

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
253 Soils Hall

Voting Members Present: Balster, Goldman, Kucharik, Anderson, Courtenay
Voting Members Absent: Wattiaux, Holden
CALs Ex Officio: Ackerman-Yost, Barber
Minutes taken by: Arnfelt
Guest: Amber Haroldson

Meeting convened at 1pm.
Motion to re-order agenda to start with Action Item #1.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from December 10, 2019.
2. **Course deactivations**
 - MICROBIO 289 – Honors Independent Study
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=7723>
 - MICROBIO 525 – Advanced Biological Laboratory Practices: A Research Experience
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=7738>
 - MICROBIO 999 – Special Problems
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=7771>
3. **Minor course change: Updating pre-requisites**
 - BSE 365** – Measurements and Instrumentation for Biological Systems
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=1152>
4. **Minor course change: adjusting from 3-credit lecture to 3-credit lecture + discussion**
 - C&E SOC/SOC 222** – Food, Culture, and Society
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=1345>
5. **Minor course change: updating course description, adjusting from 3-credit seminar to 3-credit lecture+lab**
 - Genetics 564** – Genomics and Proteomics
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=4665>

Items 1, 2, 3, and 5 approved by consent.

Move to remove Item #4 from consent agenda and return to requestor: Balster/Kucharik

Discussion: The syllabus did not provide a grading scale and provided insufficient information on how the point system for discussion converted to the percentage.

Vote: 5-0-0

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Dietetics: Capstone approval: NUTR SCI 520 converted to NUTR SCI 641/642** Haroldson/ 1:00-1:15pm
Balster
- 2. Program Change: adding BIOCHEM 301 as option to Dietetics curriculum**
Nutritional Sciences, B.S. Nutrition and Dietetics
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=27>
Also: rationale in Box
Courses: <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=13196>
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=13197>

Amber Haroldson provided an overview of the capstone as well as the curricular change to include BIOCHEM 301. The request to approve NUTR SCI 641 and 642 (combined) as a capstone are due to the creation of 641 and 642 as a replacement to NUTR SCI 520, which is being discontinued. NUTR SCI 520, which is currently approved as part of the program's capstone requirement, is a 3-credit hands-on course that students take in their final year. The faculty developed a two-semester sequence of hands-on courses (641 and 642) which cover the same material as NUTR SCI 520 but are aligned with corresponding lecture material in 631 and 632. This alignment ensures that students are covering concepts and applications in tandem, which also allowed the department to remove the review material that was needed in NUTR SCI 520.

Motion to approve NUTR SCI 641/642 as Dietetics capstone: Balster/Goldman

Discussion: The total capstone credit requirement has reduced from 4 credits (NUTR SCI 500 and 520) to 3 credits (NUTR SCI 500, 641, and 642).

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion to approve program changes: Balster/Courtenay

Discussion: none

Vote: 5-0-0

New Course

- 1. NUTR SCI 550 – Nutrition and Counseling for Athletic Performance** Courtenay 1:15-1:25pm
Effective Fall 2020

<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=13277>

Motion to resubmit with changes: Courtenay/Balster

- Course has been taught as a 1-credit Topics course, and they are converting it to a permanent course number and 2-credit course.
- Instructor teaches a similar course in Kinesiology that doesn't include counseling, and also doesn't require Nutritional Science courses
- Graduate attribute – unclear whether graduate students should be taking this course
- LAS level/breadth – unclear whether students in other colleges should take this course
- Work outside of class – amount of work equal to four hours per week
- Kinesiology comment given the relationship of this course to existing courses

Vote: 5-0-0

2. **CRB/GENETICS 710** – Developmental Genetics Goldman 1:25-1:35pm
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12985>

Motion to approve: Goldman/Kucharik

Discussion: The committee noted that the topic area was a valuable addition for graduate students. The committee commented that the syllabus demonstrated hands-on grading. The committee feels this course would be of interested to a wide variety of students.

Vote: 5-0-0

Course changes

2. **adding graduate attribute and changing pre-requisites** Balster 1:35-1:45pm
BIOCHEM 570 – Computational Modeling of Biological Systems
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12077>

Motion to approve: Balster/Goldman

Discussion: The committee did not find any issues with the proposed changes. The committee commented that the course schedule is sparse but sufficient.

Vote: 5-0-0

3. **increasing credits from 2 to 3, updating pre-requisites** Kucharik 1:45-1:55pm
BIOCHEM/CHEM 704 – Chemical Biology
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=1152>

Motion to approve: Kucharik/Goldman

Discussion: The increase in credits is due to small group discussion and work. The committee noted that the second half of the course had a lot of TBD for readings but felt that what was provided was sufficient.

Vote: 5-0-0

4. **Course title change; significant update to course description; change from lab course to lecture/lab; increase in credits from 2 to 3** Anderson 1:55-2:05pm
DY SCI/AN SCI 414 – Ruminant Nutrition & Metabolism
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=2777>

Motion to approve: Anderson/Balster

Discussion: The proposal represented significant updates to the course content to make it more hands-on and up-to-date. The graduate attribute is met through differences in assessment for case study assignments and evaluation.

Vote: 5-0-0

5. **Updating course title and description; changing from Credit/No Credit to graded** Courtenay 2:05-2:15pm
INTER-AG 488 – Honors Research Seminar
Effective Fall 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=5761>

Motion to approve: Courtenay/Goldman

Discussion: The course is being extensively updated from a seminar format to a thesis development course with active learning. The committee noted that while the course proposal is accepted, CLO #3 is a bit flowery and CLO #2 could be better represented in the content of the course. The committee noted that the course expectations could have functioned as CLOs.

Vote: 5-0-0

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Program change: Program Learning Outcomes updated** Ackerman-Yost
Genetics and Genomics, B.S.
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=44>
Note: these learning outcomes were updated in discussions with the Provost's Office

Comments: The updated PLOs are sufficient. The Committee noted that some of the PLOs are compound items, making the assessable outcomes more complex than the number of outcomes would suggest. The committee also noted that the PLOs do not include any skill-based objectives.

2. Program changes: removing GRE requirement

Plant Pathology MS

<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=674>

3. Program changes: removing GRE requirement, changing requirement of two semesters of Physics to one semester with lab

Plant Pathology PhD

<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=802>

Comments: Multiple other programs have removed the GRE requirement, and the graduate school and campus are supportive of dropping the GRE requirement. The committee was provided with data on the inherent biases of exams, and discussed some of these issues, including the cost of the exams being a financial barrier. The committee noted that dropping a data point for admissions could place more importance on undergraduate grades, which may cause biases of a different sort.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.