

Minutes of the University Curriculum Committee
June 13, 2008
217 Koldus

Members present: Robert Knight (Chair), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Tim Scott (Vice-Chair), College of Science; Jim Kracht, College of Education and Human Development; Lale Yurttas, Dwight Look College of Engineering; Vatche Tchakerian, College of Geosciences; Pamela Matthews, College of Liberal Arts; Norma Funkhouser, Medical Sciences Library; Bill McMullen, Texas A&M University at Galveston; Kristin Harper (for Martyn Gunn), Undergraduate Programs and Academic Services; Karen Snowden (for James Herman), College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Guests: Scott Socolofsky, Department of Civil Engineering; Valerie Taylor, Department of Computer Science; Claude Gibson, Department of English; Tim Peterson, Mays Business School; Michelle Taylor-Robinson, Department of Political Science.

The University Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the following:

1. The minutes of the April 11, 2008 meeting.
2. New Courses

BUSN 205. Integrated Worklife Competencies. (3-0). Credit 3. Application of Mays' core competencies, with required completion of either a peer leadership experience or a team-based service-learning project; continues development of student's electronic portfolio of core competencies. Writing designated. Prerequisite: Sophomore or higher classification admitted to Mays Business School.

ENGL 359. Forms of Creative Writing. (3-0). Credit 3. Major forms of writing in prose or poetry, depending on instructor; analysis of structure coupled with writing assignments illustrating principles of form in narrative and/or lyrical modes. Prerequisites: ENGL 235; junior or senior classification.

ENGL 372. American Poetry. (3-0). Credit 3. Exploration of the development of American poetic traditions, with an emphasis on the major poetry of 19th and 20th centuries and such poets as Whitman, Dickinson, Frost, Eliot, Stevens, Hughes, H.D., Roethke. Prerequisites: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above; junior or senior classification.

ENGL 373. American Realism and Naturalism. (3-0). Credit 3. Exploration of the literature produced in the United States between the Civil War and World War I, such as works by Twain, James, Freeman, Jewett, Chesnut, Crane, Dreiser, Wharton. Prerequisites: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above; junior or senior classification.

ENGL 386. Creative Nonfiction. (3-0). Credit 3. Practical study and application of literary nonfiction, the general audience essay, the memoir, and related nonfiction forms; with extensive workshop time and attention given to student writing, expert and peer review as well as readings from such authors as Melville, Orwell and Ackerman. Prerequisites: ENGL 235; junior or senior classification.

ENGL 391. Folklore, Literature, and World Cultures. (3-0). Credit 3. Theories of folklore and vernacular culture; exploration of the relationship between oral literature and the forms of vernacular culture, including film, festival and dance. Prerequisites: ENGL 104; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

ENGL 403. Language and Gender. (3-0). Credit 3. Language and gender from a sociolinguistic perspective; gender in the words and structures of language; gender representation and gendered language use in the media and a variety of sociocultural contexts; language use in intimate relationships; computer-mediated discourse; language, sexuality, and sexual orientation. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. Cross-listed with LING 403 and WMST 403.

ENGL 460. Writing for the Web. (3-0). Credit 3. Integration of technology instruction and proven technical communication strategies for developing effective audience-appropriate websites (infrastructure, structure, content, design, and navigation); focus on rhetorical shifts of the Internet medium, as well as ethical, sociocultural and legal issues, including web accessibility. Prerequisites: ENGL 104 and 210 or 301; junior or senior classification.

ENGL 462. Rhetoric in Cultural Context. (3-0). Credit 3. Theories concerning the influence of socio-cultural context on expressive forms and how such forms are used to achieve social and communicative aims; analysis of examples of written, verbal, and visual rhetorics from various cultures illustrating the impact that expressive forms have on social life. Prerequisites: ENGL 353, 354, or 355; junior or senior classification.

FILM 356. Literature and Film. (3-0). Credit 3. Novels and films based on them; writers and filmmakers such as Virginia Woolf, John Steinbeck, John Ford, Sally Potter, John Huston, Charlotte Bronte and Peter Bogdanovich. Prerequisites: 3 credits of literature at the 200-level; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. Cross-listed with ENGL 356.

LING 403. Language and Gender. (3-0). Credit 3. Language and gender from a sociolinguistic perspective; gender in the words and structures of language; gender representation and gendered language use in the media, and a variety of sociocultural contexts; language use in intimate relationships; computer-mediated discourse; language, sexuality, and sexual orientation. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. Cross-listed with ENGL 403 and WMST 403.

NUEN 412. Subcritical Assembly Experimentation and Modeling. (1-2). Credit 2. Conduct experiments using the subcritical fuel assembly; measure neutron flux using a variety of instruments; compare experimental results with MCNP models of subcritical assembly for different lattice arrangements. Prerequisite: NUEN 303.

OCEN 475. Environmental Fluid Mechanics. (3-0). Credit 3. Examines fluid and mass transport in naturally occurring flows; topics include molecular and turbulent diffusion; dispersion; river, estuary, and ocean mixing; dissolution boundary layers; tidal mixing; offshore wastewater outfalls; introduction to environmental quality numerical modeling. Prerequisite: CVEN 311.

POLS 333. International Cooperation. (3-0). Credit 3. Contemporary issues, problems, and solutions in international cooperation. Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of department head.

POLS 335. International Conflict. (3-0). Credit 3. Examination of major theoretical explanations of war and conflict resolution. Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of department head.

POLS 367. Women in Government in Comparative Perspective. (3-0). Credit 3.

Examination of women's representation in government based on comparison across multiple nation-states; focus on legislative and executive branches of democratic governments.

Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of department head. Cross-listed with WMST 367.

POLS 412. International Political Economy. (3-0). Credit 3. Politics of international economic relations; interactions between political and economic realms in the contemporary world. Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of department head.

POLS 418. Theories of International Relations. (3-0). Credit 3. Examination of major paradigms of international relations; focus on theory development and application to cases. Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of department head.

POLS 439. Foreign Policy Decision Making. (3-0). Credit 3. Examination of decision processes in contemporary world politics; individual, group and organizational aspects of decision making in the context of world events. Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of department head.

WMST 367. Women in Government in Comparative Perspective. (3-0). Credit 3.

Examination of women's representation in government based on comparison across multiple nation-states; focus on legislative and executive branches of democratic governments.

Prerequisites: POLS 206; junior or senior classification or approval of political science department head. Cross-listed with POLS 367.

WMST 403. Language and Gender. (3-0). Credit 3. Language and gender from a sociolinguistic perspective; gender in the words and structures of language; gender representation and gendered language use in the media, and a variety of sociocultural contexts; language use in intimate relationships; computer-mediated discourse; language, sexuality, and sexual orientation. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification. Cross-listed with ENGL 403 and LING 403.

3. Change in Courses

BICH 431. Molecular Genetics.

Prerequisites

From: BICH 410 or MEPS 313 or BIOL 351; GENE 301 or 302 or 320.

To: BICH 410 or 440; GENE 301 or 302 or 320.

BIOL 434. Regulatory and Behavioral Neuroscience.

Prerequisites

From: BIOL 319; WFSC 416; or BIOL 388.

To: BIOL 319 or 388 or PSYC 335; BIOL 213 strongly recommended.

Course Description

- From: Bioelectricity, nerve cell functions, brain functions; physiologic basis of behavior.
To: Cell biology and biophysics of neurons; functional organization of the vertebrate nervous system; physiological basis of behavior.

BIOL 435. Laboratory for Regulatory and Behavioral Neuroscience.

Prerequisites

- From: BIOL 434 or concurrent enrollment.
To: BIOL 434 or concurrent enrollment and approval of instructor.

Course Description

- From: Laboratory study of topics covered in BIOL 434; principles of hormone action, bioelectricity, nerve cell function, brain function and physiological basis for behavior.
To: Study of modern methods and tools used to investigate nervous system structure and function.

BUSN 100. Careers in Business.

Course Title

- From: Careers in Business.
To: The Business Profession.

Course Description

- From: Survey of careers open to business majors; development of decision making and goal setting skills for choosing a major field of study. Course must be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Prerequisites: Freshman or sophomore classification; business of general studies major.
To: Emphasis on developing professional business competencies; examines business conduct in different business settings; introduction to the necessary knowledge to become a professional through different practice activities. Prerequisites: Freshman or sophomore classification; business or general studies major.

GENE 431. Molecular Genetics.

Prerequisites

- From: BICH 410 or MEPS 313 or BIOL 351; GENE 301 or 302 or 320
To: BICH 410 or 440; GENE 301 or 302 or 320

GEOG 203. Planet Earth: Introduction to Earth Systems Science.

Course Title

- From: Planet Earth: Introduction to Earth Systems Science.
To: Planet Earth

Course Description

- From: Input, storage and output of energy and matter and interaction with air, land, water and plant subsystems of earth; processes, distributions and interactions between subsystems and humans; laboratory activities to illustrate principles of physical geography.
- To: Overview of Earth's physical environment including climate, water, landforms, and ecosystems; processes that control these systems and their global distributions; human effects on these processes; topics illustrated through hands-on laboratory activities.

ENGL 356. Literature and Film.

Prerequisites

- From: 3 credits of literature at the 200-level.
- To: 3 credits of literature at the 200-level; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

Cross-listing

- From: None
- To: FILM 356

Lecture Hours, Lab Hours

- From: (2-2). Credit 3.
- To: (3-0). Credit 3.

ENGL 390. Studies in British Literature.

Prerequisites

- From: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above.
- To: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above; junior or senior classification.

Course Description

- From: Exploration of a significant topic or period in British literature.
- To: Exploration of a significant topic or period in British literature; features current faculty research on such topics as Victorian fantasy literature, social identity in medieval Britain and Ireland and children in film.

ENGL 394. Studies in Genre

Prerequisites

- From: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above.
- To: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above; junior or senior classification.

Course Description

- From: Theory and practice of a single genre including analysis of its history and development. May be repeated for credit.
- To: Theory and practice of a single genre including analysis of its history and development; features current faculty research on such topics as women standup comics, British short stories and Irish history on stage and screen. May be repeated once for credit.

ENGL 396. Studies in American Literature.

Prerequisites

- From: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above
- To: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above; junior or senior classification.

Course Description

- From: Exploration of a significant topic or period in American literature.
- To: Exploration of a significant topic or period in American literature; features current faculty research on such topics as Asian-American women writers, American music and literature and American Gothic.

ENGL 412. Studies in Shakespeare.

Prerequisites

- From: ENGL 212 or 312.
- To: ENGL 212 or 312; junior or senior classification.

Course Description

- From: Exploration of a significant topic or genre in Shakespeare, emphasizing scholarship and literary criticism.
- To: Exploration of a significant topic or genre in Shakespeare, emphasizing scholarship and literary criticism; features current faculty research on such topics as Shakespeare through performance, Shakespeare and the arts and women, race and gender in Shakespeare.

ENGL 474. Studies in Women Writers.

Prerequisites

- From: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above or approval of instructor.
- To: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above or approval of instructor; junior or senior classification.

Course Description

- From: A different specific topic each term examining women's writing through historical period, genre, cross-cultural study, or feminist literary theory, including minority and third world writers. May be repeated for credit.

To: A different specific topic each term examining women's writing through historical period, genre, cross-cultural study, or feminist literary theory, including minority and third world writers; features current faculty research on such topics as Early Modern women and the theatre and Orientality. May be repeated for credit.

ENGL 481. Senior Seminar.

Prerequisites

From: 12 credits in English, including 3 at 300-level

To: 12 credits in English, including 3 at 300-level; senior classification

Course Description

From: Seminar on a significant figure, movement or issue in literature or rhetoric with special attention to the methods and materials of scholarship.

To: Seminar on significant figures, movements or issues in literature, creative writing or rhetoric with special attention to methods and materials of scholarship; features current faculty research on such topics as the cultural Jane Austen, the Chicano novel and inventing the Caribbean.

WMST 474. Studies in Women Writers.

Prerequisites

From: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above or approval of instructor.

To: 3 credits of literature at 200-level or above or approval of instructor; junior or senior classification.

Course Description

From: A different specific topic each term examining women's writing through historical period, genre, cross-cultural study, or feminist literary theory, including minority and third world writers. May be repeated for credit.

To: A different specific topic each term examining women's writing through historical period, genre, cross-cultural study, or feminist literary theory, including minority and third world writers; features current faculty research on such topics as Early Modern women and the theatre and Orientality. May be repeated for credit.

4. New Degree Program and Administrative Change

College of Liberal Arts

Women's Studies Program

B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies

Request to change the program name to
Women's and Gender Studies Program

5. Administrative Change

Dwight Look College of Engineering

Department of Computer Science
Request to change the name to
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

6. Special Consideration

College of Liberal Arts

Department of English
Minor in English with Emphasis in Creative Writing

Mays Business School

Department of Management
Certificate in Entrepreneurial Leadership

7. Other Business

- New course BIOL 467 was tabled.
- Members discussed rescheduling the UCC Meeting in Galveston for October or November.