

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 12:30 p.m.
145 Soils/King Hall

Voting Members present: Balster, Courtenay, Holden, Wattiaux

Student members present: Mui

Voting Members Absent: Goldman, Kucharik

CALS Ex Officio: Ackerman-Yost, Wassarman

Meeting called to order as 12:35pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from March 12, 2019 Balster

Item 1 approved by consent.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **AAE 335** – Spreadsheet Fundamentals and Applications Wattiaux
Effective Spring 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12792>

Motion to approve: Wattiaux/Holden

Discussion: Course provides an introduction to Excel for AAE students to prepare them for advanced AAE courses. Proposal is sufficient, but committee recommends that proposer consider whether non-AAE students might be interested in this course. It could be that other departments may be interested parties and/or LAS credit should be considered. Ackerman-Yost to follow up with proposer with friendly feedback.

Vote: All approved with friendly feedback (5-0-0)

2. **BIOCHEM 719** - From Atoms to Molecules Anderson
Effective Fall 2019
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12614>

Motion to approve: Anderson/Balster

Discussion: Course is meant for first semester IPiB graduate students, and provides a foundation in biophysical chemistry. The committee found the course description and syllabus was sufficient. However, the justification provided for the course contained inaccurate information regarding Biochem 601. As the justification forms part of the permanent record, the committee could not approve the proposal with inaccurate information.

Vote to approve: (0-5-0), rejected

Motion to table pending update to justification for course in relation to curriculum, specifically 601: Anderson/Wattiaux

Discussion: Ackerman-Yost to follow up with proposer to update the justification for the course, particularly the comparison to 601, which contains inaccurate information.

Vote to table pending update (5-0-0)

3. **BIOCHEM 924** - Membrane Protein Structure and Function Courtenay
Effective Spring 2020
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12155>

Motion to approve: Courtenay/Holden

Discussion: This course is a graduate seminar, and is one of multiple potential seminars that can be taken by graduate students to meet their seminar requirements. The committee found that the proposal did not include prerequisites for the course, which should be for graduate/professional students only as it is a 900-level course. Additionally, it was not clear whether any other background knowledge was needed for the course. The current assessment criteria for students indicates that there are two groups of students: those who present and those who do not present. The syllabus did not demonstrate that non-presenting students were able to meet or be assessed on the learning objectives, and the committee was concerned that the large percentage of attendance in the grade weighting did not allow assessment of student learning. Additionally, the proposal did not demonstrate that non-presenting students are receiving the equivalent experience as presenting students. Finally, university guidance is that when more than 10% of the grade is tied to participation, attendance, and/or discussion, how this percentage is assessed must be clearly defined.

Vote to approve: (0-5-0), rejected. Ackerman-Yost to follow up with proposer regarding issues raised by committee.

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update on Jung Excellence in Teaching Award Ackerman-Yost

Discontinued in 2015, is now published on CALS website

2. International Studies requirement Ackerman-Yost/
Wassarman

Discussion: Question to committee on whether Fall 2019 application for course inclusion for International Studies requirement should be opened up to other colleges since it would not be included in Guide until the following fall. Committee discussed and decided to open application to other colleges in the fall to promote diverse experience for students and fairness with crosslisted courses.

Committee will review the updated application, which will be revised by Academic Affairs based on previous discussions by committee.

3. Prerequisites

Balster

Tabled until April meeting

4. Sustainability attribute

Balster

Update: CALS provided consolidated feedback to university. The attribute will be going forward, and a revised proposal will be presented to UCC later this week. Wassarman reminded committee to ensure learning objectives were included where appropriate during course review.