

**Rhode Island College Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**  
**Minutes for the Meeting of**  
**November 21, 2014**  
2:00-4:00 P.M.  
Board of Governors Room

**Members Present:** S. Abbotson (Chair.), S. Breen, P. Cordeiro, C. Cummings, D. Espinosa, D. Halquist, V. La Ferla, J. Magyar, C. Marco, C. McLaughlin (Secretary), S. Mueller, R. Pitt, S. Ross, E. Simson, S. Spinette

**Student Members:** Joseph Sherry, Patrick Hurd

**Members Excused:** B. MacDonald, M. Aydogdu

**Members Absent:** S. Dixon,

**Guests:** M. Michaud, English.; D. Del Guidice, Cont. Ed; M. Baker, Anthropology; G. Godwin-Gomez, Anthropology.

1. Call to Order: 2:06
2. **Motion to Approve Minutes:** Meeting of October 17, 2014  
**Action:** Approved with 1 abstention
3. Report of the Chair
  - Progress of Independent/Directed Study subcommittee
    - Continued in Other New Business
  - Progress on the “to-do” list (See the “DONE” list: attached)
    - Many accomplishments in the last month
4. Report of COGE: Complete report can be found at :  
[http://www.ric.edu/curriculum\\_committee/monthlyreports.php](http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php)
5. Report of Writing Board: Complete report can be found at:  
[http://www.ric.edu/curriculum\\_committee/monthlyreports.php](http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php)
6. Report of Continuing Ed. and Summer Sessions: Complete report can be found at:  
[http://www.ric.edu/curriculum\\_committee/annualreports.php](http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/annualreports.php)
7. Old Business

**Political Science**

**Motion to Approve: 14-15-015** (Marco/La Ferla)

- 14-15-015 Approve raising POL 358 to 4 credits, and change when offered.

**Discussion:** Request to add on credit to course to align it with other upper level Political Science electives. The additional hour will be used to help students develop analytical writing skills. Course will be offered in Fall (odd years).

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

**Anthropology**

**Motion to Bundle and Approve: 14-15-016 – 14-15-018** (Marco/La Ferla)

- 14-15-016 Approve new course: ANTH 208 Sex and Gender in Global Perspective.
- 14-15-017 Approve new course: ANTH 346 Anthropology of Economic Development and Globalization.
- 14-15-018 Approve new course: ANTH 431 Gender, Environment and Development.

**Discussion:** Request to approve three new Anthropology courses which complement courses on sex and gender, offer other disciplinary perspectives, and enhance the offerings for the Gender and Women's Studies program and the INGOs program.

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

8. New Business

**Management**

**Motion to Approve: 14-15-019** (Magyar/Mueller)

- 14-15-019 Approve deletion of MGT 203 CADD I (not offered in three or more years)

**Discussion:** Request to eliminate the course because it has not been offered in three years.

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

**Anthropology**

**Motion to Bundle and Approve: 14-15-020 – 14-15-029** (La Ferla/Magyar)

- 14-15-020 Approve increasing ANTH 206 by one credit.
- 14-15-021 Approve new course: ANTH 214 Peoples and Cultures of Amazonia
- 14-15-022 Revise ANTH 311 in the way it is listed; new title and description.
- 14-15-023 Approve new course: ANTH 312 Archaeology of Mesopotamia and South Asia
- 14-15-024 Delete ANTH 313 Regional Studies in Archaeology – Europe, and ANTH 319 Regional Studies in Cultural Anthropology – Africa.
- 14-15-025 Revise ANTH 314 in the way it is listed; new title and description.
- 14-15-026 Revise ANTH 325 in the way it is listed; new title, description, and when offered.
- 14-15-027 Revise ANTH 327 in the way it is listed; new title and description.
- 14-15-028 Approve new course: ANTH 330 Language Endangerment and Linguistic Revitalization.
- 14-15-029 Delete ANTH 418 Cultural Pluralism

**Discussion:** Requested revisions will make the program easier to navigate. The addition of 1 hour to ANTH 206 will be used for enhancing research/writing skills in the program. Courses formerly placed under one heading will be given their own titles and descriptions. The addition of new coursework that reflects the strengths of the faculty has also been requested. This proposal also requests the deletion of old courses, for which there is no longer expert faculty to teach.

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

**Finance**

**Motion to Bundle and Approve: 14-15-030 & 14-15-031** (Marco/Magyar)

- 14-15-030 Revise FIN program, moving MKT 301 from an elective to a cognate, and adding FIN 447 as a new elective.
- 14-15-031 Approve new course: FIN 447 Financial Modeling

**Discussion:** Request to make MKT 301 Introduction to Marketing a program cognate (was an elective) so that all students will be required to take this course. The required elective list will include a new course FIN 447 Financial Modeling.

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

### **Physical Science**

**Motion Approve: 14-15-032** (Marco/Magyar)

- 14-15-032 Revise PSCI 357 to add a prerequisite, and delete an outdated reference in the description.

**Discussion:** Request made to add a prerequisite to PSCI 357, and to remove an outdated cross-listing with HIST 357 that no longer exists.

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

## 9. Other New Business

- Recommendations from Subcommittee on definitions for Directed Study/Independent Study. Definitions edited by the committee to read:
  - *Independent Study (X9Xs):* Students select a topic and undertake a concentrated research or a creative activity mentored by a faculty member.
  - *Directed Study (X90s):* Designed to be a substitute for a traditional course under the instruction of a faculty member.

### **Discussion:**

- The current definitions are confusingly similar and may not make clear to student the intent of these courses—the new definitions will make this clearer. How do programs use their directed study and independent study courses? Will programs at RIC need to develop other descriptions for these courses, or can these definitions fit for everyone? Science research courses are slightly different, but they are already fairly consistent in the catalog so mostly can be left alone, though all DS/IS should have the prerequisite: consent of instructor, department chair (or program director), and dean (as these people need to sign the study form for records).
- How do we address departmental Honors? Rules for IS in Honors have been established for that program. IS 1 required before IS 2 – both must be taken.
- How best to implement? Many programs have both IS and DS on the books. Some use the term “readings” but the numbering for these is inconsistent and most look to be easily replaced by Directed Study.
  - X50 = Topics
  - X60 = Seminar
  - X70 = Readings
  - X80 = Workshop
  - X90 = Independent Study
- Contract implications must be reviewed. How are each dealt with according to the current contract? Contract terms are not consistent with current courses as they reference only Directed Readings and Independent Study. Are all (IS & DS) compensated equally? Need to talk with Jason Blank, AFT.
- Recommend that definitions are used across the catalog where necessary, but can be adapted by each department. Chair will send a copy of the memorandum, along with suggestions of possible changes to each department chair and program director, then once each chair/director has given feedback, put together a single proposal to make all the changes at once.

- ***Motion to Approve definitions for Independent Study and Directed Study:***  
(Cordeiro/Espinosa)

**Action:** Approved Unanimously

9. Motion to adjourn. 3:31 (Pitt/Espinosa)

“The Done List” Attachment follows

Chair’s Report:

The Done List (for Nov. meeting)

- We have the proposal to fix the 357 PSCI course that has no prereq.
- We have a proposal for ANTH—325 and several other ANTH updates that help streamline their listings in the catalog.
- Solved the question of whether or not to delete ARTE 340 and MUSE 241—will be keeping for the ECED students.
- COGE will look at deletion of Core 3 and old Core 4 courses/other old gen eds toward the end of the year.
- COGE will be looking into indicating aspects of the WID courses by program on the web (GE pages)—toward the end of the year.
- 490 and 491/2 courses—Directed Study/Independent Study etc.—make consistent. WIP—working towards a memoranda. Several Dept. chairs already given feedback. Subcommittee have a follow up.
- Added a rule into the Manual regarding who is able to make a proposal.