

Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Approved Minutes

Friday, August 30th, 2024

9:00AM – 11:00AM

University 156

Attendees: Andrews, Aski, Bitters, Chamberlain, Cole, Cravens-Brown, Crocetta, Daly, Dugdale, Dwyer, Fisk, Fletcher, Frank, Hamilton, Hedgecoth, Hilty, Jones, Kurtz, Lee, Martin, McSweeney, Nagar, Neff, Ottesen, Podalsky, Pradhan, Sabel, Steele, Smith, Vankeerbergen, Vaessin, Wang, Wickham-Saxon, Xiao

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Revision to the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Demography (Guest: R. Frank)
 - Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee Letter: The Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee reviewed a request to approve a revision to the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Demography. The revision includes an update to the elective courses available to students. This list was last updated in 2020. Since then, new courses relevant to the GIS have been developed while others are no longer available or offered. The submitting unit has contacted all necessary and relevant departments to confirm the new list of electives is accurate. The Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee has unanimously approved the request and now advances the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
 - Frank: The letter accurately reflects and summarizes the changes we are making. The GIS was originally approved in 2015 and the last time the electives were updated was in 2020. The GIS is composed of two core courses and the remaining coursework is from an extensive list of electives. We are aiming to update this list of electives more frequently moving forward, based upon feedback from Directors of Graduate Studies and graduate student feedback.
 - Committee Member question: How many students are enrolled within the GIS?
 - Frank: Unfortunately, we are unsure how many students complete the GIS until they graduate, but our required core courses usually fill between 10 to 18 students, which gives us a rough idea of the size of our cohorts.
 - Committee Member question: From which departments do graduate students typically enroll into this GIS?

- Frank: It is a majority from Sociology, but we also see a significant number from Public Health, Geography, Anthropology, and Human Development and Family Sciences.
 - Social and Behavioral Sciences Letter, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**
- 3) New ASL, Access, Equity and Inclusion Bachelor of Arts program (Guests: T. Jones, J. Aski, & K. Wickham-Saxon)
- Arts and Humanities 2 Subcommittee Letter: The Arts and Humanities 2 Subcommittee reviewed a request from the Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures to create a new undergraduate major in ASL Access, Equity and Inclusion. The proposed major has the goal of training students in American Sign Language and Deaf Studies to create a more supportive society where deaf individuals can thrive. This major responds to the rapid increase in enrollments within the ASL language program and a growing need for professionals in a variety of fields with proficiency in ASL, cultural, and historical knowledge of Deaf communities within the United States. Beyond the prerequisites for the program, which consist of ASL 1101, 1102, and 1103, the proposed 30-credit hour major will have three core courses for a total of 9-credit hours, and seven elective courses for a total of 21-credit hours. This new major will offer a curricular pathway to students that is unavailable at our peer institutions within the Big 10. The Arts and Humanities 2 Subcommittee has unanimously approved the request and advances the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
 - Wickham-Saxon: This proposal stems from demand from our students, and we are very happy to have the support of the College of Arts and Sciences. To give some more insight, our minor has proven to be incredibly popular. It was started about four years ago, and we currently have 112 students declared. Additionally, as mentioned in the letter, we have had a rapid increase in the number of students enrolling in our 1101 to 1103 ASL sequence. Two years ago, we doubled our instructional staff, and we are finding that we still have a consistent waitlist for our courses. We are excited for the opportunity to offer this major to allow students to continue to use and build upon their foundational ASL skills.
 - Committee Member comment: I am very excited to see this proposal. It is a very needed field of study, and I am excited to see the College of Arts and Sciences at the forefront and becoming a leader in ASL and Deaf Studies.
 - Committee Member comment: This major seems like it will be an excellent opportunity to recruit new students from Ohio and the greater Midwest region. I wonder if this can be leveraged at any of the regional campuses to provide students opportunities to transfer to the Columbus campus to complete the major, should they complete their prerequisites there. Of course, we need to be mindful of seats given the 1101-1103 program has so much demand.

- Jones: We have been having these conversations as well and have a proposed hiring plan to increase capacity. We hope to bring in one additional instructor in the spring, two in the following autumn, and one in the next spring.
 - Aski: To clarify, the introductory 1101-1103 sequence currently exists on the Newark, Lima, and Marion campuses. This does seem to be an excellent opportunity to attract students to our campus and into the College. Additionally, part of the problem regarding demand is that there are very few qualified instructors in ASL and Deaf Studies right now. There are only a handful of programs training people across the country.
 - Committee Member question: To clarify, is the Center for ASL and Deaf Equity going to be housed within the Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures?
 - Aski: That is correct. The Center for ASL and Deaf Equity will be a center that is housed within the Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.
 - Committee Member question: Once the Center for ASL and Deaf Equity is established, do you foresee there being opportunities for cross-department collaborations such as cross-listings?
 - Wickham-Saxon: Initially, this may prove difficult. All upper-level, major coursework is required to be taught in ASL. Students are allowed to take one course that is taught in English. Other departments will likely not have the capability to teach courses in ASL.
 - Aski: Before the program is advanced, there is a small error as it relates to the direct assessment of the World Languages Skills Competencies workshop that is required of all students. I would like the opportunity to correct this in the proposal.
 - Arts and Humanities 2 Letter, Crocetta, **unanimously approved**
- 4) Revision to the International Studies Bachelor of Science (Guests: M. Kurtz & K. McSweeney)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee Letter: The Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee received a request to update the International Studies BS program. The revisions are geared towards creating a coherent, up-to-date, undergraduate BS degree in International Studies. The revisions also involve updates to each track and to embed a shared social and scientific/methodological emphasis in the major itself. Importantly, these revisions were also responsive to feedback provided by an external review. The Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee voted unanimously to approve the proposal and advance the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

- Kurtz: This is a very straight-forward update. As mentioned in the letter, this was keeping consistent with the feedback we received from our external review and is in-line with the revision we made to the BA degree last year.
 - Committee Member question: Given that there is a language requirement of four semesters and not all languages offered in the College offer a fourth language course, are students able to complete this requirement through the Big 10 network?
 - McSweeney: Yes, the requirement may be fulfilled by any world language taken at any institution.
 - Committee Member question: Has there been dialogue with other units to include indigenous studies as part of the program?
 - Kurtz: There has not been any explicit talk, but I do think there would be room to include this within the curriculum in several of the tracks. We do contact approximately twenty departments each year to ask about coursework to include within the program.
 - Committee Member comment: We have hired many indigenous studies faculty members across the College in the last couple of years, so it may be worthwhile to consider adding this avenue of study.
 - Committee Member question: Has there been conversation about allowing ASL to count towards the language requirement? Or even non-American Sign Language?
 - McSweeney: This conversation has come up with a student very recently. Advisors had ruled that this did not count because it was not a World Language, but we are actively looking into allowing ASL to count towards the language requirement.
 - Social and Behavioral Sciences Letter, Podalsky, **unanimously approved**
- 5) Approval of 05/03/2024 Minutes
- Ottesen, Pradhan, **approved** with **eight abstentions**
- 6) Informational Item: Changes to the African American and African Studies major goals and ELOs (I. Nagar)
- Nagar: The Department of African American and African Studies is providing a minor update to Goal A of the African American and African Studies major. Currently, Goal A reads, “Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural, socio-political, and historical formations, connections, conditions, and transformations evident throughout the African World” to “Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural, socio-political, and historical formations, connections, conditions, and transformations evident throughout the African World and Black Diaspora”.
- 7) Revision to the Biology Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Minor (Guests: H. Fisk, A. Andrews, & J. Sabel)
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee Letter: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee received a request to modify the core

course requirements of the BS and BA in Biology and the Biology minor, in addition to several more minor changes. The proposal splits Biology 3401 into Biology 3501 and 4901. The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee unanimously approved the request and advances the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

- Committee Member question: Earlier in Spring 2024, this committee reviewed a proposal to offer the Biology major at the Mansfield campus. Will the regional campuses be able to offer both Biology 3501 and 4901, or will they continue to offer 3401? If a student transfers to the Columbus campus, will 3401 be accepted here at Columbus?
 - Fisk: For the regional campuses, Biology 3401 will continue to remain on the books and the major itself will continue to accept 3401 as satisfying this requirement
 - Andrews: Essentially, the difference between the courses is that we took the skills portion of 3401 and expanded that into two separate courses. 3501 is the biological component while 4901 is the capstone experience. We felt that trying to complete both of these in one course, as we have been in 3401, has been unsuccessful.
- Committee Member question: Can you speak more to how these courses will fulfill the major's Embedded Literacies?
 - Andrews: One of the major challenges is that the Center for Life Sciences Education only teaches three courses: Biology 1113, 1114 and 3401. Therefore, we cannot ensure that, should we have chosen other courses in other departments, these departments will teach to the embedded literacies. We were forced to then have 3401 be the vehicle for providing the embedded literacies and we felt as if they were not being adequately met and this was more of a stop-gap measure. Therefore, we took a step back and developed courses specifically with the Embedded Literacies in mind, as you can see with all decimalized versions of 3501.
- Committee Member questions: It was decided during the design of the new General Education that the embedded literacies should not increase credit hours in majors. It appears that this new sequence will increase the number of credit hours required by the major by one. Has this been accounted for and adequately explained?
 - Fisk: We felt that adding a credit hour to ensure that all of our goals and the Embedded Literacies are met is a good move. This course does a better job at fulfilling the Embedded Literacies goals and ELOs than the original 3401.

- Committee Member comment: I wanted to bring this up because this will be a question that you will be asked when the proposal advances to the Council on Academic Affairs. You should be prepared to justify this change during that review.
 - Committee Member question: My understanding of one of the problems is that 3401 was meant to be taken as a capstone course and students were taking the course out-of-order, usually earlier in their career rather than in the end. Have you considered adding other prerequisites to 4901 that will ensure students take this as a true capstone? While the current prerequisites of junior or senior standing may help, students oftentimes enter the university with enough credits to automatically obtain sophomore or junior standing.
 - Andrews: Originally, we had the prerequisites for 4901 to be senior standing and the regional campuses pushed back, as they believed that would prove too restrictive to their students. As a combined unit, both 3501 and 4901 have been reimaged so that students can gain knowledge and expertise that will help them in their advanced coursework.
 - Committee Member question: Is continuing to offer 3401 on the regional campuses a long-term solution? Or is the intention to eventually shift to have them offer 3501 and 4901?
 - Andrews: We certainly view this as a stop-gap measure and want to eventually transition to having the regionals offering 3501 and 4901. However, it must be noted that a lot of the issues with 3401 are not problems at the regionals due to smaller class sizes. They are able to develop personalized relationships with their students in a way that 3401 on the Columbus campus does not allow.
 - Natural and Mathematical Sciences Letter, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**
- 8) New Certificate in Research in the Biological Sciences (Guest: I. Hamilton)
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee Letter: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee reviewed a request by the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology to create a category 1b certificate in Research Methods in the Biological Sciences, starting in Spring 2025. This new certificate will bring together three core courses in research design, ethics, and career opportunities, as well as options for several electives that provide hands-on experience with research methods. The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee has unanimously approved the request and advances the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
 - Hamilton: I would like to acknowledge all the hard work put into developing this proposal by my colleagues across the department. This certificate should offer students a valuable opportunity to gain hands-on methodological experience that

will benefit them as they advance throughout their academic and professional careers.

- Committee Member question: What population of students do you hope to attract with this certificate?
 - Hamilton: Initially, we expect to attract students in our own program, such as Zoology majors. However, we hope to capture other students from the Center for Life Sciences Education, who will be providing advertisement opportunities for the certificate. Long term, we also hope to capture students in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and especially the School of Environment and Natural Resources.
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences Letter, Crocetta, **unanimously approved**

9) Informational Item: Update to the Philosophy BA (I. Nagar)

- Nagar: The Department of Philosophy has recently voted to update the prerequisite course for their major. They would like to change the prerequisite from Symbolic Logic (PHILOS 2500) to Introduction to Logic (PHILOS 1500) OR Introduction to Logic and Legal Reasoning (PHILOS 1501) OR Symbolic Logic (2500). This change will make the major more accessible to a larger population of undergraduate students.

10) Informational Item: Update to the Microbiology minor (I. Nagar)

- Nagar: The Department of Microbiology is proposing a change to the prerequisites of the Microbiology minor. Specifically, they are adding BIOCHEM 4511 (Introduction to Biological Chemistry) as a substitute for the current CHEM 2520 OR 2620 OR 2920H (Organic Chemistry II) requirement. While most students who enroll in this minor complete Organic Chemistry II as part of their major, there are some students (such as in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences) that only need to take Organic Chemistry I (CHEM 2510) as part of their major. However, they often take BIOCHEM 4511 as an elective within their major. This change will allow more undergraduate students to select the Microbiology minor and attract more students from outside the College of Arts and Sciences.

11) Informational Item: Update to the Geographic Information Science and Technology Certificate and Master's Degree (I. Nagar)

- Nagar: The Department of Geography is making two changes to their Geographic Information Science and Technology Certificate and one change to their Master of Geographic Information Science and Technology. For the certificate, they are adding GEOG 5101 as an elective and changing GEOG 5226 to GEOG 6226. For the master's degree, they are changing GEOG 6222 to 5223. These changes are necessary due to a series of significant curriculum revisions to the programs over the past three years.

12) Update – Student Life Disability Services Syllabus Statement (R. Steele)

- Steele: As determined by this body last year, the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services office will update syllabus statements as they are updated by their originating office. This is a notification that the Student Life Disability Services statement has received a minor update for the 2024-2025 academic year, and this will now be the statement that should be utilized within syllabi in the College. It has been updated in the ASC Operations Manual as well on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website.

13) Update – Liberal Arts Bachelor of Arts (A. Martin)

- Martin: The College is working on developing a BA Liberal Arts. This degree is aimed at stop-out students that have not been previously awarded a degree. Work on this degree is progressing and we are in conversation with OSU Online to help develop a program that is both flexible and structured for these returning students. Again, I would like to stress that this degree option will not be for current Arts and Sciences students, but only for stop-out students. Dean David Horn is very excited about this project and the opportunity to leverage our existing online curriculum. Additionally, there are still ongoing conversations surrounding what should differentiate the BS degree from the BA degree. Currently, it is only a requirement of Calculus, but we are looking into allowing for flexibility in this requirement. Dean David Horn is also still interested in exploring if there is an opportunity to make the BA degrees distinct as well.

14) Update – Assessment Conference (A. Martin)

- Martin: I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to attend our annual Assessment Conference. It is earlier this year and will be taking place on Friday, September 20th and will be a shorter affair in comparison to past years. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

15) Subcommittee Updates

- Arts and Humanities 1
 - AAAS 2009 – approved with contingency
 - Design 6112 – approved with contingency
 - Design 6230 – approved
 - Design 6441 – approved
 - History of Art 2009 – approved with contingency
 - NELC 5145 – approved with contingency
- Arts and Humanities 2
 - AAAS 2295 – approved
 - Classics 6002 – approved
 - English 2265 – approved with contingency
 - English 2266 – approved with contingency
 - English 2267 – approved with contingency

- English 2268 – approved with contingency
 - English 3260 – approved with contingency
 - English 3262 – approved with contingency
 - Latin 6892 – approved
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences
 - N/A
- Social and Behavioral Sciences
 - Economics 4410 – approved with contingency
 - Geography 3703 – approved
 - Political Science 3275 – approved with contingency
 - Psychology 3522 – approved with contingency
 - Speech and Hearing Science 3350 – approved with contingency
- Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity
 - Comparative Studies 2345 – approved
 - Hebrew 2700 – approved with contingency
 - Jewish Studies 2700 – approved with contingency
 - Music 2245 – approved with contingency
- Themes I
 - Geography 2200.01 – approved with contingency
 - Psychology 2311 – approved with contingency
- Themes II
 - Philosophy 2332.02 – approved with contingency