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CURRICULUM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SR-03-04-21 CC

Recommends approval of the listed **COURSE CHANGES** for the following colleges and/or schools:

❖ **COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**

1. GEO 302 Geography of Europe

Change in course number: FROM: 302 TO: 404

Rationale: As part of the current restructuring in the geography graduate program, we are consolidating regional and topical courses offered both at the 300 level and 600 level to courses accessible to both undergraduates and graduates at the 400/500 level.

AND

Change in content: FROM: 300 level course content TO: More rigorous (but similar) content at 400 level with higher expectations of students.

Rationale: As part of the current restructuring in the geography graduate program, we are consolidating regional and topical courses offered both at the 300 level and 600 level to courses accessible to both undergraduates and graduates at the 400/500 level.

2. GEO 309 Geography of Mexico and Central America

Change in title to: Geography of South and Middle America

Rationale: New title reflects change in course content.

AND

Change in course number: FROM: 309 TO: 408

Rationale: none provided

AND

Change in content: FROM: A course focused exclusively on Middle American region. TO: A regional course that deals with both Middle America and South America.

Rationale: 1) The two regions feature similar cultural characteristics that lend themselves to inclusive study, and, 2) combining the two regions into one course furthers our restructuring objectives in the graduate program, i.e., to pragmatically consolidate and/or reformulate courses so that the modified courses can be regularly taught and accessible to both undergraduates and graduates.

AND

Change in catalog description: FROM: A geographical study of agriculture, transportation, settlement, geopolitics, and natural resources. TO: A study of settlement, transportation, manufacturing, agriculture, geopolitics, and natural resources of South and Middle American countries.

Rationale: Reflects change in course content.

3. GEO 314 Geography in the Middle East

Change in title to: Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia

Rationale: Reflects change in course content.

AND

Change in course number: FROM: 314 TO: 409

Rationale: As part of the current restructuring in the geography graduate program, we are

elevating selected regional courses offered at the 300 level to courses accessible to both undergraduates and graduates at the 400/500 level.

AND

Change in content: FROM: 300 level course content. TO: More rigorous content at 400 level with higher expectations of students, and the region to be considered encompasses the entire cultural/physical realm (SW Asia and N Africa).

Rationale: As part of the current restructuring in the geography graduate program, we are elevating selected regional courses offered at the 300 level to courses accessible to both undergraduates and graduates at the 400/500 level.

4. GEO 401 Historical Geography of the United States

Change in title to: Historical Geography

Rationale: Coursework will not necessarily deal exclusively with the historical geography of the United States, i.e., topical information from other parts of the world may be included.

AND

Change in content: FROM: A focus on the historical geography of the US. TO: Historical geography from a world context.

Rationale: To expand potential topics and increase instructor flexibility.

AND

Change in catalog description: FROM: Study of costal settlements, the population spread through Appalachia and the Mississippi Valley and the development of intermountain and Pacific Coast centers. TO: Historical study of human settlement patterns, population diffusion, economic development, and the evolution of state boundaries with an emphasis on processes that inform upon contemporary geographic patterns.

Rationale: This catalog change provides an updated course description indicating the diversity of topics to be considered from a geographic perspective.

5. GEO 405 World Political Geography

Change in title to: Political Geography

Rationale: Simplifies title.

AND

Change in catalog description: FROM: A systematic and regional survey of world political problems and international relations stressing studies of the United States, Europe, and the Soviet Union. TO: A systematic and regional survey of world political problems and international relations stressing current geopolitical conflicts.

Rationale: The catalog change provides an updated course description.

6. GEO 412 Geography of Russia and CIS

Change in title to: Geography of Russia

Rationale: Change reflects geopolitical changes and current regional context.

❖ **COLLEGE OF SCIENCE**

1. CHM 305 Chemical Information Retrieval

Change in title to: Chem Info Retr/Sci Ethics (Chemical Information Retrieval and Scientific Ethics)

Rationale: The course now contains a significant ethics component.

AND

Change in content: FROM: This is a course exclusively concerned with searching the chemical literature. TO: An ethics component has been added in the area of scientific research and social responsibility. The existing content has not been altered.

Rationale: Discussing ethical issues will help prepare students for problematic situations that they may encounter in the research laboratory and beyond.

AND

Change in catalog description: FROM: A survey course concerning the use of the chemical literature with emphasis on online computer searching. TO: A survey course concerning the use of the chemical literature with an emphasis on online computer searching and ethical issues relating to the conduct of scientific research and the relationship of science to society.

Rationale: The course content has changed (*vide supra*).

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT:

APPROVED

BY SENATE:

Larry Stibler

DATE:

1/23/2004

DISAPPROVED:

BY SENATE:

DATE:

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED:

Da [Signature]

DATE:

1/25/04

DISAPPROVED:

DATE:

COMMENTS:

