

Graduate Council Minutes

<https://unt.curriculog.com/agenda:823/form>

March 19, 2026

<https://unt.zoom.us/j/89359333174>

Zoom mtg. ID: 893 5933 3174

Note: Course changes and additions will not take effect until they are listed in the graduate catalog. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board must be notified of any item marked with a double asterisk () and must approve any item marked with a single asterisk (*) before listing in the graduate catalog. Items marked with a plus (+) must be approved by the Department of Education before being listed in the graduate catalog.**

Graduate Council Voting Members: *Rose Baker, Ana Cleveland(absent), Jessica Craig, Mariya Gavrilova Aguilar, Jaymee Haefner(absent), Jennifer Lane(absent), Maurizio Manzo(absent), Divesh Ojha, Olav Richter(absent), Dalena Taylor, Anto Verghese*

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brenda Barrio:

- Welcomed all Graduate Council members & attendees. Thanked departments for working together to get their proposals in for today's meeting.
- Passed to Rose Baker

Rose Baker:

- Welcomed all Graduate Council members and attendees
- Reminded/illustrated to voting members on how to submit their vote
- Called the meeting to order

II. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE ON ITEM II-1. - APPROVED
ITEM II-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM II-1

II-1. Approval of February 19, 2026, minutes

III. CHAIR / TGS DISCUSSION ITEMS / ACTION ITEMS / INFORMATION ITEMS

IV. REQUEST FOR NEW COURSES

V. REQUEST FOR ADD NEW OR DELETE EXISTING MAJOR/PROFESSIONAL FIELD, CONCENTRATION, OPTION, MINOR, CERTIFICATE (excluding GACs), OR SPECIALIZATION

G. Brint Ryan College of Business

Department of Information Technology & Decision Sciences

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM V-1. - APPROVED
ITEM V-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM VI-1.

V-1. Information Systems and Technologies, MS (add) (requested exception yr.: 2026-27; rationale: Need to start tracking students in FY26-27)

Justification: At its peak, our MS in Information Systems & Technology housed over 800 students. With the current shifts in grad enrollment, we're estimating that we will only have around 40 students by Fall 2026. To turn things around, the college is launching a new strategy that includes more aggressive marketing to reach a broader,

more diverse audience. We're also refreshing what we offer with new electives and different ways to take classes. This new subplan is a key part of the plan and will help track which formats students are choosing.

College of Information

Department of Learning Technologies

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM V-2. - APPROVED ITEM V-2. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM V-2.

V-2. Master of Science with a major in Learning Technologies, delete accelerated option (delete)

Justification: The department is no longer able to support the accelerated program and wishes to ensure the accelerated option and accelerated option subplan are no longer available to new applicants.

VI. REQUEST FOR ALL GRADUATE ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

G. Brint Ryan College of Business

Department of Information Technology & Decision Sciences

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM VI-1. - APPROVED ITEM VI-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM VI-1.

VI-1. Graduate Academic Certificate in Business Analytics () (add) (requested exception yr.: 2026-27; rationale: Will help support our grad enrollment that is on a decline.)**

Justification: The proposed certificate is aligned with the UNT's vision as a National Service University, as it is focused on educating current and future business leaders on the ever-increasing challenges related to the strategic use of big data and analytics.

College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Department of Geography & the Environment

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM VI-2 - APPROVED ITEM VI-2. PASSES – APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM VI-2.

VI-2. Graduate Academic Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (change in requirements)

Justification: A note will be added to the required course GEOG 5560 for the Graduate GIS Certificate Program indicating that students with prior coursework or experience in Python may replace GEOG 5560 with GEOG 5590. This change reflects the growing number of incoming graduate students who already possess foundational knowledge or practical experience in Python. Allowing these students to substitute GEOG 5590 helps ensure appropriate course placement, avoids unnecessary repetition of introductory material, and enables students to engage in more advanced, applied coursework earlier in the program. Enrollment in GEOG 5590 during the second semester may also better support students' thesis or research activities by providing relevant Python-based analytical skills at a more advanced level. This adjustment does not impact students who are new to Python, as GEOG 5560 remains the standard requirement. Instead, it introduces limited flexibility to better align coursework with students' prior preparation while maintaining the academic rigor and integrity of the Graduate GIS Certificate Program.

VII. REQUEST FOR NEW GRADUATE TRACK PATHWAYS

VIII. REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN PROGRAM, MAJOR, MINOR, DEGREE, OPTION, CONCENTRATION OR REQUIREMENTS

G. Brint Ryan College of Business

Department of Accounting

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS VIII-1. THROUGH VIII-3. AS A BLOCK - APPROVED ITEMS VIII-1. THROUGH VIII-3. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEMS VIII-1. THROUGH VIII-3.

VIII-1. Accounting with a concentration in Audit and Data Analytics, MS (*) (change in requirements; hours:33to30)

Justification: MS Accounting is changing from 33 semester hours to 30 semester hours. This change is driven by a recent change in the 150-hour rule promulgated by the TSBPA. Under this change, a CPA review course can be used to meet the 150-hour pathway to CPA exam eligibility. Prior to this change, a CPA review course did not count. Our students should see a net benefit from a reduction in our master's program from 33 to 30 hours. This will also make our MS program more competitive and a better value proposition.

With this change, we will also need the following edits to the degree:

Remove ACCT 5200 Ethics from degree to make it 30 hour program

Remove ACCT 5890 International Accounting from the election section, and add it to the required section.

Remove ACCT 5110 Fundamentals of Accounting Research from degree

VIII-2. Taxation and Data Analytics, MS (change in requirements) (requested exception yr.: 2026-27; rationale: Substitute currently happening. Need audits and degree plans up to date.)

Justification: The ACCT 5340 Oil and Gas Taxation course is being added as an option alongside the ACCT 5370 Family Tax Planning course under the Required Course field. As a result, the course must be moved from the Elective schema to the Required Course schema. Text should show as ACCT 5370 Family Tax Planning OR ACCT 5340 Oil & Gas Taxation.

VIII-3. Taxation and Data Analytics, MS (*) (change in requirements; hours: 33to30)

Justification: MS Taxation is changing from 33 semester hours to 30 semester hours. This change is driven by a recent change in the 150-hour rule promulgated by the TSBPA. Under this change, a CPA review course can be used to meet the 150-hour pathway to CPA exam eligibility. Prior to this change, a CPA review course did not count. Our students should see a net benefit from a reduction in our master's program from 33 to 30 hours. This will also make our MS program more competitive and a better value proposition

With this change, we will need the following edits to the degree: Remove ACCT 5200 Ethics to make it 30 hour program

College of Information

Department of Information Science

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS VIII-4. & VIII-5. AS A BLOCK - APPROVED ITEMS VIII-4. & VIII-5. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEMS VIII-4. & VIII-5.

VIII-4. Health Informatics, MS (change in requirements; additional course requirements) (requested exception yr.: 2026-27; rationale: As part of our 2025-26 curriculum overhaul, we seek to change one number in the HINF-MS catalog entry to lower the number of required HINF-prefixed courses by one, allowing students greater flexibility to pursue interdisciplinary learning, e.g., in new Artificial Intelligence courses in our department and other departments.)

Justification: We wish to change one sentence in the Additional Course Requirements section of the current catalog draft. That sentence reads "At least 24 of the 36 hours in the master's program must be from organized HINF courses (excludes transfer courses and independent study)." We want to change the 24 in that sentence to 21. That is,

students will still take the same number of total credits, but they will only be required to complete 21 HINF-prefixed credits.

As part of our 2025-26 curriculum overhaul, we seek to change one number in the HINF-MS catalog entry to lower the number of required HINF-prefixed courses by one, allowing students greater flexibility to pursue interdisciplinary learning, e.g., in new Artificial Intelligence courses in our department and other departments.

VIII-5. Information Science, MS (change in requirements; courses) (requested exception yr.: 2026-27; rationale: This concentration was also inadvertently not included in the prior MS Librarianship program change in the fall, meaning that the concentration/program would be missing from the 2026-27 catalog (affecting hundreds of incoming students)).

Justification: As part of the department's broad curriculum revision, the School Librarianship concentration was adjusted to 36 total hours like the other Library Science master's concentrations. This is in line with our advertising and the recommendations of our MS accrediting body (American Library Association). Specifically, one elective was eliminated. The text for the revised School Librarianship program is attached; the text and coursework aligns to the requirements for licensure by the Texas Education Agency.

A. In Grad Track

IX. REQUEST FOR DUAL OR JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

**MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS X-1. & X-2. UNDER CONSENT CALENDAR - APPROVED
ITEMS X-1. & X-2. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

APPROVAL OF ITEMS X-1. & X-2.

A. Course Changes

G. Brint Ryan College of Business

Department of Accounting

X-1. ACCT 5890 - International Accounting

CIP Code: 30.7104.00.02

Description: Provides an in-depth examination of international accounting and financial reporting in a global business environment. Introduces the nature and scope of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), and contrasts key differences relative to U.S. GAAP. Examines foreign exchange risk, the use of hedging to manage such risk, and the financial reporting implications of operating in multiple currencies. Students apply empirical research methods to real-world international financial data and develop skills in interpreting empirical evidence in international accounting settings. Through a significant data analytics component, topics examined include financial reporting quality, reporting differences under IFRS and GAAP, foreign currency transactions and hedging activities, and financial statement translation.

Prerequisite(s): Must be an MS Accounting student

Note(s): none

Department of Information Technology & Decision Sciences

X-2. BCIS 5110 - Programming for Business

Course Title: Programming for Business

Short Course Title: PROGRAMMING FOR BUS

B. Course Deletions

C. Information Item - THECB Delete

D. Information Item - Documenting Changes

NO NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING – ADJOURNED