

Committee I: Undergraduate Programs Committee
Kim Green, Chair
Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 1:30 pm (Google Meet)
Minutes approved November 2, 2023

Attendance: Stacy Boyd, Nancy Capponi, Betsy Dahms, Sarah Elias, Kim Green, Robert Griffin, Donna Haley, Mark Janzen, Anca Koczkas, Cody Mason, Doug McWilliams, Margaret Mitchell, Kayla Myers, David Newton, Kwang Shin, Kelly Williams

Guests: Shelly Elman, John Garner, Hannes Gerhardt, Anja Remshagen

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of September 7 Meeting Minutes
Minutes were approved.
- III. Program and Course Proposals
 - A) College of Arts, Culture and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of Art, History, and Philosophy
 - a) [Philosophy, B.A.](#)

Request: Revise

The Philosophy B.A. currently requires eight required upper-level courses plus three classes chosen from remaining PHIL electives at the 3/4000-level for a total of 11 courses (or 33 hours) beyond Area F. The proposed change reduces the number of specifically required classes to only PHIL 4300, along with any ten 3/4000-level PHIL electives. The total required hours remain the same (a total of 11 courses or 33 hours).

John Garner explained the Philosophy B.A. and Philosophy LJS track, B.A. (proposal below) revisions which increase flexibility for students in obtaining classes to fill program requirements. These two proposals were voted on together, and they were approved.

- b) [Philosophy, Law, Justice, and Society Track, B.A.](#)

Request: Revise

The Philosophy B.A., Law, Justice, and Society (LJS) track currently requires eight required upper-level courses plus three classes chosen from remaining electives at the 3/4000-level for a total of 11 courses (or 33 hours) beyond Area F. The proposed change reduces the number of specifically required classes to PHIL 4300, plus three courses from the LJS track options, plus any seven 3/4000-level PHIL electives. The total required hours remain the same (a total of 11 courses or 33 hours).

This proposal was voted on as a block with the Philosophy B.A. as described above. Program revision was approved.

2) Department of Computing and Mathematics

a) [Computing, Nexus](#)

Request: Revise

This proposal adds a specialization in User Interface/User Experience Design (UI/UX Design) for the Nexus in Computing. The courses that are required for this specialization exist already and are offered as part of the existing Nexus specializations and/or as part of the B.S. in Computing.

Anja Remshagen explained this proposal which provides an additional specialization in the Computing Nexus. The proposal was approved.

3) Department of English, Film, Languages, and Performing Arts

a) [Theatre, B.A.](#)

Request: Revise

The proposal adds the words “within, or” to the description of the 12 credit hours of Free Electives, allowing for the electives to be taken within instead of just outside the program. The revised description will read "12 credit hours must be in courses numbered 3000 or above within and/or outside the major."

Shelly Elman explained that this proposal expands the options for electives by allowing students to choose electives from within the major instead of only outside. This proposal was approved.

4) Department of Natural Sciences

a) [Environment, Sustainability, and GIS, B.S.](#)

Request: Revise

This revision has two parts. PART I: The revision changes the program name (from the current name “Geography”) without changing the degree. PART II: The Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s Degree Pathway in Geography (Environmental Science Education) (BS) to Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) at the University of West Georgia allows outstanding students who major in Geography and are interested in Secondary Education to count up to three (3) hours of undergrad credits in the MAT program.

The Accelerated Bachelors to Masters (ABM) pathway for the Geography BS is the part of this proposal that requires UPC and Senate processing (Part 2 of this Curriculog entry). The course that is used for the ABM pathway is Scientific Communication 4411/5411. UPC approved the ABM proposal.

The program name request (Part 1 of the Curriculog entry) does not affect the name of the degree (Geography BS) and, therefore, does not require UPC action. That name proposal will be presented to the Provost's office through a separate process.

B) School of Communications, Film, and Media

1) [COMM - 2256 - Film Form and Aesthetics](#)

Request: Add

This course is a new offering to provide film production students with bespoke film analysis skills through the lens of production. The class is foundational to plans for curriculum to be delivered at our Douglasville site at Great Point Studios.

This new course supports the offerings that are being developed in Douglasville. The course was approved.

2) [Film & Video Production, BS](#)

Request: Revise

This proposal adds the new course COMM 2256 as an option to fulfill a requirement in Core Area F for this program.

The program revision is adding the new course created in the proposal above. The revision was approved.

3) [Mass Communications, BS](#)

Request: Revise

The B.S. Mass Communications has four concentrations. Each one has changes as listed below:

Digital Media concentration: (i) COMM 4456 Digital Content Creation will be required.

(ii) Adds COMM 3302 (now Writing Across Media) as a third option for the required writing course (iii) COMM 3354 (Digital Social Media & Society) will be required for DME concentration rather than a major selects choice (selects to include COMM 3356).

Film & Video Production: COMM 2256 (new course: Film Form and Aesthetics) added as a required course.

Journalism: COMM 3302 will be an approved major elective but will no longer be an option for one of the concentration's requirements.

Public Relations: (i) COMM 3302 replaces COMM 3301 as a requirement (ii) COMM 4486 Internship is added as an option for the required experiential learning.

Electives are split into two categories.

The revisions for all concentrations were voted on as a block. A clarification regarding the Public Relations proposal is that students can use either the bluestone consulting or COMM 4486 internship for experiential learning. The note about electives split into two categories applies to all concentrations, but this structure does not need UPC attention or approval. These revisions for the concentrations in the Mass Communications, B.S. were approved.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

A. Proposed updates to core from USG

Instructions will be provided from the Provost's office to the faculty about the implementation of the updates to the core that change the category names (from Areas A – E to IMPACTS) and require specific skills to be stated in syllabi. It is unclear at this point what changes prompted by this core update, if any, will need UPC action.

B. Proposed new schedule of class times

One way for departments to provide feedback on the proposed new schedule of class times is to submit it through the UPC and, from here, it will be submitted to the Executive Committee of the Senate. Departments that have collected feedback will anonymize it and send it to the UPC chair.