

Rhode Island College
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Minutes for Meeting of April 19, 2013
2:00 - 4:00 P.M. Board of Governors Room

Present: S. Abbotson (presiding); M. Aydogdu; D. Blanchette; S. Breen; S. Dixon; D. Espinosa; M. Horn; R. Kirkwood - Auld; H. Magen; J. Magyar; C. Marco; C. McLaughlin (Secretary); S. Mueller; R. Pitt; E. Simson; S. Spinette; P. Thomas;

Student Representatives: Adewole Akinbi; Esohe Irabor

Excused: V. La Ferla

Absent:

Guests: L. Capalbo; C. McKamey; E. Steiglitz; R. Cvornyek; E. P. Morenon; M. Baker; E.J. Min; K. Castagno; S. Tashiro

1. Call to Order: 2:02

2. Approve Minutes: UCC meeting minutes for March 22, 2013 (Thomas/ Akinbi)

Friendly edit in response to the use of on-line course to integrate movement:

The Physical Education Faculty would like to *express* their disappointment that PED 346 will be excluded from the El. Ed. Program. *As a substitution for this course* students will be taking an on-line workshop on integrating Physical Education and movement into instruction. We have found there were many El. Ed. majors who have had bad experiences in physical education; part of *the PED 346 course* focused on advocacy on how physical education should be taught, often times, changing *that* perception. We are afraid students who have had bad experiences in physical education will not *properly* implement movement *into* the curriculum *by earning a badges* option.

Action: Unanimously Approved

3. Report of the Chair

- Term Expirations – Seven UCC seats will be expiring; a call has been put out to Elections Committee to fill these before the May meeting. Feel free to self-nominate if you are interested in continuing for another term.
- Annual reports are due at the May meeting. Continuing Education will report at the September meeting.
- Catalog is being finalized and edited. New system for loading catalog as an e-version is progressing

4. Report of COGE: Report can be found at: http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php

5. Report of Writing Board: Report can be found at: http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php

6. Old Business

Theater

Motion to Approve: (Blanchette/Marco)

- 12-13-097 Revise THTR 240, add credit hour, and when offered. GE A.

Discussion: THTR 240 is being revised so that it can be included in General Education under the Arts—Visual and Performing distribution. The course will become a 4 credit class. Students will be required to attend three productions and write three review papers for the additional course credit.

Action: Unanimously Approved

7. New Business

Economics

Motion to Approve: (Aydogdu/Horn)

- 12-13-098 Revise ECON 449 to add a credit hour, change title and description.

Discussion: This request was made to meet course specific needs and reflect widened course materials, including adoption of the statistical software package called STATA. The new title: *Introduction to Econometrics*, reflects the addition of additional estimation methods, such as bivariate and multivariate linear and non-linear regression. The request for the additional credit accommodates the computer laboratory hour to cover STATA training.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Art

Motion to Approve: (Espinosa/Horn)

- 12-13-099 Approve new course ART 261 Art and Money. GE C.

Discussion: This is a new General Education - Connections offering. It will expand course choices. This course will provide the opportunity to view art through a lens other than stylistic development and contextual history, enabling comparison across time and across cultures. It will introduce basic economic concepts related to markets and value as well as art historical questions about authenticity, authorship, and how paintings express ideas.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Communication

Motion to Approve: (Espinosa/ Akinbi)

- 12-13-100 Approve new course COMM 263 East Asian Media and Popular Culture GE C.

Discussion: This is a new General Education - Connections offering. This course examines and compares the contemporary forms of mass culture among China (including Hong Kong and Taiwan), Japan, and Korea by studying political, social, and cultural implications of transnational cultural flows between East Asia and the West through various forms of mass media such as films, television shows, anime, internet, music, video games, etc.

Action: Unanimously Approved

General Education

Motion to Approve: (Blanchette/Magyar)

- 12-13-101 Revise GED The Holocaust and Genocide (changing GEN to GED to avoid confusion here and on other General Education courses), title and prerequisite.

Discussion: This General Education – Connections course examines the Holocaust and other genocides that have taken place in western and non-western countries. Comparative analyses and critical assessments of various manifestations of genocide will be explored.

****The change from GEN to GED in the prefix is to avoid confusion with the new GEND courses that are being offered. This will be affected on all General Education courses for the Fall 2013 catalog.**

Action: Unanimously Approved

Anthropology

Motion to Approve: (Espinosa/Horn)

- 12-13-102 Approve new course ANTH 266 Anthropological & Indigenous Perspectives on Place. GE C.

Discussion: This is a proposal to develop a new General Education - Connections course by revising an old core 4 listing.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Youth Development

Motion to Bundle and Approve (Akinbi/Marco)

- 12-13-103 Revise Youth Development program, drop and add courses, offer alternative to minor.
- 12-13-104 Approve new course FNED 403 Advanced Issues in Youth Development.

Discussion: SPED 300 should be the main option to fulfill the special education requirement. It is a more generalized course appropriate for youth workers. INST 251 will not assist student with the development of computer skills necessary for work with youth in a number of settings. Students can choose *either* a minor from the course catalog *or* a concentration of courses related to their field of interest (15-20 credits). Concentration courses would need to be approved by a program advisor. 6 credits would need to be 300 level or above.

FNED 403 will function like a student teaching seminar and will provide students with a reflective space to synthesize and analyze their field experiences and professional development as youth workers in relation to their program coursework, classroom discussions, course materials, and professional standards. Coursework is aligned with key elements required by the National Child and Youth Care Certification Portfolio and the Rhode Island Core Knowledge and Core Competencies for Afterschool and Youth Development Professionals.

Action: Unanimously Approved

CIS and Accounting

Motion to Approve: (Aydogdu/Blancette)

- 12-13-105 Revision of Accounting and Computer Information Systems programs to delete two courses from their program requirements: MATH 238 and MGT 249.

Discussion: The Math department has revised and increased topic coverage in Math 177 and Math 248 as a result of moving these courses from 3 to 4-credit courses under the new general education program. The math topics covered in these revised courses are now sufficient for accounting and CIS majors. It is no longer necessary to include math 238 and management 249 as program requirements.

Action: Unanimously Approved

History

Motion to Approve: (Akinbi/Espinosa)

- 12-13-106 Move all History courses to 4 credits. This will change several program counts, including History (courses have been deleted from SED History to keep totals the same), so all will remain within required limits.

Discussion: A 4-credit course will permit more writing instruction and writing assignments beyond that which has typically been required in our 200 and 300 level courses. The increase to 4 - credits allows for greater depth and breadth of coverage made necessary by the fact that over the last several decades historical knowledge has expanded greatly as more primary materials have become available, as new fields have been developed, and as new disciplinary approaches have been pioneered in each area of the history major.

Action: Unanimously Approved

CSCI

Motion to Bundle and Approve: (Akinbi/Marco)

- 12-13-107 Revise CSCI 423 to add a credit, change description, prerequisites and when offered. GE AQSR.
- 12-13-108 Approve CSCI 476 Advanced Topics in Computer Science.
- 12-13-109 Revise CSCI 315 title only.
- 12-13-110 Revise BA Computer Science program
- 12-13-111 Revise BS Computer Science program

Discussion: CSCI 423 - The primary reason for the increase in 1 credit for CSCI 423 is to update its content to match current requirements and topics. Analysis of algorithms is a fundamental course in the development of problem solving and critical thinking skills for any scientist, especially a computer scientist.

CSCI 476 – CSCI 450 courses are not explicitly included in the major in the RIC Catalog. Students fill out a substitution form to have some CSCI 450 Topics class included as part of their majors. Offering the CSCI 476 is a way of explicitly recognizing that we offer courses in advanced topics on a regular basis and clarifying the position they hold within the major. CSCI 315 --The name DATA STRUCTURES accurately represents this course and is the standard name used for this course in of Computer Science.

CS435 – The move to Spring gives the program a balanced number of required courses in each semester.

CSCI (BA) - CS 423 required, as this course is more useful in a computer programmer's profession. It also is a course that prepares graduates for technical interviews when they apply for jobs. CS 422 will become a restricted elective.

Restricted Electives - This proposal combines the two lists making it easier and clearer for students to choose courses.

These changes will make the required courses in the program more beneficial to the B.A. in CS major. It also will streamline the program allowing students to have a balanced program.

CSCI (BS) – CS 422 is no longer required. Most of the content in CS 422 is taught in other courses: Math 436, CS 325 and will be in the revised CS 423. CS 422 will become a restricted elective.

Restricted Electives - This proposal combines the two lists making it easier and clearer for students to choose courses.

These changes will make the required courses in the program more beneficial to the B.A. in CS major. It also will streamline the program allowing students to have a balanced program.

CS435 – The move to Spring gives the program a balanced number of required courses in each semester.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Elementary Education and Special Education

Motion to Bundle and Approve: (Espinosa/Horn)

- 12-13-112 Revise ELED/SPED program to allow for an easier admission process. Also adding a new course and revising two others.
- 12-13-113 Approve new course ELED 302 Teaching All Learners: Foundations and Strategies (to be cross-listed as SPED 302).
- 12-13-114 Revise SPED 412, title, description and prerequisite.
- 12-13-115 Revise SPED 458 (from SPED 558), add credit hour and contact time, revise title and prerequisite.

Discussion: ELED/SPED revision--Each department has provided separate courses and field-based experiences that have not been sequential, cohesive, or instructive of inclusive practices that are the norm in schools today. Toward that end, the FSEHD has redesigned a B.S. integrated program that will: offer a clear sequential and developmental framework for courses/assessments; demonstrate collaborative teaching at entry (SPED302); provide a cohort-based structure; highlight/showcase the expertise of both programs/faculty; create defined relationships and authentic partnerships with schools; culminate with a full-year student teaching residency

ELED 302 - In this collaboratively designed and implemented foundational course, in the revised B.S. in elementary education, teacher candidates will be introduced to essential elements of effective teaching practice, both universal and specialized, across a range of learners and educational settings. Additionally, candidates will benefit from modeling of and instruction on collaborative teaching practices, a key tenet of the revised program. Finally, candidates will be able to integrate and apply their knowledge of diverse learners and developing skills in varied field experiences embedded in the coursework.

SPED 412 - Curriculum and instructional approaches for children with mild/moderate disabilities (Gr. 1-6) are analyzed. Emphasis is on assessment and intervention in reading and writing for children with disabilities.

SPED 458 - Key courses in math/science for students with disabilities were defined as a critical need for teacher candidate preparation. A Math/Science course existed at the graduate level (SPED558) that could easily be incorporated in the B.S. program with a slight change to the course number: SPED 458. Subtle change in title was made to better align with the SPED 412 course changes.

Action: *Unanimously Approved*

Mathematics (Tabled)

- 12-13-116 Revise MATH 240, add a credit and change description. GE M.
- 12-13-117 Revise SE MATH major, switch CSCI cognate to one with more suitable content.
- **Action:** **TABLED**

Honors

Motion to Approve:

- 12-13-118 Revise HONR 264, title, description and prerequisite. GE C.

Discussion: The title and catalog description for Honors 264 is being revised to accord with the new General Education Honors Program. Honors 264, which satisfied the Core 4 requirement in the old General Education Honors Program, will satisfy the Connections category in the new program. Classes run as Honors 264 will have been approved by COGE as Connections classes. There will be no impact on students or faculty.

Action: *Unanimously Approved*

Grading System

Motion to Approve: **TABLED**

- 12-13-119 Add S/U/H to course descriptions on all courses that only grade using these.

Action: **TABLED for May Meeting**

8. Other New Business

- None

9. Motion to adjourn. 2:47 (Espinosa/Akinbi)