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Undergraduate Council Meeting Minutes

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Undergraduate Council Minutes of Meeting September 8, 2020

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**The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Undergraduate Council
Minutes of the Meeting
September 8, 2020**

Leadership and Elected Members present: Chair Cheryl Kojima, Vice Chair Joanne Devlin, Past Chair Anthony Welch, Brian Ambroziak, Ken Baker, Mark Barker, Richard Bennett, Robyn Blakeman, Alison Buchan, Jamie Coble, Sarah Colby, Kim Denton, Erin Hardin, Yuanyang Liu, Lindsay Mahony (by proxy Shawn Carson), Harrison Meadows, Christine Nattrass, Charlie Parker, Devendra Potnis, Urmila Seshagiri, Phillip Stokes, Anna Szykiewicz, Kathleen Thompson, Amanda Warren, Josh Weinhandl

Ex-Officio Members present: Kari Alldredge, Lisa Byrd (represented by Margie Russell), Chuck Collins, Justin Howe (by proxy Kelly Waugh), George Drinnon (represented by Betsy Gullett), Jeff Fairbrother, Anne Hulse, Sadie Hutson, Ronald Kalafsky, Chris Lavan, Robert Mindrup, Barbara Murphy, Teresa Walker

Student Members present: Phillip Clark, Jonah Schoenike

Others present: Mary Beth Burlison, Ryan Carter, Alison Connor, Fabrizio D'Aloisio, R.J. Hinde, Brent Lamons, Lane Morris, Rebekah Page, Roslyn Perry, Jana Spitzer, Molly Sullivan, Stephanie Workman

Welcome and Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm by Cheryl Kojima, Chair.

Proposals and actions taken:

- **Academic Policy Committee**
 - **Proposal to Formerly Define Lower- and Upper-Division Courses**

As part of the Fifth Year Report for SACSCOC, the university has developed guidelines for identifying the characteristics that define undergraduate course level, which is especially needed when determining transfer credit when the course from another institution is not an exact equivalent to one at UTK.

After a brief discussion, the proposal passed without opposition.
 - **Proposal to Update Policy Regarding the American History Requirement**

The university updated its guidelines regarding the state-mandated American History requirement in response to a revision by the State of Tennessee that allows three credit hours of American History to be satisfied by three credit hours of Tennessee History. The university's policy identifies requirements for both domestic and international students in both the current general education curriculum and the Vol Core general education curriculum, including catalog text to be used under each curriculum.

After a brief discussion and the removal of redundant text, the proposal was approved without opposition.
 - **Proposal to Set the Dates for the "10% Rule" for the Shortened Fall Term 2020**

The restructuring of the fall term for 2020 required that the period referred to in the rule that "in-class, written quizzes or tests counting more than 10% of the semester grade may not be given the last five calendar days before the study period" needed to be clearly defined.

The proposal was approved with only one dissenting vote.
- **Advising Committee**

The Advising Committee presented a report that was informational and did not require action by the Undergraduate Council.
- **Curriculum Committee**
 - **Corrections to the 2020-2021 Catalog**

The committee recommended minor changes to correct previously approved proposals. These items were approved without opposition.
 - **Informational Item Regarding AP Credit**

An informational item indicating credit for the Art History Advanced Placement exam was included in order to have an official record of this decision by content experts.

This item did not require action on the part of the Undergraduate Council.

- **Proposal to Postpone Implementation of Vol Core**

The Curriculum Committee, in response to letters from two of the university's colleges, made a motion to postpone implementation of the Vol Core general education curriculum and the Contemporary Issues and Solutions (CIS) graduation requirement by one academic year.

The Undergraduate Council Chair accepted this proposal as a motion but deferred action until the General Education Committee presented their report, because that committee was also presenting a similar proposal.

- **General Education Committee**

- **Proposal to Postpone Implementation of Vol Core**

The General Education Committee, having received and reviewed the same letters regarding Vol Core implementation that the Curriculum Committee received, presented a proposal to postpone the implementation of the new general education curriculum and the CIS graduation requirement for one year.

Several concerns regarding both the advantages and disadvantages of postponing implementation were addressed. Both committees tied the implementation of the CIS graduation requirement to the implementation of Vol Core. The Undergraduate Council passed the proposal with only one dissenting vote. The Vol Core Implementation Committee will meet to determine the new timeline for implementation. The General Education Committee will strongly encourage departments and colleges to submit proposals for courses that were approved under the current general education curriculum but have not yet been submitted for approval under Vol Core in order for departments and colleges to build their program requirements using those courses. The Committee held additional meetings during the last academic year and has planned several extra meetings during the current academic year in order to review proposals.

- **Course Proposals**

The General Education Committee presented 41 courses to be approved under Vol Core. All proposals were approved without opposition.

- **Vol Core Logo**

The General Education Committee is exploring the possibility of providing a logo for instructors to use on course syllabi to indicate that the course has been approved to satisfy a Vol Core requirement. Examples were provided, but no action was taken at this time.

- **Enrollment Management**

- **Test-Optional Admissions**

One consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic is that some incoming freshman applicants have been unable to take the standardized exams usually required by the university. Admissions personnel developed an alternate procedure for determining the probability that an incoming student would be successful at UTK and explained how the procedure was tested and compared to previous processes. Several concerns were raised about connected procedures such as prerequisites normally satisfied by test scores. Possible solutions were discussed. This item did not require action by the Undergraduate Council.

Reports (see attached)

Academic Policy Committee	5395
Advising Committee	5398
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee	5401
General Education Committee	5408
Enrollment Management	5410

Adjournment: Cheryl Kojima adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Next regularly scheduled meeting: Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 3:40 pm via online software.

Approval of minutes: These minutes were certified correct via email on September 14, 2020.

Minutes submitted by: Molly Sullivan

Academic Policy Committee**The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Academic Policy Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
August 26, 2020**

Call to order: A regularly scheduled meeting of the Academic Policy Committee was held via online meeting software on August 26, 2020. The meeting was called to order once quorum was determined to be met at 1:30 p.m. by Jamie Coble, Chair.

Members present: Jamie Coble (Chair), Robyn Blakeman, Lisa Byrd, Leonard Clemons, Sarah Colby, Ozlem Kilic, Charlie Parker, Roslyn Perry, Andy Puckett (by proxy Larry Fauver), Phillip Stokes.

Others present: Katherine Ambroziak, Mary Beth Burlison, Ryan Carter, Chuck Collins, George Drinnon, Jennifer Hardy, R.J. Hinde, Brent Lamons, Lane Morris, Missy Parker, Margie Russell, Janet Schmitt, John Stier, Molly Sullivan, and Anthony Welch

Proposals:

- Proposal to Formally Define Lower- and Upper-Division Courses
The committee unanimously adopted language to clearly define course levels for 100-, 200-, 300- and 400-level courses. (See attached proposal.)
- Proposal to Update Policy Regarding the American History Requirement
The proposal was edited to be applicable for the current general education curriculum as well as for the first catalog that contains the Vol Core curriculum. The proposal was approved.
- Proposal to Set the Dates for the "10% Rule" for the Shortened Fall Term 2020
The proposal was approved.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: These minutes were certified correct via email on August 31, 2020.

Minutes submitted by: Molly Sullivan

Proposal to Formally Define Lower- and Upper-Division Courses

(Note: existing items are in black text, new items are in red text.)

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
GENERAL REGULATIONS****Course Numbers and Levels**

Each course offered by the university is identified by the name of the academic discipline and a three-digit course number. These numbers indicate course level.

Course Numbers	Level
000-099	Noncredit; preparatory.
100-299	Lower division; primarily for freshmen and sophomores.
300-499	Upper division; primarily for juniors and seniors; when taken for graduate credit, the letter G will precede the course credit hours on the grade report.
500-599	Graduate; sometimes available for undergraduate credit; when taken for undergraduate credit, the letter U will precede the course credit hours on the grade report.

600-699	Advanced graduate; open to graduate students; available for undergraduate credit (with approval of instructor) for students holding a degree who are taking additional work as undergraduate non-degree students; when taken for undergraduate credit, the letter U will precede the course credit hours on the grade report.
800-899	Veterinary Medicine; Law.
900-999	Law.

Lower-division courses are offered at the 100- and 200-levels. These courses generally have one or more of the following characteristics:

- The course has either no prerequisites or a very limited number of prerequisites, which are typically preceding courses in the same subject area or foundational courses in a closely-related subject area.
- Registration in the course is open to students of all classifications.
- The course is offered to students in all majors.

100-level courses should be suitable for first-year college students, although students beyond their first year frequently enroll in 100-level courses to explore new subjects or to satisfy prerequisite requirements for their major or minor courses. 200-level courses should be suitable for second-year college students, although well-prepared first-year students can succeed in these courses.

Upper-division courses are offered at the 300- and 400-levels. These courses often require students to have previously completed extensive college-level study in the same subject area or in closely-related subject areas, and generally have one or more of the following characteristics:

- The course has prerequisite requirements that ensure that students are prepared to succeed in the course.
- The course is designed for students with junior or higher classification.
- The course is limited to students in specific majors.
- Registration in the course requires permission of the instructor, department, or college office.

300-level courses should be suitable for third- and fourth-year college students, but are typically inappropriate for graduate students (except possibly for purposes of remediation). 400-level courses should be suitable for fourth-year college students, although well-prepared third-year students can succeed in these courses.

Some 400-level courses are available for graduate credit; these courses are listed in the Graduate Catalog. All 400-level courses taught for graduate credit must provide information in the syllabus describing the additional learning outcomes and/or other requirements that must be satisfied in order for a student to receive graduate credit.

Rationale: SACSCOC Standard 10.7 states:

The institution publishes and implements policies for determining the amount the amount and level of credit awarded for its courses, regardless of format or mode of delivery. These policies require oversight by persons academically qualified to make the necessary judgments. In educational programs not based on credit hours (e.g., direct assessment programs), the institution has a sound means for determining credit equivalencies. (Policies for awarding credit)

Previously, the university's statement about course levels was vague. This more clearly defines undergraduate course levels.

Proposal to Update Policy Regarding the American History Requirement

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

(first paragraph, fifth bullet point)

- Comply with the state law that one unit of American history at the high school level or 6 semester hours of collegiate work be satisfactorily completed. This requirement is effective for those graduating July 1, 1978, and thereafter. It may be satisfied by completing HIUS 221-HIUS 222 (or HIUS 227-HIUS 228). **A student may elect to substitute three hours of Tennessee history either for HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) or for HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228).** Students should consult the catalog of enrollment to determine how the six credit hours for fulfillment of this requirement is to be included in individual curricula.

Rationale: The applicable Tennessee code has been revised to allow students to use three hours of Tennessee history as part of the American history requirement.

Add a new bullet point directly below the first paragraph/fifth bullet point above, **beginning with the first catalog that contains the Vol Core general education curriculum.**

- **Undergraduate students who graduated from a high school outside the United States, and who complete HIUS 221-HIUS 222 (or HIUS 227-HIUS 228) in order to satisfy the American History requirement imposed by the State of Tennessee, may apply HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) and HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228) towards Volunteer Core requirements. For these students, HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) and HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228) will each satisfy three hours of Global Citizenship US requirements. If a student who graduated from a high school outside the United States elects to substitute three hours of Tennessee history either for HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) or for HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228), the Tennessee history course will also satisfy three hours of Global Citizenship US requirements.**

Rationale: This explains how students who did not graduate from a US high school would complete the American History requirement under Vol Core. If the implementation of Vol Core is postponed, then the text above would be edited as follows for any catalog beginning with 2021-2022 until the first catalog year that Vol Core becomes active:

- Undergraduate students who graduated from a high school outside the United States, and who complete HIUS 221-HIUS 222 (or HIUS 227-HIUS 228) in order to satisfy the American History requirement imposed by the State of Tennessee, may apply HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) and HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228) towards **Cultures and Civilizations general education** requirements. **A student may elect to substitute three hours of Tennessee history either for HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) or for HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228).** ~~For these students, HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) and HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228) will each satisfy three hours of Global Citizenship US requirements. If a student who graduated from a high school outside the United States elects to substitute three hours of Tennessee history either for HIUS 221 (or HIUS 227) or for HIUS 222 (or HIUS 228), the Tennessee history course will also satisfy three hours of Global Citizenship US requirements.~~

Proposal to Set the Dates for the “10% Rule” for the Shortened Fall Term 2020

For Fall 2020 only, the five-day period for the "10% rule" will begin on Friday, November 20, 2020 and end on Tuesday, November 24, 2020.

Rationale:

The *Undergraduate Catalog* states that "In-class, written quizzes or tests counting more than 10% of the semester grade may not be given the last five calendar days before the study period."

According to the original Fall 2020 academic calendar approved by the Provost in May 2019, the last day of class for Fall 2020 was scheduled to be Wednesday, December 2, 2020. Thursday, December 3, 2020 was reserved as Study Day, and exams were scheduled to begin on Friday, December 4.

The "10% rule" cited above would have prohibited any in-class, written quizzes or tests counting more than 10% of the semester grade on three class days: Monday, November 30, 2020 through Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

After making changes to the Fall 2020 academic calendar, the last day of class for Fall 2020 is now Tuesday, November 24, 2020, and the study period has been expanded to two Study Days on Monday, November 30, 2020, and Tuesday, December 1, 2020. A literal interpretation of the 10% rule would prohibit in-class, written quizzes or tests counting more than 10% of the semester grade during the period from Wednesday, November 25, 2020, to Sunday, November 29, 2020. However, there are no classes scheduled during this five-day period, making the 10% rule meaningless.

The associate deans who oversee undergraduate academic programs in the nine colleges with such programs discussed this and suggested that for Fall 2020, the 10% rule should cover the period Friday, November 20, 2020 through Tuesday, November 24, 2020. This has the effect of prohibiting in-class, written quizzes or tests counting more than 10% of the semester grade on three class days, which is the effect that the 10% rule had before the Fall 2020 academic calendar was changed.

Advising Committee

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Advising Committee Minutes of the Meeting April 21, 2020

Via Zoom – No List of Attendees

1. Welcome and call to order – Russell
2. Old Business -none
3. New Business
 - a. Committee chair 2020-2021 – Russell announced the new chair is Lisa Byrd. Lisa is the Assistant Director of the Tickle College of Engineering Advising office. She has served as an advisor in the Tickle College of Engineering since 2008. Prior to that, she was a Graduate Assistant in the College of Arts and Sciences Advising Center. She coordinates the Tickle College of Engineering Ambassador organization and has been awarded the 2017 TennACADA Excellence in Advising Award and the 2011 University of Tennessee Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Advising.
 - b. Academic Policy changes spring 2020 – see report below
4. Standing Reports
 - Associate Vice Provost for Student Success – Karen Sullivan-Vance – no report
 - Undergraduate Council – Anthony Welch

(1) Academic Policy Updates: In March and April 2020, the Faculty Senate approved several temporary adjustments to academic policy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including extended deadlines for late course drops, the suspension of academic dismissals, and new satisfactory/no credit grading options. The Provost's Office is spearheading efforts to inform students about these policy changes. The initial email from Vice Provost Amber Williams announcing the S/CR/NC grading policy on April 8 had a 74% open rate; more guidance will be shared with students via social media during the week of April 20-24. The most up-to-date guidance for undergraduates on these policy measures can be found at <http://tiny.utk.edu/temp.UG.policies>.

No final decisions have been made about whether to extend any of these emergency measures to Summer 2020. Should such policy changes be necessary, the Undergraduate Council will schedule a meeting between late May and early June to consider them. Discussions are underway with Faculty Senate leaders to work out an approval pathway for any proposals that arise from that meeting.

(2) Volunteer Core: The current timeline for implementing Volunteer Core by Fall 2021 remains unchanged. The General Education plans to review this timeline early in the Fall 2020 semester in light of the progress we've made by then. Pending the outcome of the Faculty Senate meeting on May 4, 2020, we expect that more than 400 courses will be approved for the Vol Core curriculum by the end of the current academic year.

(3) Credit for Summer Internships: Due to closures and social distancing measures caused by COVID-19, many business partners who have hosted paid summer internships for our undergraduates can now offer only unpaid positions. In order to transcript these unpaid off-campus internships without creating a financial burden for students (who would otherwise pay per-credit-hour tuition rates for those courses), the Undergraduate Council has approved the creation of some zero-credit sections, in Mini-Term and Summer 2020 only, for certain off-campus study courses that normally carry 1-15 credit hours (BUAD 492, UNHO 492, UNST 493). This proposal will not take effect until it receives Faculty Senate approval on May 4, 2020.

(4) CEHHS Catalog Revisions: Please note that several low- and mid-impact updates to the 2020-2021 undergraduate catalog from the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences were approved later than usual this spring. These curricular proposals were inadvertently left off the UG Curriculum Committee meeting agenda in January and did not receive final approval until April 6, 2020, several weeks after priority registration for Fall 2020 began. CEHHS has been working to prepare students for these late-breaking changes, but please keep them in mind if you advise students who are interested in CEHHS courses and programs. A full list of the curricular changes can be found here: https://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_undergradcouncil/110/.

(5) Chattanooga Tornado: UG Council members are reporting that some students in the Chattanooga area have lost internet access and other essential services, perhaps for as long as two weeks. Such reports should be shared with the Office of the Dean of Students so that they can offer support to as many affected students as possible. We don't have formal provisions in place to extend deadlines for late drops or switching grade modes, but college offices might authorize retroactive changes for these students on a case-by-case basis.

- Academic Policy Committee – Joanne Devlin
 - March 4 regular meeting and two e-meetings. The outcomes of the latter two were/ will be mentioned in the Undergraduate Council report.
 - At the March 6 meeting, the APC approved six items, several of which are important to the advising community.
 - The list of Prior learning assessments (PLA) was updated to include additional categories. Aimed at associate degree Tennessee Transfer Pathway students, the PLA list now includes programs that earned credit at the initial TBR institution.
 - The American history requirement now recognizes coursework in Tennessee history as an option for half of the necessary coursework (3 credit hours) of the required 6 hours. No specific course numbers are designated to hopefully ensure simple transfer options.
 - We clarified the process and the terminology surrounding end of semester grade appeals to ensure that the catalogue language states that this applies to end of term grades and not grades on final exams.
- GENED Committee – Barbara Murphy
 - Vol Core is continuing on schedule to be launched in Fall 2021. The General Education Committee approved 50+ courses for Vol Core at their March meeting and 80+ in the April meeting.
 - We are holding one more meeting this year (May 13) to try to get as many courses through our approval process this year.
 - The Vol Core Implementation Committee also met on April 17 to discuss some of the questions received from advisors. We will post the questions and answers under FAQs on the Vol Core web page.

- Academic Inclusion – Talisha Adams no report
- Center for Career Development – Jenny Ward
 - Transition Advisors Moving to the Center for Career Development The transition advisors currently in First Year Programs will move into the Center for Career Development on June 1. The transition advisors and the CCD's exploration staff will become one new team cross-trained to provide both academic advising for students in transition and academic and career exploration coaching. As the date approaches, information will be shared with campus partners about making referrals to the new team.
 - Summer Courses 2020
 - COUN 205 Exploring Majors and Careers
 - COUN 404 Career Strategies for STEM, Agricultural, Pre-Health
- First-Year Studies – Stella Bridgeman
 - Unit Name Change to First-Year Programs
 - There will be no FYS 100 offered this year and moving forward.
 - FYS Conference will be held on the 27th. Christin Roberson has been in contact with everyone at this point. If you need more information please reach out to Christin (crobe103@utk.edu)
 - For orientation: The Advising Community are our champions for getting students in our courses.
 - Questions regarding FYS 101: Christin Roberson § Questions regarding FYS 129: Sylvia Turner (sturne31@utk.edu)
 - Academic Alert & Case Management Program and Academic Success Advocates will be moving to the Academic Success Center (June 1st)
- Honors and Scholars Programs – Kristina Cantin
 - Sarah Hunter will start sending lists of new students confirmed to one of the four Honors & Scholars Programs to the colleges around May 4th. Because Enrollment Management has extended the enrollment date, we may have a few students confirm after May 1st, and Sarah will update colleges as those as they occur. If the colleges could send Sarah, shunte24@utk.edu, the name of the person who should receive the lists, that would be very helpful.
 - Sarah will also email students one week prior to their scheduled orientation session and invite them to a Zoom session about their honors program. This will allow Honors & Scholars staff to review with students which honors course they need to take first semester before they reach advising.
 - I will email college advising directors with the instructions for students in each of the programs by mid-May. I or one of the honors advisors would be happy to join any online training the colleges are doing to discuss and clarify.
- Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships – Andrew Seidler
 - ONSF has initiated its 2020 post-graduate awards application cycle (which kickstarts UT's application process for the Fulbright, as well as for the Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell, NSF GRFP, and so forth). The first step in the process is for students to complete our non-binding Declaration of Intent Form, found here: <https://onsf.utk.edu/2020-onsf-declaration-of-intent/> As we receive forms, ONSF staff will follow up with students to set up 1-on-1 Zoom consultations to discuss the student's interests and plans in greater detail and then make a plan to move forward with their respective application(s). In addition, next week we will begin to circulate a 5-minute video we've created that focuses on the Fulbright and our campus application process. Among other things, we're hoping faculty will show the video in classes, as appropriate. Lastly, we are happy to receive referrals of juniors/seniors for post-graduate awards such as the Fulbright, but also for first- and second-year students who might be(come) candidates for nationally competitive awards: <https://onsf.utk.edu/refer-a-student-to-onsf/>
- Orientation and Transition – Lindsay Hensen – no report
- Student Success Center – Doug Renalds
 - SSC Coaching Moves to Case Management

- The Student Success Center is changing its coaching model to better serve the incoming cohort students. Incoming students who attend online orientation will be made aware of their Success Team, consisting of:
 - Academic advisor
 - One Stop counselor
 - Academic coach*.
 - Our coaching model will change to a case management model. Each coach is responsible for a case load of cohort students, including a select list of students who might warrant additional attention and resources.
 - In making coaching referrals to our office, see the student's "Your Success Team" section of EAB Navigate.
*Honors students will connect with a coach within Honors; athletes, a Thornton center counselor.
- We've got a website with our Study Day/De-Stress day info on it, including tutoring and SI schedules. Here's the website: <https://studentsuccess.utk.edu/study-day/>
- And here's a PDF of the flier: <https://studentsuccess.utk.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/34/2020/04/Study-Day-20-Website.pdf>
- Academic Advising Leadership Group – Karen Sullivan-Vance – no report
- TennACADA – Robin Anderson – no report

Enrollment Management Administration representatives

- Admissions – Norma Harrington
 - Fall 2020 confirms remain strong 5468
 - Extension of confirmation deadline to 6/1/2020
 - Guaranteed scholarship application submission deadline extended
 - Bridge numbers growing although slightly down
 - Confirms and Housing are up but Orientation if behind in numbers
- One Stop – Darren Curry
 - Many MANY thanks to everyone who helped in the All Vol Call Campaign
 - Financial aid summer packaging happening by the end of that week
 - Fall 2020 Unregistered Campaign was put on hold this spring due to COVID-19 and AVCC – will re-evaluate and communicate as needed with advising community
- Registrar – Janet Schmitt – no report
- Financial Aid – Celena Tulloss – no report
- Transfer Center – Wendy Davis – no report

Student Life representatives

- Multicultural Student Life – Ronni Williams – no report
- Student Government Association – Emma Boyle – no report
- Thornton Athletics Student Life Center – Kelsi Schaer – no report
- Office of Information Technology – Stephanie Workman - no report
- Office of Institutional Research and Assessment – Denise Gardner - no report

Minutes are approved May 11, 2020.

Curriculum Committee

**The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
August 25, 2020**

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee was held on August 25, 2020, via online meeting software. The meeting was called to order at 3:45 pm by Mark Barker, Chair.

Voting members present: Mark Barker, Chair, Brian Ambroziak, Chuck Collins, Kim Denton, Sadie Hutson, Ozlem Kilic (by proxy Margie Russell), Lindsay Mahony, Robert Mindrup, Christine Natrass, Devendra Potnis, Urmila Seshagiri, Kathleen Thompson, Joshua Weinhandl, Emma Willcox.

Others present: Mary Beth Burlison, Alison Connor, George Drinnon, Betsy Gullett, Heather Hartman, R.J. Hinde, Ron Kalafsky, Chris Lavan, Missy Parker, Roslyn Perry, Barb Murphy, Margie Russell, Jana Spitzer, John Stier, Virginia Stormer, Molly Sullivan, Anthony Welch.

Proposals

- Several low-impact corrections to the 2020-2021 catalog were presented. All were approved without opposition. (See attachments.)
- One item regarding AP credit for the Advanced Placement exam in Art History was presented as an informational item that did not require action by this committee. (See attachments.)
- Faculty from the Herbert College of Agriculture and faculty from the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sports Sciences in the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences petitioned this committee to consider delaying the implementation of the new Volunteer Core (Vol Core) general education curriculum and the accompanying Contemporary Issues and Solutions (CIS) graduation requirement until fall 2022. Their rationale is that some critical high-impact courses have not yet applied and/or been approved as satisfying these requirements, so building meaningful educational plans for several majors is currently impossible, especially in light of the additional tasks required as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic. (Please see the attached letters for additional details.) Subsequent discussion indicated other colleges were having similar trouble. The members of this committee voted unanimously to recommend delaying the implementation of both Vol Core and CIS until Fall 2022.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm.

Approval of minutes: The minutes were certified correct via email on August 31, 2020.

Minutes submitted by: Molly Sullivan

Corrections to the 2020-2021 Catalog

College of Arts and Sciences

Programs

Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

Low-
impact:
To
correct

CORRECT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Geology and Environmental Studies Major – Environmental Studies Concentration

Term 1	Hours	Milestone Notes
ENGL 101* (or equivalent)	3	Completion of at least 12 credit hours
CHEM 100*, CHEM 120*, CHEM 128* or PHYS 221*	4	
Foreign Language (intermediate level)*	3	

MATH 123*, MATH 125*, MATH 132*, MATH 141*, MATH 147*, or MATH 151*	3-4	
GEOL 101 ¹ Electives	3 4	
Term 3		
BIOL 101*, BIOL 113*-BIOL 115*, BIOL 150*-BIOL 159*, or BIOL 158*-BIOL 167*	4-5	BIOL 101* or BIOL 113* or BIOL 150*
Environmental Studies (major)	3	GEOL 101* or GEOL 102* or GEOL 103* or GEOL 104*
GEOL 101*, GEOL 102*, GEOL 103*, GEOL 104*, GEOL 107*, or GEOL 108*	4	MATH 123* or MATH 125* or MATH 132* or MATH 141* or MATH 151*
GEOL 202* or GEOL 206	3	
¹ Elective	4	

Rationale: A copy/paste error resulted in the uTrack showcases for the two concentrations under the Geology and Environmental Sciences to be incorrect in the previously approved proposal. In addition, GEOL 101 was listed in the milestone for term 3, but was not listed as a required course in any term. This corrects those errors. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.

Low-
impact:
To
correct

CORRECT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Geology and Environmental Studies Major – Geology Concentration

Term 2		
CHEM 130* or CHEM 138*	4	CHEM 120* or MATH 132* or MATH 141* or MATH 151*
Completion of required math sequence*	3-4	ENGL 101*
ENGL 102* (or equivalent)	3	
GEOL 102, GEOL 103*, or GEOL 104	4	
¹ Elective	0-1	
Term 3		
Arts and Humanities (List A or B)*	3	GEOL 102, GEOL 103*, or GEOL 104
BIOL 113*-BIOL 115*, BIOL 150*-BIOL 159*, or BIOL 158*-BIOL 167*	4-5	
Foreign Language (intermediate level)*	3	
GEOL 310	4	
Social Sciences*	3	

Rationale: A copy/paste error resulted in the uTrack showcases for the two concentrations under the Geology and Environmental Sciences to be incorrect in the previously approved proposal. This corrects that error. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.

Department of Mathematics

Low-
impact:
To
correct

CORRECT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics Major, BS - Math Education Concentration

Concentration Requirements

- For Breadth, select one course from each category:

Analysis

- ~~MATH 443 - Complex Variables~~

Rationale: This revision was approved for the major and the other concentrations under that major in January 2020, but the request was inadvertently left off the proposal for this concentration. This edit corrects that error. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.

Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures

Low-
impact:
To
correct

CORRECT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures Major, BA – Language and World Business/
Hispanic Studies Concentration****I. Language Requirement: Spanish – 30 hours**

A. Complete:

- PORT 300 - Portuguese for Speakers of Another Romance Language
- **SPAN 312 - Language in Context II**
- SPAN 330 - Textual Analysis
- SPAN 331 - Introduction to Hispanic Culture
- SPAN 346 - Language and Culture of the Hispanic Business World

II. Practical Experience – 3 hours

Notes:

Students whose level of proficiency in Spanish is superior as defined by the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines may substitute a 400-level course for SPAN 312 with consent of the department. ~~Note: SPAN 311 does not count toward the Hispanic Studies/Language and World Business Concentration but is a prerequisite for SPAN 312.~~

*Rationale: **Section I:** The curricular change for this program that was approved in January 2020 requested removal of two courses from section I.A. but only replaced one course in that section, leaving the total requirement three hours short. (Section I.A. should be 15 hours, which added to section I.B.'s 6 hours and section I.C's 9 hours, would be the correct total of 30 hours.) The addition of SPAN 312 (3 hours), which is mentioned in the text above the section, will correct that error. **Section II:** SPAN 311 was approved in January 2020 to be added as one of the "pick two" options in section I.B. of this major. That addition resulted in this note being incorrect, so it needs to be removed. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.*

Haslam College of Business

Programs

Interdisciplinary

Low-
impact:
To
correct

CORRECT TEXT**Business Administration Minor**

Notes:

All upper-division (300-level or above) coursework must be taken at the University of Tennessee. Students are responsible for meeting the listed prerequisites of any upper division courses taken. ~~(For instance, MATH 125* or MATH 141* or MATH 152* is a prerequisite to STAT 201*.)~~ Engineering students may substitute CBE 301 for STAT 201*.

Rationale: Beginning fall 2020, STAT 201 no longer has a prerequisite, so this sentence isn't needed. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.

College of Communication and Information

Courses

Department of Journalism and Electronic Media

Low-
impact:
To
correct

CORRECTION: REMOVE COMMENT

JREM 466 - Media, Diversity, and Society (3)

Formerly: Comment(s): Prior knowledge may satisfy prerequisite with consent of instructor.

Rationale: The prerequisite(s) were removed during this curricular change cycle. Now that there are no prereqs, the statement isn't needed and could be confusing to students. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.

Informational Item Regarding AP Credit

Low-
impact:
Informational

INFORMATIONAL: ADD ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EXAM

(Information Only – will be listed on our website, but not in the catalog)

Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Credit

Art History	3, 4, or 5	ARTH LD (3 credit hours)
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Rationale: The prerequisite(s) were removed during this curricular change cycle. Now that there are no prereqs, the statement isn't needed and could be confusing to students. The School of Art, Art History area, will award satisfactory credit for ARTH LD (3 credit hours) for the AP Art History Exam. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None.

Proposal to Postpone Implementation of Vol Core

Herbert College of Agriculture Multiple Departments

August 5, 2020

UTK Undergraduate Council Representatives and Administrators

Colleagues:

The Herbert College Undergraduate Council unanimously urges the UTK Undergraduate Council to postpone implementation of the VolCore changes until the 2022-2023 academic year, and to restructure the implementation timetable. The reasoning for this request is as follows:

- 1) In the midst of the pandemic response, teaching faculty and undergraduate program directors have been and continue to be overwhelmed with work that must be completed before classes begin in a few weeks. This will surely continue through the semester and perhaps year as we all strive to provide students with quality in-person and online courses. Faculty and advisors are stretched thin as a result, and just don't have time to give VolCore its deserved thoughtful effort.
- 2) It will also take an enormous effort for the VolCore subcommittees and committees to evaluate courses that have already been submitted and those still to come, to provide feedback, and to evaluate resubmissions. Most committee members are faculty heavily involved with teaching, so the odds of them getting this done before the posted curriculum change due dates are very slim.
- 3) Implementing VolCore requires two separate tasks. The first is for faculty to submit new courses or course changes for approval, which though under way for some time has lagged, surely due in large part to Covid response efforts. The second task has been given much less attention, but is for faculty to examine the lists of approved VolCore classes and to thoughtfully build reasonable and coherent programs. This cannot be done based on the current list of approved courses, which is missing many core elements underpinning our programs, and many of the categories have six or fewer approved courses (WC, QR, GC-US, CIS). Should we simply assume that the courses we hope to use will be approved later and include them in our new curricula, or should we assume that they will not be approved and replace them with poor substitutes?
- 4) There are many VolCore implementation issues that have not been dealt with, including especially how to deal with transfer students entering without an AS or AAS, and communicating those expectations to our community college partners. Moving ahead without dealing with some of these issues beforehand will lead to either massive substitution and waiver needs, or students taking far more hours than have been required, which was clearly not the intention of VolCore.

We urge the UTK Undergraduate Council to not just delay implementation, but to develop a new timetable reflecting the order in which these tasks must be completed. There must also be some way of incorporating incentives to make sure the new timetable is met and we don't experience the same sort of delays that occurred initially in the VolCore effort.

Moving ahead as we are will lead to a chaotic mess that will ultimately undermine VolCore and diminish the value of the tremendous effort it already represents.

Thanks for your consideration.



Jennifer Richards; Ag. Leadership, Education and Communications (Chair)

Karen Jones; Food Science

Joanne Logan; Environmental and Soil Sciences

Kevin Moulton; Entomology and Plant Pathology

Charlie Parker; Construction Science and Ag. Systems

Gina Pighetti; Animal Science

Andy Pulte; Plant Sciences

Jon Walton; Agricultural and Resource Economics

Emma Wilcox; Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries

Daniel Yoder; Biosystems Engineering

**College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences
Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies**

August 17, 2020

To:

Associate Deans Group
Undergraduate Council
University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN 37996

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, & Sport Studies to request a one-year delay in the implementation of the new Volunteer Core curriculum. Our department is one of the largest degree-granting departments on campus, and the new Vol Core requirements will have a significant impact on our students and faculty. Given the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, delaying the deadline for implementation is the prudent course of action.

While the Vol Core planning process has been on-going for several years, the recent events in regard to COVID-19 have caused faculty attention to be devoted to online learning, revamping course material, and implementing new styles of teaching. Faculty members have invested considerable effort to continue delivering a high-quality educational experience for students, resulting in less time to devote to administrative tasks such as Vol Core.

In a related issue, the process in getting classes approved for the new Vol Core curriculum appears to have experienced delays. Faculty members in our department have submitted several classes for approval, and the process for approval has frequently been slow with a lack of communication. This is no doubt due to the faculty serving on the Vol Core approval committees devoting their time to negotiating the challenges presented by COVID-19.

One example from our department involves the revised submission of two classes for approval in the Engaged Inquiry category. The revised submissions were submitted on December 19, and we were notified on February 27 that the review process would be completed by the end of the spring semester. However, there has been no further update on those classes. There have also been several other classes submitted from our department with little to no information provided on their approval status. We understand it is likely this situation is occurring across campus. In turn, it will be challenging to make necessary curriculum changes to our degree programs when we do not yet know the status of numerous courses submitted for approval in the Vol Core curriculum. Delaying the implementation of the new Vol Core curriculum would help ease the challenges and confusion created by the current situation.

Feel free to contact me for more information or with any questions. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robin Hardin Professor

Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies
College of Education, Health & Human Sciences
1914 Andy Holt Avenue, 322 HPER Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-2700

General Education Committee

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
General Education Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
August 26, 2020

Call to order: A regular meeting of the General Education Committee was held via online meeting software on August 26, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Barbara Murphy, Committee Chair, at 8:31 am.

Members and Subcommittee Chairs present: Barbara Murphy, Chair, Ken Baker, Richard Bennett, Megan Bryson, Sarah Colby, Chuck Collins, Marleen Davis, Kim Denton, George Drinnon, Jeff Fairbrother, Ozlem Kilic (by proxy Margie Russell), Virginia Kupritz, Sarah Lamb, Harrison Meadows, Lee Murphy, Tore Olsson, Missy Parker, Roslyn Perry, Charissa Powell, Jeff Ringer, Casey Sams, Scott Wall, and Amanda Warren,

Others present: Katherine Ambroziak, Mary Beth Burlison, Hyowon Bong, Ryan Carter, K'Cindra Cavin, Alison Connor, Betsy Gullett, R.J. Hinde, Cheryl Kojima, Joanne Logan, Jana Spitzer, and Molly Sullivan,

Proposal to Delay Implementation of Vol Core

Faculty from the Herbert College of Agriculture and faculty from the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sports Sciences in the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences petitioned both the UG Curriculum Committee and this committee to consider delaying the implementation of the new Volunteer Core (Vol Core) general education curriculum and the accompanying Contemporary Issues and Solutions (CIS) graduation requirement until fall 2022. Their rationale is that some high-impact courses have not yet applied and been approved as satisfying these requirements, so building meaningful educational plans for several majors is currently impossible, especially in light of the additional tasks required as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Subsequent discussion indicated other colleges were having similar trouble. The members of this committee voted to recommend delaying the implementation of both Vol Core and CIS until Fall 2022. Discussion also focused on encouraging faculty to submit course proposals as quickly as possible in order for this committee to approve those courses in time for faculty to then build programs with approved Vol Core courses. The Vol Core Implementation Committee will meet to discuss a revised implementation timeline.

Course Approvals

The following 41 courses were approved for Vol Core and/or for the current general education curriculum, as noted.

Abbreviation key:

- RA = Reapproval, already in the current general education curriculum, approved for Vol Core
- NGE = New to the Gen Ed category, but not new course; approved as noted
- NC = New course, approved as noted

Natural Science

Natural Sciences with Lab:

1. ASTR 151, A Journey through the Solar System (Lecture), RA
2. ASTR 152, Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology (Lecture), RA
3. ASTR 153, A Journey through the Solar System (Lab), RA
4. ASTR 154, Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology (Lab), RA
5. ASTR 217, Honors: Introductory Astronomy, RA
6. ASTR 218, Honors: Introductory Astronomy, RA
7. PHYS 135, Introduction to Physics for Physical Science and Mathematics Majors I, RA
8. PHYS 136, Introduction to Physics for Physical Science and Mathematics Majors II, RA
9. PHYS 137, Honors: Fundamentals of Physics for Physics Majors I, RA
10. PHYS 138, Honors: Fundamentals of Physics for Physics Majors II, RA
11. PHYS 221, Elements of Physics I, RA

12. PHYS 222, Elements of Physics II, RA
13. PHYS 231, Fundamentals of Physics: Electricity and Magnetism, RA
14. PHYS 232, Fundamentals of Physics: Wave Motion, Optics, and Modern Physics, RA

Natural Sciences – NonLab:

1. PHYS 101, How Things Work I, RA
2. PHYS 102, How Things Work II, RA
3. PHYS 161, Elements of Physics for Architects and Interior Design Students, RA

Social Science approved for both Vol Core and the current general education curriculum

1. POLS 453, Europe in Transition: The Political Transformation of a Continent, NGE (*Note: in the 2020-2021 catalog, the course name is Western European Politics.*)

Global Citizenship United States approved for Vol Core

1. AMST 334, Film and American Culture, NGE (cross-listed with ENGL 334 and CNST 334, English is primary)
2. AMST 423, Geography of American Popular Culture, NGE (cross-listed with GEOG 423, Geography is primary)
3. ANTH 415, Environmental Anthropology, NGE
4. CNST 334, Film and American Culture, NGE, (cross-listed with AMST 334 and ENGL 334, English is primary)
5. ENGL 334, Film and American Culture, NGE (cross-listed with AMST 334 and CNST 334, English is primary)
6. ENGL 341, Religion and Spirituality in American Literature, NGE (cross-listed with REST 341, English is primary)
7. GEOG 423, Geography of American Popular Culture, NGE (cross-listed with AMST 423, Geography is primary)
8. PSYCH 471, Psychology of Prejudice, NGE
9. REST 341, Religion and Spirituality in American Literature, NGE, (cross-listed with ENGL 341, English is primary)

GCI (Megan Bryson) approved for Vol Core

1. CFS XXX (number TBD; new course), Global Perspectives on Childhood and Learning, NC
2. HIEU 241, Development of Western Civilization (I), currently CC
3. HIEU 242, Development of Western Civilization (II), currently CC
4. HIEU 247, Honors: Development of Western Civilization (I), currently CC, (honors version of HIEU 241)
5. HIEU 248, Honors: Development of Western Civilization (II), currently CC, (honors version of HIEU 242)
6. HILA 255, Early Latin American and Caribbean History, currently CC, (cross-listed with LAC 251, History-Latin American is primary)
7. HILA 256, Modern Latin American and Caribbean History, currently CC, (cross-listed with LAC 252, History-Latin American is primary)
8. HIST 261, A History of World Civilization (I), currently CC
9. HIST 262, A History of World Civilization (II), currently CC
10. HIST 267, Honors: A History of World Civilization (I), currently CC (honors version of HIST 261)
11. HIST 268, Honors: A History of World Civilization (II), currently CC (honors version of HIST 262)
12. LAC 251, Early Latin American and Caribbean History, currently CC, (cross-listed with HILA 255, History-Latin American is primary)
13. LAC 252, Modern Latin American and Caribbean History, currently CC, (cross-listed with HILA 256, History-Latin American is primary)
14. POLS 453, Europe in Transition: The Political Transformation of a Continent, NGE (*Note: in the 2020-2021 catalog, the course name is Western European Politics.*)

Vol Core Logo

Draft of a Vol Core logo to be displayed on course syllabi of approved courses, as well as other places as appropriate were briefly discussed. Further discussion will be continued via email. Below are the options:



Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 am.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 9, 2020, beginning at 8:30 am via online meeting software.

Approval of Minutes: These minutes were certified correct via email on August 31, 2020.

Minutes Submitted by: Molly Sullivan

**Enrollment Management
Informational Item****Test-Optional Admissions**

As you all know, we recently announced that the University will make submitting standardized test scores (ACT/SAT) optional for the fall 2021 admissions cycle. Our team, partnering with many of you and others across campus, has been hard at work developing a fair and equitable admissions process for both students that submit test scores AND those that do not. As a result of this work, I am thrilled that we have received approval to communicate our new test optional scholarship. All first-year applicants who choose not to submit ACT or SAT test scores on their admissions application and have a minimum 3.8 UT weighted core GPA are automatically considered to receive the Beacon Scholarship. I've included a link below to additional information regarding this new scholarship. Also, I think it's important to note that we will continue to consider applicants for the Volunteer and Tennessee Explore scholarships for those that submit test scores as part of the application process.

Beacon Scholarship: <https://onestop.utk.edu/scholarships/beacon/>

Test Optional Press Release: <https://news.utk.edu/2020/07/24/not-requiring-standardized-tests-2021-admission/>