PLSC 4800 and add AVS 4300

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: The PLSC 4800 was proposed for deletion due to a lack of faculty to teach it, and AVS 4300 was proposed to fill a curriculum gap in their genetics courses. Steve asked why this course wasn't cross-listed, and Stacey explained that they didn't have time to discuss the possibility with the Biological Science Department. However, they did work with one of the Biological Science faculty members and received feedback on the course from him, and he expressed that he understood the need. Due to this, they planned to leave it solely in the Animal, Veterinary, and Food Sciences Department for now, but may cross-list it in the future.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-012

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Biotechnology and Plant Genomics (BSPLSC) and Horticulture and Urban Agriculture (BSPLSC)

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: These proposals primarily updated the elective lists to provide more options for students, with the removal of courses that are no longer taught from the Horticulture and Urban Agriculture program as well.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-013

Item(s) Under Consideration: Move NEZP to the Culture, Society, and Justice Department; add AIST 4111, AIST 4112, and CRIM 4400; and inactivate CRIM 3250

Speaker: Philip Stevens

Discussion: Philip explained that the NEZP was previously added to the Modern Languages and Culture unit because of its decreased sized, but due to the increasing numbers and the additional administrative work needed for scheduling purposes, they'd like NEZP to be moved. He introduced two new classes: Tutxinmepu Powwow and Vandal Nation, both of which have been long-standing programs through the Native American Student Center, but for which they would now like to give students the ability to receive credit for. Victimology (CRIM 4400) was previously taught as a 404 course, and due to its success, they would like it to become a formal course. The Family Violence class is being inactivated but the material will still be covered in the CRIM 3370 course.

Steve expressed concerns about the syllabus of a course AIST 4112, questioning the repetition of learning outcomes and the possibility of different workshops each time. He suggested that the syllabus might not match the usual perception of workshops and that the learning outcomes might not be aligned with the course's structure. Philip explained that students would be learning different songs and attending different events, so they would continue learning new material with each iteration of the course they took. Barb Kierchmeier compared the course to the music program, where students learn new pieces and build skills each time they repeat a class.

However, Dave noted that the learning outcomes in the syllabus did not address this aspect of the coursework. Dave proposed a friendly amendment to work with the Registrar's Office on more specific details for the learning outcomes.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edit to the syllabi for AIST 4111 and AIST 4112

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-013

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit POLS 2370, 3070, 3320, 3380, and 4680

Speaker: Florian Justwan

Discussion: These proposals largely focused on editing and cleaning up course descriptions, with a small title change in POLS 4680 to differentiate it from another course.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-013

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit CRIM 3370, 4200, 4290, 4330, 4351, and 4660

Speaker: Annette Folwell

Discussion: The changes were largely minor, with some adjustments to course titles to better reflect their focus, course description changes, and some courses that were being moved from the 3000 to the 4000 level to reflect an increase in complexity. Lindsey raised a concern about the repeatability of different topics in CRIM 3370 because the Registrar's Office couldn't reinforce the repeatability of different topics, so it was something for the department to be aware of. Erin noted the repetition in the course description of CRIM 3370 and suggested rephrasing the first two sentences to read as "Topics on the types, sources, impact, and responses to violence, including violent crime, family violence, partner violence, or state violence", to which the department agreed.

Some courses were also adding joint-listings, and this was to provide more elective options for graduate students in the field.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with course description edit

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-010

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Public Relations (BA or BS), Journalism Minor, Advertising Minor, Broadcasting and Digital Media Minor, Journalism and Mass Media Undergraduate Requirements, General Studies (AA/AS), and Criminology (BS)

Speaker: Robin Johnson and Annette Folwell

Discussion: These proposals featured edits to the courses in the curriculum, including minor course additions and deletions. No further discussion was needed.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-010

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add Creative Writing Certificate and Politics and Law Certificate

Speaker: Erin James and Florian Justwan

Discussion: Florian explained that there are three emphasis areas for political science course offerings, and this certificate is the first of three that allows for certification in one of the emphasis areas (intersectionality between politics and law). Erin asked if students enrolled in Political Science bachelor's degrees automatically earn this certificate, and Florian said they could, but they wouldn't necessarily. There was a brief discussion about the need for better control over the approval of certificates and the potential for double dipping in certain programs.

Steve pointed out that the phrase "nine credits from the following" allows for repeatability within elective coursework and asked if that was the intention of the department. Erin said she would reach out to those in her department to clarify, and the committee agreed to approve it with the understanding that Erin would communicate with the Registrar's Office outside of the meeting regarding the phrasing.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-010

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Regulation M-4

Speaker: Lindsey Brown

Discussion: This regulation edit concerned non-attendance, shifting the responsibility from the registrar to the instructor to increase student-instructor communication patterns. Dan Cordon noted a needed

edit in the second sentence to match the change to the first sentence (removing “through the Registrar” after “notified the instructor”). The team agreed to this change and approved it.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edit

Chair Erin James closed the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Sydney Beal-Coles
UCC Secretary