

ASCC Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee

Approved Minutes

Thursday, October 9th, 2025

1:30PM – 3:00PM

CarmenZoom

Attendees: Barker, Carlson, Dinan, Hadad, Heckler, Neff, Steele, Vankeerbergen

Agenda

1. Approval of 09-11-2025 minutes
 - a. Barker, Carlson; unanimously approved.
2. Geodetic Sciences 5652 – existing course requesting a change in title, prerequisites, and credit hours
 - a. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the lab meeting time for the course be reassessed to ensure alignment with university credit hour requirements. One credit hour is assigned for each two consecutive hours of practical or experimental work per week, and one credit hour is assigned for each three hours of laboratory work per week when no additional outside lab work is required.
 - b. **Contingency:** While the topics and homework deadlines are listed in the syllabus, there is insufficient information about the assignments to accurately gauge the weekly workload and expectations. The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus include more assignment details, especially since the goal is to make the course more accessible to undergraduate students. Specifically, the syllabus could clarify:
 - i. Criteria for earning participation points
 - ii. Homework assignment details including length, scope, and expectations
 - iii. Details of the course project, such as a description or rubric
 - c. **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee notes that there appears to be overlap between the homework and certain aspects of the project in the course calendar (p. 5). For example, HW3: Project Proposal is due in week 6, while HW3 is due in week 8. The Subcommittee recommends that this be explained in the syllabus.
 - d. **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends that the outdated COVID-19 language be removed from the syllabus (p. 3).
 - e. **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends that the grading scale in the syllabus (p. 4) be revised to use 'E' instead of 'F', in keeping with the university's grading system. Additionally, The Subcommittee notes that 'D+' has been omitted from the grading scale in the syllabus. While instructors may adopt the grading scale they consider appropriate for their course, the Subcommittee wishes to highlight this in case it was unintentional.

- f. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that Python be listed under the “Materials and Software” section of the syllabus (p. 2) as it appears to be used for the labs.
 - g. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the syllabus provide more information about the attendance and absence policy beyond references to Student Life Disability Services and religious accommodations.
 - h. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the religious accommodations statement include a hyperlink to the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#) email address. Additionally, they request that the following required link be added to the end of the statement:
 - i. Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#)
 - i. Heckler, Barker; unanimously approved with **two contingencies** and *six recommendations*.
3. Revision to the BA/BS in Computer Information Science
- a. *Comment:* The Subcommittee requests that the College submit a report within the next year or two providing an update on the implementation and impact of the probation and dismissal policy changes.
 - b. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee notes that the proposal states that warnings are issued for failure of one or more major or required non-major courses. The Subcommittee recommends considering whether this policy should also apply to grades of D or D+ for Arts and Sciences students, since these grades cannot be used for credit toward a major in ASC.
 - c. Carlson, Heckler; unanimously approved with one comment and *one recommendation*.
4. New Combined Program - Actuarial Science Bachelor of Science and Master of Actuarial and Quantitative Risk Management
- a. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee identified several issues with Appendix B that they request be addressed:
 - i. MATH 1151 is not clearly indicated as fulfilling the Mathematical & Quantitative Reasoning/Data Analysis requirement, which makes it appear that the Math GE is missing from the sample schedules.
 - ii. COMM 2367 is starred without explanation in the non-honors sample schedule.. Please indicate that in the sample schedule it also counts as a GEN Them Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World.
 - iii. In the honors sample schedule, COMM 2367 is listed as counting toward both the GEN Theme: Citizenship requirement and the Social and Behavioral Sciences Foundation requirement. A single course cannot count toward both of these requirements, and ECON 2001 or 2002 already satisfies the SBS requirement. If the intent is that an additional SBS or Communication course is required for the honors major, this should be

clarified. If not, the indication that COMM 2367 counts as an SBS course should be removed.

- iv. In both honors sample schedules (4 years and 5 years), there are two GE Natural Sciences courses listed (the first one is listed as a 3-credit course—which is incorrect—and the second one as a 4-credit course). Only one GEN Foundation Natural Science course is needed. Please remove the 3-credit slot and replace with something else (perhaps an elective?).
 - v. Actuarial Sciences students should take ASC 1100.10 (Arts and Sciences Survey for Mathematical and Physical Sciences) for their survey course rather than ASC 1100.01. This should be adjusted in the non-honors sample schedule. (ASC 1100.01H should remain in the honors schedule, as it is the only survey course offered by ASC Honors.)
 - vi. Both sample schedules (honors and non-honors) show students taking significantly more credit hours in the first year than in subsequent years. Unless there is a specific rationale behind this, the Subcommittee recommends redistributing credits more evenly across semesters.
- b. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that MATH 5588: Practicum in AQRM is included among the 12 core credits in Appendix D, but is also mentioned under elective courses (“along with the Practicum [3 cr. hrs.]”), which implies that it carries additional elective credit. The Subcommittee requests that the reference to the Practicum be removed from the elective section of the proposal to avoid confusion.
 - c. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee is unclear on how a student could take 0 elective hours as noted in Appendix D of the proposal. It seems that students can only take zero elective hours if they complete another AQRM Sequence or take additional individual courses listed under the sequences. Otherwise, the program only totals 27 hours. The Subcommittee recommends adjusting the elective requirements to 6 credit hours, clarifying that elective credit must consist of unused courses from the sequences above or from the listed electives, and explaining that the course sequences may be completed in full or may be mixed and matched as electives.
 - d. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests clarification on whether honors students who complete an honors thesis and a master’s thesis are expected to complete both independently or if the same work may be used to fulfill both.
 - e. Barker, Heckler; unanimously approved with **four contingencies**.