

**UTEP Undergraduate Curriculum Committee  
Meeting Agenda  
May 24, 2021**

**I. Call to order**

Meeting was called to order by A. Duval at 3:03 p.m.

**II. Members present:**

- Tracey Merworth, School of Nursing
- Andrew Fleck, College of Lib Arts
- Vinod Kumar, College of Engineering
- Hettie Houghton, College of Business
- Emre Umucu, College of Health Sciences
- Rey Reyes, College of Education
- Art Duval, College of Science
- Jose Herrera, College of Education, At-Large
- James Salvador, College of Science, At-Large
- Lori Acosta, School of Nursing, At-Large
- Daniel Vasquez, Student Member
- Dominic Kelly, Student Member

**III. Visitors present:**

Dr. Faith Xie, College of Business Administration  
Dr. John Hadjimarcou, Department of Marketing and Management  
Dr. Selfa Chew-Melendez, Department of History  
Dr. Michael Williams, African American Studies Program  
Dr. Pratyusha Basu, Asian Studies Program  
Dr. Dennis Bixler-Marquez, Chicano Studies Program  
Dr. Tony Blum, Department of Psychology  
Dr. Methaq Abed, Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Dr. Luc Longpre, Department of Computer Science  
Dr. Vanessa Loughheed, Biological Sciences Department  
Fernando Mata, El Paso Community College  
Yasmin Flores, El Paso Community College

**IV. Old Business:**

**A. Minutes from April 26, 2021 meeting, approved by online vote on April 27, 2021.  
Motion passes/fails ( 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**

**B. Policy Changes:**

### C. Tabled Items:

#### V. New Business:

##### A. College of Business Administration

###### 1. Department of Marketing and Management

a. Proposal: Degree Plan Change – General Business Major

b. Action Item: Remove the requirement of six hours of upper division non-business courses in the General Business degree plan. Increase the total number of upper-division hours of Business courses in that degree plan from 24 to 30, and allow a maximum of nine (up from six) of those hours to come from a single area.

c. Rationale: Moving six hours from non-business course to business courses will address the issue of hidden prerequisites for non-business courses and allow students to take more business courses, especially those courses with lab courses as co-requisites. Allowing a greater number of hours from a single area of Business will lead to greater specialization and marketability of the degree from the perspective of potential employers. These changes are expected to lead to a more attractive general business major and shorten time to graduation.

d. Motion to approve made by Kumar, seconded by Houghton. Motion passes ( 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

###### 2. Department of Marketing and Management

a. Proposal: BBA in International Business – Change in Language Requirements

b. Action Item: Change language requirement for this degree from six hours of sophomore language courses to six hours of language courses at any level, but with all six hours at the freshman or sophomore level must be in the same language sequence.

c. Rationale: Provide greater flexibility regarding language courses students can take and encourage the development of competency in a particular language. This would also address the issue of hidden prerequisites and possibly shorten time to graduation.

d. Motion to approve made by Houghton, seconded by Kumar. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

###### 3. Department of Marketing and Management

a. Proposal: Request to modify the prerequisite for OSCM 3336

b. Action Item: Change prerequisite for OSCM 3336 (Inventory Management) from OSCM 3322 (Advanced Production/Operations Management) w/D or better to OSCM 3321 (Production/Operations Management) w/D or better.

c. Rationale: Previously other OSCM courses removed the OSCM 3322 prerequisite, which was no longer needed. OSCM 3336 had not been offered in a while, but the new focus on Transportation and Logistics for the OSCM major requires OSCM 3336 to be offered again, so its prerequisite also needs to be changed now.

d. Motion to approve made by Kumar, seconded by Salvador. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

##### B. College of Engineering

###### 1. Department of Computer Science

a. Proposal: Computer Science courses prerequisites updates

b. Action Item: Change prerequisite for CS 2101 (Discrete Structures I) from MATH 1508 (Precalculus) to MATH 1508 OR MATH 1310 (Trigonometry and Conics) OR corresponding placement score. Change prerequisite for CS 3350 (Automata, Computability and Formal Languages) from (CS 2302 (Data

- Structures) w/B or better AND MATH 2300 (Discrete Mathematics) w/C or better) OR (CS 2401 (Elementary Data Structures/Algorithms) w/B or better AND MATH 2300 w/B or better) to (CS 2302 w/B or better AND CS 2202 (Discrete Structures II) w/C or better) OR (CS 2401 w/B or better AND CS 2202 w/B or better). Change prerequisite to CS 3432 (Computer Architecture I: Basic Computer Organization and Design) from (CS 2302 w/C or better AND EE 2169 (Laboratory for EE 2369) w/C or better AND EE 2369 (Digital Systems Design I) w/C or better AND MATH 2300 w/C or better) OR (CS 2401 w/B or better AND EE 2169 w/B or better and EE 2369 w/B or better AND MATH 2300 w/B or better) to (CS 2302 w/C or better AND EE 2169 w/C or better and EE 2369 w/C or better AND (MATH 2300 w/C or better OR CS 2202 w/C or better)) OR (CS 2401 w/B or better AND EE 2169 w/B or better and EE 2369 w/B or better AND (MATH 2300 w/B or better OR CS 2202 w/B or better))
- c. Rationale: The prerequisite for CS 2101 is “calculus ready”, which should be the same as the prerequisite for CS 1101 (Introduction to Computer Science Lab), CS 1190 (Special Topics in Computing), and CS 1290 (Special Topics in Computing). The prerequisite material in MATH 2300 that was necessary for CS 3350 and for CS 3432 is also included in the course CS 2202 that was introduced in Fall 2020.
  - d. **Motion to approve made by Kumar, seconded by Salvador. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**
2. Department of Mechanical Engineering
    - a. Proposal: Adding Pre-Professional Experience (MECH 4370) course
    - b. Action Item: Add MECH 4370 (Pre-Professional Experience) to the list of courses in the Solid Mechanics area of the B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. (Students must take five courses from among three areas, including one from each area.)
    - c. Rationale: Pre-Professional Experience courses in the designated areas have been offered.
    - d. **Motion to approve made by Kumar, seconded by Fleck. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**
- C. College of Liberal Arts
1. African-American Studies Program
    - a. Proposal: Changes to the description of AFST 2300 and its inclusion in the core curriculum
    - b. Action Item: Change the course description of AFST 2300 (Introduction to African American Studies), and add the course to the core curriculum
    - c. Rationale: The proposed changes to the description of AFST 2300 reflect revisions and updates in the academic field. Adding this course to the core curriculum would provide students with important means for students to engage difficult but pertinent issues and discussions, as well as opportunities to learn from and grapple with social justice issues relevant today.
    - d. **Motion to approve made by Fleck, seconded by Kumar. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**
  2. Asian Studies Program
    - a. Proposal: New course for University Core Curriculum and Asian Studies Minor: Introduction to Asian American Studies
    - b. Action Item: Create new course ASIA 2300 (Introduction to Asian American Studies), and add it to the core curriculum, and as an option to the minor in Asian Studies
    - c. Rationale: This course will expand course offerings in Asian Studies by adding a valuable component related to Asian American Studies offerings, and

- strengthen the ability of students to understand the wider relevance of Asia to understanding American society and culture. It will provide perspectives on the diversity of American society and culture, rather than positioning Asia mainly as a geographically distinct continent. Since all Asia-related courses are offered at the 3000 level, this course at the 2000 level will ensure that students have a chance to learn about Asian American issues earlier in their coursework.
- d. **Motion to approve made by Kumar, seconded by Houghton. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**
3. Chicano Studies Program
    - a. Proposals: Addition of New Course – CHIC 1311 – Chicana/o Fine Arts Appreciation; UTEP Core Curriculum Course Addition Proposal (CHIC 1311) Chicana/o Fine Arts Appreciation
    - b. Action Item: Create new course CHIC 1311 (Chicana/o Fine Arts Appreciation). Add this course to the Chicano Studies major, the Liberal Arts block electives in the B.A. degree, and to the core curriculum.
    - c. Rationale: This course will provide an overview of the Mexican/Chicana/o visual and performing arts that will serve as a foundation for upper-division courses of the Chicano Studies fine arts curriculum. It will facilitate the realignment between upper- and lower-division courses in Chicano Studies required by the recently approve B.A. degree.
    - d. **Motion to approve made by Fleck, seconded by Kumar. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**
  4. Department of Psychology
    - a. Proposal: Course Description Change for Introduction to Psychology
    - b. Action Item: Change course description for PSYC 1301 (Introduction to Psychology).
    - c. Rationale: To reflect the commitment of the Dean of Liberal Arts to anti-racism and inclusion in the College of Liberal Arts with emphasis on core courses.
    - d. **Motion to approve made by Fleck, seconded by Kumar. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**
- D. College of Science**
1. Department of Biological Sciences
    - a. Proposal: Course changes: Professional Development Course for BS in Ecology & Evolution
    - b. Action Item: Create new course BIOL 3193 (Professional Development in Ecological and Evolutionary Biology). Replace BIOL 3192 (Professional Development Seminar) by BIOL 3193 in the B.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and the 7-12 Life Science and 7-12 Science Certifications in the B.S. in Biology.
    - c. Rationale: This course is modeled after similar courses that were open to all biology undergraduates (BIOL 3192). Creating its own course code will make the required courses for Ecological and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) more clear. Environmental Science students will also have more clarity, as the EEB professional development course is often offered as a substitute for those students.
    - d. **Motion to approve made by Fleck, seconded by Kumar. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**

**E. Policy: Next year's first meeting will be August 30, 2021. Motion to approve made by Fleck, seconded by Kumar. Motion passes (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**

**VI. Motion to adjourn at 4:01 pm.**