

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Voting members present: Courtenay, Goldman, Holden, Kucharik, Ney, Van Pijkeren, Vermillion Kalmon,
Wattiaux

Student Members present: Mui

Absent: Rossman

Ex Officio: Barber, Ackerman-Yost

Minutes Taken by: Arnfelt

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from February 9, 2021.
2. Course change – updating requisites, entering learning outcomes
SOC/C&E SOC 360: Statistics for Sociologists I
Effective Fall 2021
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=10037>
3. Course deactivation
AN SCI/DY SCI 313: Animal Feed and Diet Formulation
Effective Summer 2021
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=418>

Items 1-3 approved by consent

ACTION ITEMS

1. New course Ney/Wattiaux
BSE 310: Project Economics & Decision Analysis
Effective Fall 2021
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=14058>

Motion to approve (Ney, Wattiaux)

Discussion: The committee discussed how this course meets a unmet need for BSE students, who currently take this type of course through Business or Engineering. The BSE course will provide more content to address industry needs in project management. There were a few suggestions from the committee as collegial feedback, which do not affect approval: add more details on the grading table (how many and how many points each) instead of just a percentage; provide a rubric for the written report; and define a “zero point assignment.”

Vote 8-0-0

2. New course Vermillion Kalmon/
Van Pijkeren
BSE 380: Introductory Data Science for the Agricultural Life Sciences
Effective Summer 2021

<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=14055>

Motion to approve (Vermillion Kalmon, Van Pijkeren)

Discussion: The committee discussed that this course introduces students to computer coding. The goal of the coding used in the course is more commonly used in Ag and Life Sciences. The committee discussed the learning outcomes and syllabus content and found that most of the learning outcomes aren't specific to Agricultural and Life Sciences. Since there are more general coding courses on campus, the committee requires more detail on how this course is specific to ALS. The committee also is looking for details in the schedule on assignments and grading. The committee wanted to know where this course would fit into the BSE scope and what the long-term plan is for this course.

Amend the motion: Vote 8-0-0, Motion to defer (Vermillion Kalmon, Van Pijkeren)

Vote 8-0-0

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. CALS Honors first-year student admissions criteria (to be sent separately) Barber

Discussion: This proposal is to adjust the admissions process for incoming first-year students to apply for CALS Honors, to no longer require SAT/ACT scores. UW-Madison Admissions is changing their criteria to no longer require SAT/ACT scores, so requiring these scores for entrance to CALS Honors is problematic. This would allow all students eligible for this program, which would also support a goal to grow the program and reduce barriers to entry. This proposal will be voted on by APC, but CALS Academic Affairs is looking for comments and thoughts from CALS Curriculum Committee. The committee discussed some ways to expand this program and some questions around that, but there were no objections to this change.

2. CALS Teaching and Advising Awards
 - a. Materials
 - b. Criteria

Discussion: This committee should evaluate the materials provided and give feedback. The committee talked about what was done last year and discussed the process for submitting awards feedback in preparation for the committee discussion.

Meeting adjourned 2:30 pm