

**From:** [Neff, Jennifer](#)  
**To:** [Xu, Xinyi](#); [Hans, Christopher](#); [Lee, Yoonkyung](#)  
**Cc:** [Hamilton, Ian](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** Statistics 5731 & 5732  
**Date:** Thursday, March 28, 2024 4:50:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good afternoon,

On Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed new course proposals for Statistics 5731 and 5732. Please find below the Subcommittee's feedback for these courses.

- Stat 5731
  - **Contingency:** The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently (03-01-2024) updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a new statement on religious accommodations. The new version of this required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and can be found here on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this revised statement to your course syllabus. [Syllabus pp. 13-14]
  - *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the department consider the pedagogical goals of the discussion forum. If its purpose is to foster student interaction, the Subcommittee recommends extending the weekly time expectations for the assignment to allow sufficient time for students to meaningfully interact with others' postings. The Subcommittee also recommends that the syllabus briefly lay out the instructor's role in the discussions along with the expectations of postings so that students know exactly what is required and when their responses (to the prompt and to other students) are due. If the purpose of the discussion board is *not* student interaction and is instead to provide a method of communication between students and the instructor (e.g., prompt response and instructor feedback), the Subcommittee recommends that the department rework this aspect of the course in order to keep 1:1 communication private. [Syllabus p. 7]
- Stat 5732
  - **Contingency:** The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently (03-01-2024) updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a new statement on religious accommodations. The new version of this required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and can be found here on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this revised statement to your course syllabus. [Syllabus p. 14]
  - *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee appreciates the community that the final project promotes and recommends that the department include additional information in the syllabus that addresses the expectations of student collaboration for this assignment. How will groups be formed, and will groups be *required* to meet synchronously, or will they be able to communicate in a more flexible way if that works best for the members? Given the asynchronous nature of the course, the Subcommittee is concerned that synchronous meetings for group work will not be feasible for every

student. To prevent scheduling complications if synchronous meetings are *required*, the Subcommittee recommends that the department include a note in the course description in curriculum.osu.edu (which is the description that students see when registering) that this course will require synchronous meetings in the last weeks of the semester for group work. Additionally, the Subcommittee recommends that the department clarify in the syllabus how the group work for the project translates in terms of workload expectations along with the weight of the peer reviews in the final grade of the project. [Syllabus p. 8]

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before a course can move forward in the approval process. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

I will return both courses to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Ian Hamilton (faculty Chair of the NMS Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers