



THE COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER

College Curriculum Committee Academic Year 2015-2016

The notes below summarize the activities of the College Curriculum Committee for the academic year 2015-16. These include the approval of new majors, minors, and clusters; consideration of changes in several curriculum-related policies; discussion of assessment and curricular review.

Approved Majors

- BA in Dance
This major, focusing on creative expression and performance, will require 50 credits, with courses arranged into five categories: Foundations, Embodied Practice, Core Practice, Dance History and Context, Creative Expression/Collaborative Arts, Somatic Awareness. Additionally, there will be a required Senior Seminar, and the upper-level writing requirement will be built into an array of courses where reflective and research-based writing is inherent.
- Concentration in Dance Studies, within the Dance major
This concentration will require 50 credits, and encourages an interdisciplinary approach with a maximum of three courses in other related discipline(s).

Note: The CCC approved a change in the title of the degree offered by the Susan B. Anthony Institute from “Women’s Studies” to “Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies.”

Note: The following majors received state approval in the 2014-2015 year:

- Bachelors of Science in Environmental Health
- Bachelors of Science in Computational Biology

Note: The following majors received state approval in 2015-2016:

- Bachelors of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Data Science
- Bachelors of Arts in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies
- Concentrations in the Bachelor of Arts in English program, including: British and American Literature; Creative Writing; Language, Media and Communication; and Theater

Majors Under Review

None.

Approved Minors

None.

New Clusters

- Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies –H1WST007
This cluster focuses on Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies from a Humanities perspective including courses in film, literature, art history, and music, as well as philosophy, queer theory, religion, and more.
- Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies - S1WST006
This cluster focuses on Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies from a Social Science perspective including courses on health, linguistics, history, human rights, political science, psychology, and more.
- Turkish - Religion and Classics – H1REL019
This cluster will enable students to achieve a basic proficiency in Turkish as well as a familiarity with Turkish literature and culture.
- Web Design – Computer Science – N4CSC018
This cluster will provide basic web design skills, teaching fundamentals of good design.
- Web Development – Computer Science – N4CSC017
This cluster gives students more depth into client side/back end web development, languages and current techniques.

New Citation

- **Community-Engaged Scholarship**
The CCC reviewed the final recommendations of the Community-Engaged Scholarship Committee. The proposed citation would be included on students' transcripts following successful completion of the program, which integrates 12 credits of coursework, two seminars, and a capstone project based on student work within the Rochester community. The program will be housed in the College, and students will work closely with the Rochester Center for Community Leadership.

Changes/Modifications

- Changes were approved for the following **majors**: Biology; Computational Biology; Digital Media Studies; Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies; German; Mechanical Engineering; Optics; Optical Engineering; Public Health (Bioethics, Epidemiology, Health Policy, Health, Behavior and Society); Statistics; Undergraduate Business

- Changes were approved for the following **minors**: Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies; Dance and Movement Studies; Legal Studies; Public Health (Bioethics, Epidemiology, Health Policy, Health, Behavior and Society); Sustainability

Policy Change

- **Academic Honesty**

The committee was joined by Beth Jorgensen, Chair of the Board on Academic Honesty, to discuss the provisions around repeated courses. The new policy requires that all grades issued as a result of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to XE and XF grades, remain in the GPA if the student repeats the course. However, the student information system cannot manage this for courses that are passed. Therefore, the committee approved a change to the policy language to specify that the grade and credit policy for courses that are passed will go into effect beginning with courses taken after the new system (Workday) is operational and capable of implementation.

- **Clusters**

As per the Curriculum Review Committee recommendation, the CCC approved the proposal to require all introductory-level courses be included in a cluster so that a course a freshman takes could potentially be used for either a major or a cluster. This will maximize the freedom of students to explore different areas without worrying about meeting various requirements. The CCC further recommends minimizing dead-end tracks that cannot be used to fulfill the requirements of a major or cluster. Exceptions would be courses used to fulfill the primary writing requirement (such as WRT 105); courses being taught for the first time on a trial basis that might not get taught again; and courses required for a major where high numbers of freshmen registering for other purposes may not be able to be accommodated. Exempt courses might be included in a cluster through the Departmental Cluster Exception process. Departments will be responsible for flagging exempt courses by noting in the published course descriptions (the CDCS) that a course is not included in a cluster. Where appropriate, a department could take steps to ensure that their majors get first access to required introductory courses.

Another recommendation proposed by the Curriculum Review Committee, to permit so-called “Bonus” clusters, was approved and forwarded to the Steering Committee. This will permit students to show on their transcript up to two clusters over and above degree requirements. No overlap with courses required for the major, including ancillary courses, or for the minor, will be permitted.

- **Independent Studies**

Per the Curriculum Review Committee recommendation, the CCC approved the proposal to lessen the restriction that limits students to 8 credits of Independent Study with the same instructor. To keep with best practices for undergraduate research experiences, students will now be allowed to take more than 8 credits with the same instructor if they obtain approval from the department chair.

- **Summer Session Add/Drop Deadline**

Beginning in the summer of 2016, the add and drop deadlines will be 25% into each session, and the withdrawal deadline will be at the 75% point.

Change in Degree Credit for Students Admitted to the EAPP program

Beginning with students entering in Fall 2016, these students will be eligible to use 12 of the 16 credits they earn in this program toward their degree. Currently the number of credits permitted is eight.

Review of Longitudinal Academic Data

- Fall semester grade point averages
- Courses with over 100 registrants, fall and spring
- Criteria for Latin Honors

Discussions

- **Review of the curriculum**

Following the Middle States Review, the College charged a Curriculum Review Committee with the task of revisiting the Rochester Curriculum in order to identify ways to improve and strengthen it. The committee published a final report in December 2015 after meeting for two consecutive semesters. The committee believes that the Rochester Curriculum is still successful, and its recommendations were minor. They emphasized areas such as global engagement, experiential learning, and the cluster system.

- ***Better than THAT* Campaign**

In response to the student protests around racial issues on campus, an anti-racism campaign formed to increase awareness and discussion around diversity and identity. The campaign endorsed the slogan “We’re Better than THAT” in the spring 2016 semester. In order to emphasize the College’s culture of acceptance, the campaign recommended that over the summer, all incoming freshmen read a required, brief piece about race and identity as a component of the One Community Program that occurs at Orientation. The CCC supported this initiative.

- **Internships and Career Preparation**

Following the appointment of Joseph Testani, the new Executive Director of the Greene Career and Internship Center, Provost Lennie and Dean Feldman charged an Internship Committee with the task of evaluating the systems and processes around internships on campus, exploring ways to improve these. This committee met monthly during the 2015-16 academic year, and presented a final report in May 2016. The report contained recommendations that should be reviewed by the CCC, including internship criteria and policies around credit for internships. Ultimately, these changes in faculty rules will need approval by the Faculty Council. Joe Testani presented to the CCC at the May 11th meeting, emphasizing the need to include career readiness practices within the curriculum, and how faculty and departments could collaborate to address this. This committee will continue to review these recommendations in the fall 2016 semester.

Curriculum Committee Members 2015-2016

Chair, Michael Jarvis	History
Erinmarie Byrnes	Student Association Academic Affairs Committee
Jennifer Creech	Modern Languages and Cultures
Richard Feldman	College Deans' Office
Paul Funkenbush	Mechanical Engineering
John Jaenike	Biology
Steve McAleavey	Biomedical Engineering
Suzanne O'Brien	College Deans' Office
Acting Chair, Lynne Orr	Physics and Astronomy
Melissa Sturge-Apple	Clinical and Social Sciences in Psychology
Allen Topolski	Art & Art History