



## UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC) ACTION FORM

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DECEMBER 2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action  
Document(s): #14-15-033 and #14-15-034.

Recommendation: Approve.  
Date of Action: 12/19/2014  
Originated by: Rachel Filinson, Director Gerontology  
(Department, Person, or Group)  
Effective date: Fall 2015  
Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: #033 is a request to revise SOC 315 Community to become a field experience course that can be added as a required elective for Sociology programs and used as a core requirement for the Gerontology minor and CUS. A credit will be added to the course, a new description to explain its new focus, and a more stringent prerequisite. #034 would like to revise the Connections course SOC 261, to become cross-listed as SOC/GRTL 303, and become an elective in all Sociology and Gerontology programs, but no longer a Connections, and so the prerequisite will also be changed. One reason for the change is that this particular course lends itself to Distance Learning, which is not allowed for Connections courses, but it will work well as an elective for SOC and GRTL.

### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action  
Document(s): #14-15-035 and #14-15-036.

Recommendation: Approve.  
Date of Action: 12/19/2014  
Originated by: Mikaila Arthur, Sociology  
(Department, Person, or Group)  
Effective date: Fall 2015  
Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: #035 and #036 are requests to revise the titles and descriptions of both SOC 208 (which is a Gen Ed. option for SB) and SOC 344 to make them better reflect current racial terminology. Thus SOC 208 will become The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity (instead of Minority Group Relations) and SOC 344 Race and Justice (instead of Minority Issues in Justice Systems). The descriptions are being similarly updated.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-037.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Glenn Rawson, Chair Philosophy  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: Proposal to revise the PHIL minor in History of Philosophical Thought to add HIST 340 The Muslim World from the Age of Muhammad to 1800, as an appropriate elective.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-038.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Maricarmen Margenot, Chair Modern Languages  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: Several of the Modern Language course prerequisites have fallen out of date with current practice and need amending. In many cases the

placement test is a more accurate means to uncover if a student is ready for a particular class, and several other classes have inappropriate courses for prerequisites. Thus, PORT 102, PORT 113, SPAN 102, SPAN 113 and SPAN 201 will use the placement test, in place of CEEB scores or secondary school experience. PORT 201 and PORT 202 will use PORT 115 rather than 114, and SPAN 201 will use SPAN 115 in place of SPAN 114. SPAN 202 will use SPAN 201 rather than SPAN 114. While these are merely editorial changes, it is also time to remove the references to a course being (Formerly...) from three course descriptions and update when three courses are being offered.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-039 and #14-15-040.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Jill Harrison, Director of Justice Studies  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: #039 asks to revise the description of JSTD 466 to make its Writing in the Discipline content clearer, but also to offer greater variety of the type of writing that may be undergone. #040 wants to switch SOC 404 for SOC 302 in a particular track within the JSTD program, as the lower numbered course is a more suitable level course for the students taking this program.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-041.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Tom Schmeling, Chair Political Science  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: #041 asks to revise the Political Science program by adding two additional restricted electives (POL 318 and POL 345), which are both courses that require research papers. They would also like to make some editorial changes to clarify instructions that students are currently finding hard to follow, to ensure they are choosing the right courses.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-042.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Suzanne Conklin, Biology  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: #042 asks to approve a new course: BIOL 213 Introductory Physiology of Plants and Animals, and add this into the Biology major and minor programs to improve required coverage of plant and animal physiology in the program. The major will be raised from 66-68 to 70-72 credits, but the minor is being slightly revised, changing which courses are required, to keep totals manageable: it will become 21-24 (as opposed to the current 22-24), and contain one less upper level course.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-043 and #14-15-044.

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-043 and #14-15-044.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Ellen Bigler and Maricarmen Margenot, Secondary  
Education and Modern Languages  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Spring 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: 043# asks to revise the current SED/MLAN program to meet new certification requirements, which from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 will require a World Languages Education program that covers a wider range of grades. For this reason they also request a Spring 2015 implementation. This program will move outside of Secondary Education and become its own entity (the old SED major in Modern Languages will be deleted). While the actual courses the students take will be mostly the same, to satisfy the new requirements this program will include a new course, (#044) CURR 410 Teaching World Languages in Elementary Education, which will replace SED 407 and the old applied linguistics courses (in #043) FREN 400 and SPAN 400 will be deleted as individual courses and be combined into a new MLAN 400 Applied Linguistics course. Test requirements have also been updated to reflect current practice. The minor options will be deleted as they are no longer adequate for certification. The new program will be one credit higher on the bottom end, going from 78-84 to 79-84 total credits.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action  
Document(s): #14-15-045 to #14-15-048.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Mary Baker, Sarah Knowlton, and April Kiser,  
Anthropology, Biology, and History  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: In response to student demand that RIC offer this popular interdisciplinary course, this is request to approve a new program (#045): BA in Environmental Studies, both major and minor. The program will focus on how humans interact with their environment, and the essential and reciprocal relationship between humans and the natural world. New ENST courses will be created for the program: #046 ENST 200 Environmental Studies, #047 ENST 461 Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar, and #048 ENST 462 Internship in Environmental Studies (which will be cross-listed with similar internship options in POL, INGO and GEOG) and the remaining courses are spread over a variety of humanity, art, science and social science disciplines. So far it contains options

from Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Economics, English, Geography, History, INGO, Math, Philosophy, Physical Science, Political Science, Sociology, and Sustainability Studies. More courses that will lend themselves to this major will be forthcoming once the program is in place. The major total will come to 64 - 68 credits (48-56 without general education), and the minor will be 20 credits.

## APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action  
Document(s): #14-15-049 to #14-15-050.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: David Espinosa, and David Thomas History  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: In response to student interest here is another interdisciplinary course. This is request to approve a new program (#045): BA in Global Studies, both major and minor. The intent is to provide students with the methodological skills and knowledge to better understand and navigate a complex and rapidly changing world. Drawing on different disciplines, students will explore and examine the cultural, political, social, economic, geographic, and ecological manifestations and interconnections of our globalized world. One entirely new GLOB course--#050 GLOB 356 The Atlantic World--will be created for the program to satisfy its demand for a thematic and integrative course of study (the hope is to develop more interdisciplinary electives for this requirement). In addition, two current HIST courses will be cross-listed as GLOB 200 Global Studies: Methods and GLOB 460 Seminar in Global Studies to complete the core. Remaining distributions will cover areas of World Geography, Global Historical Perspectives, Global Political Systems, Global Economic Systems, and Culture, Geography, Society. There will be choices in most of these areas selected from course currently on offer at RIC from Anthropology, English, Economics, Geography, History, INGOS, Modern Languages, Political Science, and Sociology. The major total will come to 53-57 credits (45-53 without general education), and the minor will be 22-24 credits. Plans are to form a committee to

work on developing the program further, including an internship/study abroad option.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action  
Document(s): #14-15-51.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Sue Abbotson, Chair UCC  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: Now that the new CMS is in place for course listings on the website there is a problem. When students click on a particular course online, they do not always get the correct information regarding that course's prerequisites when departments use a general message at the top of their course descriptions in the catalog to stipulate various blanket prerequisites. To avoid any confusion, we need to have the prerequisite of every course be included in its individual description rather than a message at the top. This is mostly just an editorial action--but in a few places, additional language has been added where requested by the chair to make the prerequisites clearer or more in keeping with current practice. Also the missing description for CHEM 105 is included (taken from the previous catalog). Departments affected are: ACCT, ANTH, BIOL, CTE, CHEM, CIS, CSCI, ENGL, ESL, GEOG, MATH, NURS, PORT, SPAN.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action  
Document(s): #14-15-52.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Steven Threlkeld, Psychology  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: Request to change the title of PSCY 477 Research Methods III: Experimental Lab to PSCY Research Methods III: Cognitive/Brain Science Lab, to better reflect its content.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-53 to #14-15-56.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Marianne Raimondo, Management and Marketing  
Department

(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: A request to create a new undergraduate certificate in Long Term Care. The nearest place to offer such a certificate is currently in Maine and there is a growing need in this state for such a qualification, so this could be a popular CUS. Due to state licensure, that requires a Degree in HCA or another Bachelor's Degree with 15 credits of coursework in HCA to work as a nursing home administrator, the admission to this program will be Bachelor's Degree (though there are future plans to allow students in the HCA program to consider these courses as electives). Three of the required six courses for the certificate are already being offered by the Management/Marketing and Nursing and the remaining three courses that need to be created are: (#054) HCA 330 Health Care Finance (3 credits); (#055) HCA403 Long Term Care Administration ( 3 credits); and (#056) HCA 404 Long Term Care Laws and Regulations ( 2 credits). This will make the certificate 18 credits.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-57 and #14-15-58.

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014



Originated by: Mary Baker, Chair Anthropology  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: A request to revise the prerequisites of two ANTH courses (AQSR in Gen Ed): (#057) ANTH 306 and (#058) ANTH 307 to be broader, to make them more accessible, and update when these courses are offered.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014

Report of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Action

Document(s): #14-15-59

Recommendation: Approve.

Date of Action: 12/19/2014

Originated by: Sue Abbotson, Chair UCC  
(Department, Person, or Group)

Effective date: Fall 2015

Catalog citations: See pages on Curriculum website.

Comments: A request to approve the overhaul of Directed/Independent studies options across the curriculum to become more visible, more consistent, and more accurate in terms of chosen titles and prerequisites. By dedicating certain of these courses to a departmental honors sequence, we shall also move this student option more to the fore. For some departments this is simply revising the language and updating prerequisites to satisfy the clearer definitions of what we mean by "directed" and "independent" to ensure consistency between programs. For others, it is establishing new courses that will now be clearly available to students pursuing departmental honors. All of these courses follow the same essential pattern in that they are either options by which a faculty can offer students the opportunity to study a topic not currently available, or ones to mentor them in the pursuit of their own study interests, in either the goal of departmental honors or not. The following departments have elected to make changes: ACCT, AFRI, ANTH, BIOL, CHEM, COMM, CIS, ECED, ECON, ELED, ENGL, FILM, FIN, FREN, GEND, HSCI, HIST, JSTD, MGT, MATH, MUS, NURS, PED, PHIL, PHYS, PSCI, POL, PORT, PSYC, SED, SWRK, SOC, SPAN, TECH, and THTR.

#### APPROVALS

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Susan Abbotson

Date: 12/19/2014