# http://www.ric.edu/webcommunications/images/SealWithText_Small_Black.pngUNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC) PROPOSAL FORM

## Cover page scroll over blue text to see further important [instructions](#instructions): [if not working select “COMMents on rollover” in your Word preferences under view] please read these.

**N.B. Please do not use highlight to select choices within a category but simply delete the options that do not apply to your proposal (e.g. in A.2 if this is a course revision proposal, just delete the creation and deletion options and the various program ones, so it reads “course revision”) Do not ever delete any of the numbered categories—if they do not apply leave them blank. ALL numbered categories in section (A) must be completed. If there are no resources impacted it is okay to put “none” in A. 7**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A.1. [Course or program](#Proposal) | **Computer information Systems (CIS) B.S. PROgram** | | | |  |
| [Replacing](#Ifapplicable) |  | | | |
| A. 1b. Academic unit | **Faculty of Arts and Sciences** | | | |  |
| A.2. [Proposal type](#type) | **Program:** [**revision**](#revision) | | | |  |
| A.3. [Originator](#Originator) | **Lisa Bain** | [Home department](#home_dept) | **CS and Info Systems (CSIS)** | | |
| A.4. [Context and Rationale](#Rationale)  Note: Must include additional information in smart tip for all [new programs](#type) | The CIS program moved from the School of Business to the Faculty of Arts and Science in Fall 2020 as part of the new CSIS Department. These changes are needed to (1) reflect this change, (2) strengthen the program, (3) maintain flexibility for students and (4) clean up a few “housekeeping” items.   1. This proposal increases the number of courses in the “CIS Core” by one (4 credits) and reduces the number of courses in its “Business Core” by two (6 credits). This reflects the change to A&S while maintaining the essence of the CIS program. CIS programs across the U.S. focus on the breadth of Information Technology and provide students a solid foundation in business. The breadth includes courses in information systems, computer programming, security, networking, databases and systems analysis/design. This is different than Computer Science (CS) programs that focus primarily on computer programming. Students that want to “code” for a career, typically choose CS. Students that want to work with Information but not “code” for a career, typically choose CIS. Common career paths for CIS graduates are tech support/help desk technicians, systems/network administrators and systems/security analysts. The Business Core will still include one course in each of the business disciplines (Accounting, Economics, Finance, Management, Marketing) instead of two in accounting and two in Economics. Therefore, the foundation in the business disciplines remains. The CIS faculty chose to keep ACCT 201 instead of ACCT 202 because ACCT 201 covers the financial foundations of the accounting practice, which all business professionals need versus the managerial side covered in ACCT 202. The CIS faculty chose to keep ECON 214 instead of ECON 215 because ECON 214 covers topics needed by students pursuing careers in a business environment, which most CIS graduates do. ECON 215 covers topics needed more for careers in government organizations. However, ECON 215 can be substituted as needed for ECON 214 for those few students that might have already taken it or prefer to take it for their career choices or scheduling issues. This can be done by the chair as a substitution, but the possibility will be noted in the catalog so students will know. 2. The proposal also strengthens the CIS program by adding a required technical course (CIS 320) that focuses on the current hardware and software used by the IT industry. This course has been offered as an elective in the CIS program for many years and has had strong enrollments. It prepares students for many IT careers but especially for the role of a help desk technician. The course also prepares students to pursue an important technical certification (A+) desired by many employers.   In addition, many CIS majors are hired by the RIC Help Desk as part time workers. This provides valuable experience for our students and helps RIC staff the Help Desk. The CIS 320 course would prepare CIS students for this type of role early in their studies and reduce the required training.  \*\*NEW Info as of 10/15/21\*\* Providence Schools announced three new P-Tech Pathway Programs at E-Cubed Academy. The three programs are computer support specialist, computer science (programming/web development), and networking (cyber security and cloud computing). Computer support specialist is the same role as a help desk technician. The RI Tech Collective, IT industry leaders, and representatives from CCRI/URI/RIC worked with PPSD in selecting these programs. This further supports the need for this type of course in the CIS program.   1. Replacing the two business courses by only one CIS course instead of two reducing the total credits of the CIS Program by two, allowing more free electives and flexibility to students. This flexibility encourages students to pursue minors in either technical or other areas. The CSIS Dept has minors in Data Analytics, Cyber Security and Web Design. It also allows room for students that may want to take additional programming courses. 2. With the best intentions always in mind, a few changes are needed to clean up minor issues encountered recently. This includes removing an elective and adjusting prerequisites for two courses.    * Remove COMM 230 as a valid CIS elective. COMM 330 Interpersonal Communications was added as an elective in Fall 2014 but the course was renumbered later from 330 to 230 and is no longer aligned with the 300 or above requirement of the CIS electives. In addition, it does not reflect the more technical nature of the updated CIS Program.    * Add CIS 301 as a prerequisite to CIS 455. Most students already take CIS 301 before CIS 455 but not all and this will ensure all students are adequately prepared. CIS 455 is an upper level course requiring an understanding of computer programming for the SQL and database design portions of the course. The current prereqs are CIS 252 or CIS 352 and 60 credits, neither of which cover computer programming. Most students already take CIS 301 before CIS 455 but recently some have not due to transfer credits. Transfer students with 60+ credits have been able to enroll in CIS 455 without taking CIS 301 and therefore were not adequately prepared for the course.    * Reduce CIS 252 prerequisites 30 to 15 credits. This allows CIS majors and other students to take the course sooner. CIS 252 is the first course of the CIS Program and is a prereq to CIS courses 300 and above. In developing the Rhode Map for CIS majors, it was determined that taking CIS 252 sooner (requiring less credits) would allow a timelier progression through the CIS Program. It also allows new students to take a CIS course during their first year at RIC, which we believe will have a positive impact on student retention. This earlier exposure will also prepare students earlier for pursuing technical internships and/or positions.   Before After  CIS Core (8) = 32 credits CIS Core (9) = 36 credits  Business Core (7) = 24 credits  Business Core (5) = 18 credits  Cognates (3) = 12 credits Cognates (3) = 12 credits  **Summary of Changes to CIS Program**   * Remove ACCT 202 (-3 credits) and ECON 215 (-3 credits) * Add the existing course CIS 320 (+4 credits) as a required course * Remove COMM 230 as a valid CIS elective. * Add CIS 301 as a prerequisite to CIS 455. * Reduce CIS 252 prerequisites from 30 to 15 credits.   These changes were discussed and approved by the CSIS Dept. These changes were also discussed and supported by our CIS Advisory Board, which consists of CIS graduates currently working in IT at various organizations. | | | | |
| A.5. [Student impact](#student_impact)  Must include to explain why this change is being made? | The CSIS faculty feel these changes are positive for the students by providing a more technical CIS program that is aligned with IT industry needs but still offers flexibility with free electives. | | | | |
| A.6. [Impact on other programs](#impact) | This impact should be minimal but will reduce enrollments in ACCT 202 and ECON 215. However, for AY 20/21 only 9 CIS majors were enrolled in ACCT 202 and 16 in ECON 215. Keeping in mind some of these were the same student. There were no CIS enrollments in COMM 230 for AY 20/21. As a note, COMM 230 was just one of the possible CIS electives that students could take but not a required course. | | | | |
| A.7. [Resource impact](#Resource) | [*Faculty PT & FT*](#faculty): | None or minimal impact depending on CIS staffing levels but not due to the additional required CIS course.    CIS staffing is currently at 4 full-time faculty members but 2 of the 4 are one-year temp positions. These 2 one-year temp positions are due to a resignation of a tenure-track faculty member (June 2018) and a retirement of a tenured faculty member (June 2021).  If CIS staffing remains at 4 full-time faculty members, then the impact is none since 4 full-time faculty members provide the ability to schedule the needed 12 course/sections each semester (7 required courses, 3 extra sections of CIS 252, 1 CIS elective for the Data Analytics Minor, and 1 CIS elective). The scheduling is critical for timely progression and completion of the CIS Program. | | | |
| [*Library*:](#library) | No impact. | | | |
| [*Technology*](#technology) | No impact. | | | |
| [*Facilities*](#facilities): | Minimal impact on classrooms/technology. Adding an additional CIS course (CIS 320) requires the use of a computer lab, if the course is taught in-person. However, this course can be offered as hybrid, online or offered online *one* semester per academic year to reduce classroom/technology demand if needed. | | | |
| A.8. [Semester effective](#Semester_effective) | **Fall 2022** | A.9. [Rationale if sooner than next Fall](#Semester_effective) | |  | |
| A.10. INSTRUCTIONS FOR CATALOG COPY: Use the Word copy versions of the catalog sections found on the UCC Forms and Information page. Cut and paste into a single file **ALL the relevant pages from the college catalog that need to be changed.** Use the tracked changes feature to show how the catalog will be revised as you type in the revisions. If totally new copy, indicate where it should go in the catalog. If making related proposals a single catalog copy that includes all changes is preferred. Send catalog copy as a separate single Word file along with this form. | | | | | |
| A.11. List here (with the relevant urls), any RIC website pages that will need to be updated (to which your department does not have access) if this proposal is approved, with an explanation as to what needs to be revised: | | | | | |

### C. [Program Proposals](#program_proposals) **complete only what is relevant to your proposal if this is a revision, but include the enrollment numbers for all proposals. Delete section C if the proposal is not revising, creating, deleting or suspending any progam.**

|  | [Old (for revisions only)](#old_program) | New/revised |
| --- | --- | --- |
| C.1. [Enrollments](#enrollments)  Must be completed. | About 88 active CIS majors |  |
| C.2. [Admission requirements](#admissions) | Standard RIC requirements | No changes |
| C.3. [Retention requirements](#retention) | Standard RIC requirements | No changes |
| C.4. [Course requirements](#course_reqs) for each program option. Show the course requirements for the whole program here. | Required  ACCT 201 Prin of Acc I: Fin (3)  ACCT 202 Prin of Acc II: Man (3)  CIS 252 Intro to Info Sys (4)  CIS 301 Intro to Com Prog (4)  CIS 421 Networks & Infra (4)  CIS 440 Issues in Com Sec (4)  CIS 455 Database Prog (4)  CIS 462 Applied Soft Dev (4)  ECON 214 Prin of Micro (3)  ECON 215 Prin of Macro (3)  FIN 301 Financial Mgt (4)  MGT 201 Foundations of Mgt (4)  MKT 201 Intro to Marketing (4)  CIS Electives  TWO ADDITIONAL COURSES in CIS or CSCI at the 300-level or above or COMM 230  COGNATES  ENGL 230 Workplace Writing (4)  MATH 177 QBA I (4)  MATH 248 Business Statistics I (4) | Required  ACCT 201 Prin of Acc I: Fin (3)  CIS 252 Intro to Info Sys (4)  CIS 301 Intro to Com Prog (4)  CIS 320 IT*: HW & SW Sys (4*)  CIS 421 Networks & Infra (4)  CIS 440 Issues in Com Sec (4)  CIS 455 Database Prog (4)  CIS 462 Applied Soft Dev (4)  ECON 214 Prin of Micro (3)  FIN 301 Financial Mgt (4)  MGT 201 Foundations of Mgt (4)  MKT 201 Intro to Marketing (4)  CIS Electives  TWO ADDITIONAL COURSES in CIS or CSCI at the 300-level or above  (*COMM 230 removed*)  COGNATES  ENGL 230 Workplace Writing (4)  MATH 177 QBA I (4)  MATH 248 Business Statistics I (4) |
| C.5. [Credit count](#credit_count) for each program option | Total Credit Hours: 68  CIS Core (8) = 32  Business Core (7) = 24  Cognates (3) = 12 | Total Credit Hours: 66  CIS Core (9) = 36  Business Core (5) = 18  Cognates (3) = 12 |
| C.6. Program Accreditation (if relevant) |  |  |
| C.7. Other changes if any |  |  |
| C.8. [Program goals](file:///Users/sabbotson/Documents/Curriculum/Program%20goals)  Needed for all new programs |  |  |

## D. Signatures

* **Changes that affect General Education in any way MUST be approved by ALL Deans and COGE Chair**.
* Changes that directly impact more than one department/program MUST have the signatures of all relevant department chairs, program directors, and their relevant dean (e.g. when creating/revising a program using courses from other departments/programs). Check UCC manual 4.2 for further guidelines on whether the signatures need to be approval or acknowledgement.
* Proposals that do not have appropriate approval signatures will not be considered.
* Type in name of person signing and their position/affiliation.
* Send electronic files of this proposal and accompanying catalog copy to [curriculum@ric.edu](mailto:curriculum@ric.edu) and a printed signature copy of this whole form to the current Chair of UCC. Check UCC website for due dates.

##### D.1. Approvals: required from programs/departments/deans who originate the proposal. THESE may include multiple departments, e.g., for joint/interdisciplinary proposals.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#_Signature" \o "Insert electronic signature, if available, in this column) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lisa Bain | Chair, CSIS Dept | \*approved by email | 10/26/2021 |
| Earl Simson | Dean, Faculty of Arts & Sciences | Earl Simson | 11/4/2021 |

##### D.2. [Acknowledgements](#acknowledge): REQUIRED from OTHER PROGRAMS/DEPARTMENTS (and their relevant deans if not already included above) that are IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSAL. SIGNATURE DOES NOT INDICATE APPROVAL, ONLY AWARENESS THAT THE PROPOSAL IS BEING SUBMITTED. CONCERNS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE UCC COMMITTEE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION; all faculty are welcome to attend.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#Signature_2) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sue Weiss | Chair, Accounting Dept | \*approved by email | 11/3/2021 |
| Kemal Saatcioglu | Chair, Econ & Finance Dept | \*approved by email | 11/5/2021 |
| Alema Karim | Dean, School of Business | *Alema Karim* | 11/4/2021 |
| Gisselle Auger | Chair, Communications Dept | Giselle A. Auger | 10-28-2021 |