Rhode Island College Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Agenda

16 December 2022

2.00pm-4.00pm

Online Zoom

<https://ri-college.zoom.us/j/8688089557?pwd=V3lZY3djbHJDWjVGRWdRQjNpSlBwUT09>

Meeting ID: 868 808 9557 Passcode: 1UzmdiSA

1. Call to order

1. Approve minutes from 21 Oct. 2022
2. Report of the Chair

* Programs will not be deleted unless approved by UCC or Graduate Committee, and I am helping Helen look at the list of programs that was shared with chairs to trace those that should be considered (some on the list appear not to be current), but meantime Deans are asking departments to look at their programs and I have heard from several.
* Course deletions—for courses not offered in the past three years will be on the Feb. agenda as still not heard from a few departments (so far we have ten on the list, but several departments are deleting courses when they are revising their programs, too).
* I’ve been meeting with CoOL to work out how to move forward with proposals that cover Online courses and programs. We are working out some potential updates for the Proposal form (ongoing) and CoOL will work on guidelines and advice we can add to the Forms and Information page on the UCC and Grad. Committee websites. One major problem is the lack of catalog transparency in regard to the potential formats of courses, which I feel we need to address, but it will mean each chair submitting a list of the possible modalities of each course they currently offer to be added to the catalog for next year, which is a fairly mammoth task (though these are at least indicated in the bulletin and in the MyRIC semester offerings, so it should just be a catalog fix, so a little easier than having the WID “W”s added). To ensure no one thinks ALL modalities will be offered every time the course is offered, we shall first note: Potential modalities (see bulletin): and then the possibilities for that course will be listed for––In person, hybrid, online (synchronous), online (asynchronous), hyflex (and a description of each of these I’ll have CoOL devise will be placed at the head of the course description section). Currently the college is offering more than 400 hybrid/online courses (mix of undergraduate and graduate) each semester (hardly any of these are noted in the catalog as being available in these formats—indeed, there is only ONE undergraduate course listed as “online,” and a few Modern Language ones stipulate there is some “online work required”; only 8 undergraduate courses are listed in the catalog as hybrid. This Fall semester, the college ran 274 hybrid undergraduate courses, and 144 online. 300 hybrid and 142 online undergraduate courses are scheduled for the Spring. We are working with CoOL to find a way to make sure all this online teaching is following best practices in a way that will not necessitate them all having to be resubmitted for approval to UCC.

1. Monthly Reports

* COGE report

1. New Business

* 22-23-004 Approve the creation of a new 4-credit course: HIST 243 Latino Peoples and US History, to be used as an elective in several programs, including History, Secondary Ed. History, Global Studies and Modern Languages (Latin American Studies).
* 22-23-005 Approve a revision to simplify the prerequisites for three SWRK courses: SWRK 301 Policy Analysis and Practice; SWRK 324: Diversity and Oppression I; SWRK 325 Diversity and Oppression II, to allow students more flexibility in when to take them.
* 22-23-006 Approve a proposal to delete the Geography BA major (keeping the Minor).
* 22-23-007 Approve a proposal to delete several GEOG courses (which also affects Environmental Studies major and minor who have been notified): GEOG 301 Natural Resource Management GEOG 303 Historical Geography of The United States, GEOG 307 Coastal Geography, GEOG 309 New England Landscapes Pre-1900, GEOG 310 New England Landscapes Since 1900, GEOG 339 Metropolitan Geography Past, Present and Future, and GEOG 460W Senior Seminar: Theory and Research.
* 22-23-008 Approve Deletion of a Gen Ed. Connections course GEOG 261 Globalization, Cities and Sustainability.
* 22-23-009 Approve the renumbering, retitling and cross-listing of what was GEOG 304 to become GEOG 209 Political Geography of Rhode Island and be added to the catalog also as POL 209, to allow it to be open to students earlier in their program and with the POL prefix to allow them to satisfy POL requirements. A note will be added to the description to ensure student know they cannot take credit for both.
* 22-23-010 Approve the creation of a Certificate of Undergraduate Study (CUS) in Geographic Information Systems for 16-18 credits.
* 22-23-011 Approve the cross-listing of GEOG 338 as POL 338 Peoples, Houses, Neighborhoods and Cities to be added to the catalog. The prerequisite is being revised and an extra credit hour to accommodate the addition of a semester long a research project (which also affects several other programs that will be notified).
* 22-23-012 Approve the addition of a credit hour to the currently cross-listed POL/GEOG 337 Urban Political Geography course, hour to accommodate the addition of a semester long a research project (which also affects several other programs that will be notified).
* 22-23-013 Approve a revision of the Political Science BA major to update with the various course changes, including deleting the “London Course” offering, and, also, allow for more flexibility over the additional required courses beyond the core. This will raise the bottom range of total credits’ bottom number from 40-44, to 41-44 and a note will need to be added to ensure any variable credit upper level options have to be taken at a minimum of three credits to count.
* 22-23-014 Approve a revision of three foundational POL courses (that are also Gen Ed. options in SB) to go from 200-level to 100-level to better reflect their use by freshmen. POL 202 American Government becomes POL 102, POL 203 Global Politics becomes POL 103, and POL 204 Introduction to Political Thought becomes POL 104, all with their titles and content unchanged. TES needs to be updated.
* 22-23-015 Approve the revision of POL 306 to become POL 206 State and Local Government to allow students to take it earlier in the program, and for which the prerequisite will be removed. Though it will cover the same basic content, it will be at a 200-level, which the department feels is more appropriate for the content.
* 22-23-016 Approve a proposal to delete several POL courses (which also affects several other programs that will be notified): POL 318 Crises of Liberalism, POL 333 Law and Politics of Civil Rights, POL 342 The Politics of Global Economic Change, POL 444 British Politics and Cultural Studies, and POL 445 European Political Geography.
* 22-23-017 Approve the creation of a new 4-credit POL course POL 240 Model United Nations for use in several programs.
* 22-23-018 Approve the creation of a new 4-credit POL course POL 340 Global Politics and Film for use in several programs.
* 22-23-019 Approve the revision of GEOG 202 Geographic Information Systems I to have a cross-listing with a new PBAD 202 to allow for its clearer use in the PBAD program.
* 22-23-020 Approve the deletion of PBAD 326 Public Sector Information Systems which will no longer be required in the PBAD program.
* 22-23-021 Approve revisions to the Public Administration (PBAD) program that switch around some course from elective to required, delete one but keep the total credits the same.
* 22-23-022 Approve the revision of GEOG 308 Geographic Information Systems II to have a cross-listing with a new PBAD 308 to indicate its suitability as an elective for those in the PBAD program, while it will be a requirement in the GIS CUS.
* 22-23-023 Approve revision of the INGOs certificate and minor to include the two new POL courses above (POL 240 and 340) as restricted electives (will not affect total credits).
* 22-23-024 Approve the creation of an elective one-credit course SOC 215: Careers and The Social Sciences.
* 22-23-025 Approve the revision of the three ENGL concentrations, English BA, English with a concentration in Creative Writing BA and English with a concentration in Professional Writing BA to make them more flexible and to reduce all three from 44 credits to 40 each, and a revision to ENGL 477 Internship in Professional Writing to update the description and prerequisite (to a simple 3.0 GPA rather than specific courses) to make it more clearly apply to all three majors. Students will have more required elective choices and less single required courses.
* 22-23-026 Approve the revision of the three ENGL minors, English, Creative Writing and Professional Writing to make them line up better with the Major revisions and to have all three be 20 credits (PW was 24).

1. Any Other Business

* Revisions to the Manual, Appendix III on Student Designed Majors to reduce the minimum GPA required from 2.5 to 2.0 (We would like to make this change retroactive to this current semester—Fall ’22).