

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 28, 2020, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
253 Soils Hall

Voting Members Present: Balster, Wattiaux, Goldman, Holden, Kucharik, Anderson, Courtenay
Absent: Bolma (student member)
Ex Officio: Barber, Ackerman-Yost

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from February 14, 2020. Balster 1:00-1:10pm
2. Genetics Requisite Amnesty spreadsheet (see Box)

Items 1 and 2 above approved by consent.

ACTION ITEMS

Course Change

1. **Change to subject listing (ENVIR ST → INTER-AG)** Courtenay 1:10-1:20pm
INTER-AG 117 Greenhouse Roots Seminar
Effective Spring 2021
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=11456>

Motion to approve with recommendations (Courtenay/ Kucharik)

Discussion: There were concerns about the grading in this course. The concern was that attendance is 48% of grade. The committee discussed the use of credit/no credit options for seminar courses. The committee would like to see more details on grading and how the grading aligns with learning outcomes. The committee noted that it functions as the curriculum committee for the INTER-AG subject listing.

Vote: 0-5-0, Academic Affairs will reach out to instructor to update proposal for re-review at a future meeting

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Major program changes – Life Sciences Communication** Scheufele 1:20-1:40pm
Honors in the Major
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=1137>
Curricular and Four-Year plan changes
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=34>

Note: these items are in the process of being combined into one proposal. Because the addition of Honors in the Major is a Major Program Change, it will be voted on by CALS APC. The CALS Curriculum Committee's role is to provide comments to the CALS APC on these changes.

Discussion: LSC presented to the committee the new proposal of Honors in the Major. LSC department discussed with the committee the reasons for adding honors in the major, including a push for research around campus and also allowing students to have continued time with a researcher (noting that the Honors in the Major coursework includes independent studies in addition to the thesis requirements.) The committee raised the concern that the AB requirement seemed high for an honors requirement. LSC indicated that the grade requirement would only be for the 15 credits of LSC Honors coursework, so Statistics, which may be a more difficult course for students, would not have a grade requirement. A question of double majors was brought up since 40% of LSC students double major. The concern was that this honors option would take away from students' ability to double major. The department indicated that they felt the Honors coursework was sufficiently flexible to support double majoring.

The department also provided an overview of its program changes, including improvements to the four-year plan and clarifications of the QR-A and QR-B choices.

Comment: The committee discussed the program changes and the Honors in the Major proposal and indicated its support. The committee commented that they believed the GPA requirements would require administrative effort to enforce, but that it was the department's decision.

2. CALS Teaching and Advising Awards kick-off

Ackerman-Yost

Discussion: The committee needs to submit evaluations (worksheet to rate candidates) to Megan before next meeting. To rate the candidates, you need to assign points for each criterion and then rank the candidate overall. The review of the awards will be conducted in a specific order to ensure each award sub-committee does not include someone who is nominated. The information is in Box.

Adjourn 1:56pm