

**Minutes of CLAS Courses & Curriculum Committee Meeting
October 8, 2003 (revised and approved on Oct. 22, 2002)**

Present: **Committee members** Paul Bloomfield (Philosophy), John Breen (Journalism), Andrea Calebrese (Linguistics), Ellen Cromley (Geography), Carl Coelho (Comm. Sci.), Rob Henning (Psychology, Chair), William Hines (Physics), Ray Joesten (Geology), Jane Knox (Chemistry), Gerald Leibowitz (Mathematics), Jocelyn Linnekin (Anthropology), Veronica Makowsky (Associate Dean), Marita McComiskey (Women's Studies), Stuart Miller (Modern & Classical Languages), Thomas Roberts (English), Shirley Roe (History), Stephen Sacks (Economics), Evelyn Simien (Political Science), Annelie Skoog (Marine Sciences), Thomas Terry (MCB), Kentwood Wells (EEB). **Visitors** Roger Buckley (Asian American Studies Institute), Melinda Daniels (Geography), David Herzberger (Modern & Classical Languages), Carol W. Lewis (Political Science), Margo Machida (Asian American Studies Institute), Ross Mackinnon (Dean, CLAS), Adrian Pantoja (Political Science).
Absent: Arnie Dashefsky (Sociology), Joseph Crivello (PNB), Richard Vitale (Statistics)

1. The meeting was convened at 3:32 p.m.

2. Minutes of Sept. 10 were approved.

Unfinished Business:

97-121. Drop Russian Major. Approved.

David Herzberger, Chair of MCL, pointed out that MCL had proposed dropping this major in 1997, but this committee did not approve at that time. For the past five years, MCL has not offered any courses that would lead to the major, nor do they intend to hire any faculty in this field, so they wish to finalize dropping the major. It was pointed out that the current catalog does not list Russian as a major; however, several vestigial references to that major in course descriptions of some surviving Russian courses and elsewhere serve no function and could be expunged from the catalog if the proposal were approved. Concerns were expressed about the way in which the administration handled the demise of Russian studies at UConn. The motion passed.

New Business:

2002-85. Add MCB 298 "Agents of Infectious Disease" special topics course for spring 2003: Approved by Chair based on written proposal received 9/17/02.

Approved Copy (not for catalog)

MCB 298. Agents of Infectious Disease. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MCB 229. *Graf*

This lecture course will consist of two parts. In the first part, the mechanisms by which bacteria cause disease, the host defense system and prophylactic approaches to treating bacterial diseases will be discussed. In the second part a number of bacterial pathogens will be discussed in depth, including the bacteria responsible for Lyme disease, anthrax, and syphilis.

2002-86. Add GERM 169: "Contemporary Germany: Society, Culture, and Everyday Life" to the CLAS General Education Requirements under Group 5a: "Western Culture." Approved. (Note: GER courses also require University Senate approval).

2002-87. Cross list PRLS 264 with Women's Studies (WS 260) and Communication Sciences (COMM 233).
Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

PRLS 264. Latinas and Media. (Also offered as WS 260 and COMM 233.) Second semester, 3 credits. *Rios*
Examines the role of ethnicity and race in women's lives. Special attention to communication research on ethnic and racial minority women.

2002-88. Cross list COMM 233 with Puerto Rican and Latino Studies (PRLS 264) and Women's Studies (WS 260).
Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

COMM 233. Latinas and Media. (Also offered as PRLS 264 and WS 260.) Second semester. Three credits. *Rios*

Examines the role of ethnicity and race in women's lives. Special attention to communication research on ethnic and racial minority women.

2002-89. Cross list Women's Studies 260 with Puerto Rican and Latino Studies (PRLS 264) and Communication Sciences (COMM 233). Approved.

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WS 260. Latinas and Media. (Also offered as PRLS 264 and COMM 233.) Second semester. Three credits. *Rios*

Examines the role of ethnicity and race in women's lives. Special attention to communication research on ethnic and racial minority women.

2002-90. Change prerequisite for COMM 239. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

COMM 239. New Communication Technologies. Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: COMM 130. Recommended preparation: COMM 230.

An overview of new communication technologies. Topics include the uses, evolution, diffusion, operation, and effects of new communication technologies.

2002-91. Add AASI 201 Intro to Asian American Studies. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

AASI 201 Intro to Asian American Studies. Second semester. 3 credits. *Machida*

A multidisciplinary introduction to major themes in Asian American Studies.

Concepts of identity and community, migration and labor histories, Asians and the law, representations of Asians in visual and popular culture, gender issues, interracial and interethnic relations, and human rights.

2002-92. Change MCB Major. Approved.

Description of the MCB major is changed as follows:

1. From "...at least 24 credits in MCB courses..." to "...at least 24 credits in MCB courses at the 200-level or above..."
2. Add the note: "Where appropriate, a course may fulfill more than one requirement; e.g., MCB 204 and 229 count towards the Group 1 requirement as well as the Group 3 Laboratory requirement."
3. Add the note: "Biology 295, Introduction to Undergraduate Research, may count towards the 24 credits of required MCB courses."

2002-93. Change MCB 231. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

MCB 321. Molecular Biology and Genetics of Prokaryotes

Molecular genetics of bacteria, archaeobacteria, and their viruses. Transcription and replication of DNA, transformation, transduction, conjugation, genetic mapping, mutagenesis, regulation of gene expression, genome organization.

3 credits, Lecture. Recommended preparation: a course in general microbiology.

2002-94. Change consent of several MCB graduate courses. Approved.

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MCB 301. Biochemistry.

Metabolism of carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, proteins, and nucleic acids, including regulation, and structure and function of biological macromolecules. Provides suitable preparation for advanced course work in biochemistry, biophysics, and other areas of molecular biology.

5 credits, Lecture. With consent of instructor, graduate students with considerable laboratory experience may arrange to take only the lecture portion of this course as Biology:MCB 396.

MCB 336. Industrial Microbiology

Biology of industrial microorganisms, including their physiology, selection, and biochemical and genetic manipulation. Primary and secondary metabolite biosynthesis and production. Pollution microbiology and biodegradation.

3 credits, Lecture.

MCB 340. Virology

Biological, biochemical, genetic, and physical characteristics of viruses, with an emphasis on molecular and quantitative aspects of virus-cell interactions.

3 credits, Lecture.

MCB 374. Graduate Seminar

1 credit, Seminar.

MCB 393. Special Topics in Cellular and Molecular Biology

Consideration of selected topics in cellular and molecular biology. Presentations are made by invited speakers. Each session is preceded by a discussion of readings related to the subject matter of the presentation.

2 credits, Seminar.

MCB 394. Seminar in Microbiology Discussion of current topics in microbiology

1 credit, Seminar. May be repeated for credit.

2002-95. Change MCB 292W and 299. Approved. (Note: University Senate approval is also required for W courses)

Approved Catalog Copy

MCB 292W. Senior Research Thesis in Molecular and Cell Biology. Either semester. Three credits. Hours by arrangement. Prerequisite or corequisite: Three credits of MCB 299. Open only with consent of instructor. Designed for the advanced undergraduate who is pursuing a special problem as an introduction to independent investigation. Research and writing of a thesis.

MCB 299. Independent Study. Either or both semesters. Credits and hours by arrangement. Open only with consent of instructor. May be repeated for credit with change in topic.

2002-97. Add GEOG 23X. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

GEOG 23X. Fluvial Geomorphology. First semester, alternate years. Three credits. One required weekend fieldtrip. Prerequisite: GEOG 205 or GEOL 102 or BIOL 108 or consent of instructor. *Daniels.*

Physical forms and processes associated with rivers. Factors controlling open-channel flow, sediment transport, channel morphology, adjustments of rivers to environmental change, and human impacts. River management and restoration strategies.

2002-98. Add GEOG 33X. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

GEOG 33X. Advanced Fluvial Geomorphology. First semester, alternate years. Three credits. One required weekend fieldtrip. *Daniels.*

Research methods for analyzing fluvial forms and processes. Theoretical discussion of factors controlling open-channel flow, sediment transport, channel morphology, adjustments of rivers to environmental changes and human impacts. River management and restoration strategies.

Lecture. Not open to students who have passed GEOG 23X.

2002-99. Add GEOG 28XW. Approved. (Note: University Senate approval is also required for W courses)

Approved Catalog Copy

GEOG 28XW. Environmental Restoration First semester, alternate years. Three credits. One required weekend fieldtrip. Prerequisite: GEOG 205 or GEOL 102 or BIOL 108 or consent of the instructor. *Daniels.*

Restoration of natural environments including rivers, wetlands, coastal areas, grasslands and forests. Theoretical discussions of restoration ecology, management and engineering concerns. History of environmental restoration; relevant policy debates; specific case studies of river, wetland, coastal, grassland, and forest restoration.

2002-100. Add GEOG 38X. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

GEOG 38X. Seminar in Environmental Restoration

Research issues relating to restoration of natural environments including rivers, wetlands, coastal areas, grasslands and forests. Theoretical discussions of restoration ecology, as well as applied discussions of management and engineering concerns. History of environmental restoration; relevant policy debates; specific case studies of river, wetland, coastal, grassland, and forest restoration.

3 Credits, Seminar.

2002-101. Add POLS 2XX. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

POLS 2XX. Black Feminist Politics. Either semester. Three credits.

An introduction to major philosophical and theoretical debates at the core of black feminist thought, emphasizing the ways in which interlocking systems of oppression uphold and sustain each other.

2002-102. Add POLS 2XY. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

POLS 2XY. Financial Management for Public and Nonprofit Organizations. Either semester. 3 credits.

Management of financial resources in public service organizations. Topics include variance analysis, cost analysis, public sector and nonprofit accounting, financial statement analysis, and forecasting.

2002-103. Add POLS 2XZ. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

POLS 2XZ. Latino Political Behavior. Either semester. Three credits.

Exploration of Latino political behavior in the United States, including Latino ethnic identity, political representation, voting behavior, non-electoral political participation, and public opinion.

2002-104. Add POLS 2YX. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

POLS 2YX. Politics, Society, and Educational Policy. Either semester. Three credits.

Analysis of interactions among educational policy, politics, and other social forces. Insights and concerns from politics and other social sciences disciplines applied to different levels and types of schooling.

2002-105. Delete prerequisites from POLS 256. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

POLS 256. Constitutional Rights and Liberties. Either semester. Three credits.

Role of the Supreme Court in interpreting the Bill of Rights. Topics include freedoms of speech and religion, criminal due process and equal protection.

2002-106. Add POLS 2YY. Approved.

Approved Catalog Copy

POLS 2YY. Social Policy. Either semester. Three credits.

Examination of the concepts and principles of public policy analysis, with applications to important social issues.

3. CLAS Dean Ross MacKinnon spoke with the committee between 4:12 and 4:42 p.m. MacKinnon thanked the committee for its hard and painstaking work. He indicated that many of the issues decided by this committee are purely faculty issues involving curriculum, calendar, etc., whereas the Dean's primary concerns are in other areas such as budgets. When curricular decisions create budgetary problems, however, there must be dialogue and interaction between the Dean's office and groups such as ours. The Dean expressed his concern that budgetary constraints may make it impossible to afford staffing for W courses in the number and manner specified by the new General Education Requirements. Among these requirements are that all students must take one W course in their major, and that W courses must be taught by faculty members, not by graduate students. Current CLAS GER requirements mandate 3 W courses, and MacKinnon suggested that if this could be reduced to 2 (as will be the case for university-wide GER under the new system), this would ease the potential crisis.

Extensive discussion followed, including such topics as the possible use of adjuncts, the commingling of W and non-W students with an extra credit allotted for W sections, concerns about the possible diminution of quality of the undergraduate experience if students take fewer W courses, concerns that distinguishing W from non-W courses has the undesirable side effect of reducing or eliminating writing requirements in non-W courses, reports that some students who have taken the three required W courses nevertheless graduate from UConn without ever having had to write an extensive research paper, and more.

MacKinnon urged us to report to him any instances where we believe that the quality of undergraduate education is being reduced as a result of high enrollments and/or budgetary considerations.

4. Next Meeting. A second October meeting of this committee is needed to complete approvals of course proposals for 2003-04 catalogue. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 22, at 3:30 p.m., Dodd Center Room 162.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Thomas M. Terry, Secretary *pro tem*

