

Minutes of the University Curriculum Committee
April 10, 2009
E-Vote Requested

Members responding: Robert Knight (Chair), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Michael Murphy, College of Architecture; Lynn Burlbaw, College of Education and Human Development; Sarah Bednarz, College of Geosciences; Pamela Matthews, College of Liberal Arts; George Fowler, Mays Business School; Thomas Vogel (Faculty Senate Representative), College of Science; Bill McMullen, Texas A&M University at Galveston; James Herman, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

The University Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the following:

1. The minutes of the March 13, 2009 meeting as corrected. (Don Curtis attended as a representative for Pamela Matthews, not as a guest).
2. New Courses

CSCE 445. Computers and New Media. (3-0). Credit 3. Potential and realized impact of computers in the design of new media; relationship between authors and readers of interactive material; influence of media design on the content expressed. Prerequisite: CSCE 221 or approval of instructor.

GEOG 442. Past Climates. (3-0). Credit 3. Terrestrial and marine proxy records of past climate variability, including tree rings, coral, and sediments; past climate change events such as the Little Ice Age and Medieval Warm Period; greenhouse gases and global temperature; insight into the nature of climate change and challenges humankind faces in the next few centuries. Prerequisites: ATMO 201, or GEOG 203, or GEOL 101, or GEOL 104, or OCNG 251; junior or senior classification. Cross-listed with GEOS 442.

GEOS 430. Global Science and Policy Making. (3-0). Credit 3. Policy making derived from global science and technology; how advice is communicated to the federal government and the public; current and future societal concerns that could affect future policy making; knowledge and information used to set priorities, decide budget allocations, and establish public policy. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

GEOS 442. Past Climates. (3-0). Credit 3. Terrestrial and marine proxy records of past climate variability, including tree rings, coral, and sediments; past climate change events such as the Little Ice Age and Medieval Warm Period; greenhouse gases and global temperature; insight into the nature of climate change and challenges humankind faces in the next few centuries. Prerequisites: ATMO 201, or GEOG 203, or GEOL 101, or GEOL 104, or OCNG 251; junior or senior classification. Cross-listed with GEOG 442.

GEOS 470. Data Analysis Methods in Geosciences. (3-0). Credit 3. Research methods from conceptualization of a scientific problem to data collection, analysis, and visualization; basic data analysis methodologies in the geosciences; emphasis on real-world applications from environmental, atmospheric, and oceanographic sciences. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification; MATH 151 and STAT 303 or concurrent enrollment, or approval of instructor.

MATH 460. Tensors and General Relativity. (3-0). Credit 3. Vectors and tensors in special relativity, curvature, manifolds, covariant differentiation, Einstein field equations, Schwarzschild geometry and black holes, cosmology, gauge field theories. Prerequisites: MATH 308; PHYS 311 or MATH 323 or MATH 311; junior or senior classification.

3. Special Consideration

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications

B.S. in Agricultural Science

Production Option

Horticulture Option

Request to discontinue degree options

Department of Horticultural Sciences

B.S. in Horticulture

Science Option

Request to discontinue degree option

4. Tabled Item

Change in course ENTC 361; clarification is needed on prerequisites.