

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
The Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee

Minutes

240 SH

November 16, 2023

Attending: Cornelia Lang (chair), Jill Beckman, Asha Bhandary, Jean-François Charles, Rodica Curtu, Emilie Maurel-Destruel, Amira Qidwai, Cinda Coggins Mosher, Christine Shea, Amy Strathman

Absent: N/A

1. The committee evaluated a proposal recommended by the GE Curriculum Committee (GECC) to grant Sustainability (SUST) and Values and Culture (VC) statuses to JMC 1800: *21st Century Science: Environmental Communication in the Digital Age*. The committee approved the proposal to add these statuses.
2. The committee next evaluated a second proposal from GECC to grant World Language and Cultural Exploration (WLCE) status to SWAH 2100: *Exploring East African Languages and Culture*. The committee approved the proposal to add this status.
3. The committee was next visited by Nicholas Martini, Lecturer and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Political Science to propose changes to the BS degree requirements in both majors offered by the Department of Political Science (BS in Political Science and BS in International Relations). The department also offers BA degrees in both of these majors, and they are interested in increasing the number of students who become interested in the BS programs, and in further distinguishing the BS programs from the BAs.

The Department of Political Science proposes to revise the BS degree requirements due to various factors, including the lack of required course offerings in the current BS curriculum and the need to provide more course opportunities for students interested in the BS. Adjustments to the BS include emphasizing methods and skills that prepare undergraduate students for research and graduate work in political science and international relations. The change includes more methods courses, so that although some quantitative courses are still part of the route to a BS, it now allows students to apply certain research experiences to their major requirements. The proposed BS degree for Political Science will increase from 36 s.h. to 39 s.h. and the proposed BS degree for International Relations from 37 s.h. to 40 s.h. These additional hours will provide more statistics, analyses, and experiential learning courses that allow students who pursue the BS degree to exhibit additional marketable skills in a more data-driven society.

The committee discussed the proposed changes and were supportive of the department moving forward with them.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilie Maurel-Destruel
Associate Professor, French & Italian, Linguistics
Secretary, UEPCC