Graduate Council Minutes

https://unt.curriculog.com/agenda:868/form

September 17, 2026

https://unt.zoom.us/j/82485673055

Zoom mtg. ID: 824 8567 3055

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****,* ***Jessica Craig****,* ***Feng Gu, Jaymee Haefner, Jennifer Lane,*** *Divesh Ojha (absent),* ***Anto Verghese***

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brenda Barrio:

- Welcomed all Graduate Council members current & new attendees
- Introduced and mentioned the role of this committee as the Administrative Co-Chair
- Described function as Administrative Co-Chair of GC; a non-voting member who serves as this Council's co-chair ex officio
- Mentioned, Rose Baker volunteered to run as Faculty chair (after serving as interim) for the upcoming academic year; and with majority vote from GC voting members, was appointed as Faculty chair for the 26-27 academic yr. during the May 2026 council mtg.; thanked Rose for continuing to serve for this upcoming year.
- Looking forward to a productive year

Rose Baker:

- Welcomed all Graduate Council members and attendees
- Introduced as Faculty Chair of the Graduate Council for the 26-27 academic yr.
- Announced that it is the first meeting of the 2026-27 year
- Welcomed and introduced the new voting members: **Feng Gu** (BIOL-Biological Sciences) & continuing a new term Anto Verghese (ITDS-Info Tech & Decision Sci)
- Mentioned how the GC mtgs. for the year are conducted through Zoom

Reminded members about mtg. attendance:

- As Committee Faculty Chair, one is responsible for monitoring committee membership's status and any vacancies (whether occurring by repeated absence, leave of absence, resignation or retirement), and promptly reporting any occurring vacancies to the Senate leadership
- As Voting Members, there are General Standing Committee Responsibilities
  - Attendance at all meetings by Committee Members is expected so that members are able to effectively represent their faculty member constituency.
  - Members are expected to participate actively in committee discussion whether face-to-face or virtual, and to work to complete the committee charges.
  - After 2 missed committee meetings or discussions, committee members will be notified by the chair of their lack of attendance. After 3 absences the Committee Chair may invoke the option of removing the committee member from his/her committee membership by notifying the member and the Senate office of same. [Procedures Manual]
  - The "present by proxy" vote is no longer allowed on this committee. If you cannot attend, you will be marked as absent. Please continue to make us aware if you plan on **not** being present/absent for a meeting.
- 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

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

APPROVAL OF ITEM II-1

II-1. Approval of August 20, 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

College of Music

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

APPROVAL OF ITEM V-1.

V-1. Music Education, MMEd (*) (delete degree)

Justification: This degree program has been moved under the umbrella of other MA concentrations within the College of Music, effective Fall 2027.

VI. REQUEST FOR ALL GRADUATE ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

College of Engineering

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

APPROVAL OF ITEM VI-1.

VI-1. Graduate Academic Certificate in Semiconductor Manufacturing Engineering (change in program; add dept.-owned required courses)

Justification: An additional course was added to the curriculum to allow more options for students.

VII. REQUEST FOR NEW GRADUATE TRACK PATHWAYS

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

College of Engineering

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM VIII-1. - APPROVED
MOTION TO VOTE ITEM VIII-1. - APPROVED BY MAJORITY - ITEM VIII-1. PASSES

APPROVAL OF ITEM VIII-1.

VIII-1. Semiconductor Manufacturing Engineering, MS (change in requirements; add/remove dept.-owned required courses)

Justifications:
Add department-owned course options:
EENG 5580 - Power Electronics was added as an elective option for students. This course was intended to be included previously but was accidentally left off of the electives list.

A new course was added to the electives list, and a one core course was swapped with an elective due to frequency and term of the core course offering. This change will make the degree easier to complete in a reasonable amount of time.

College of Information

The Anuradha & Vikas Sinha Department of Data Science

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM VIII-2. - APPROVED
MOTION TO VOTE ITEM VIII-2 - APPROVED BY MAJORITY - ITEM VIII-2. PASSES

APPROVAL OF ITEM VIII-2.

VIII-2. **Data Science, PhD** (change in requirements; add/remove dept.-owned required courses)
(requested exception yr. 2026-27; rationale: This PhD program officially starts in Fall 2026.)

Justifications:
Add department-owned required courses: The Data Science PhD curriculum scheme was updated during the program approval process and further refined after the program was approved. The revisions were made to incorporate feedback from the external reviewer, to ensure that the curriculum reflects the rapidly evolving nature of the data science field, and to adapt to the expertise of new hired faculty members.

The revised curriculum scheme was carefully discussed and approved through the Data Science Curriculum Committee and subsequently discussed with the DS faculty. As a result, the course numbers and titles in the current curriculum scheme differ from those in the original PhD proposal.

We would therefore like to use the updated curriculum scheme attached to this proposal as the basis for incorporating the 14 DTSC 6XXX courses currently on the July Graduate Council agenda.

A. In Grad Track

IX. REQUEST FOR DUAL OR JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION TO APPROVE ALL ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-6. UNDER CONSENT CALENDAR AS A BLOCK - APPPROVED
MOTION TO VOTE ALL ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-6. - APPROVED BY MAJORITY - ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-6. PASSES

APPROVAL OF ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-6.

A. Course Changes

College of Public Affairs & Health Sciences

Department of Social Work

X-1. **SOWK 5110 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment** (requested exception yr. 2026-27; rationale: Immediate implementation is necessary to comply with external requirements.)

Description: Analyzes developmental theories and practical knowledge of people across the lifespan, from birth to end of life. Concentrates upon a strengths-oriented perspective of issues impacting individuals, families, groups and society, including race, gender, sexual orientation, class, culture, age and others, and the oppression of minorities and populations at risk.

X-2. **SOWK 5210 - Practice with Organizations and Communities** (requested exception yr. 2026-27; rationale: Immediate implementation is necessary to comply with external requirements.)

Description: Focuses on macro community practice at the foundation level. Integration of theory, skills and techniques in order to intervene with groups, organizations, communities. Emphasis on strengths-based approaches and participatory models which empower communities.

X-3. **SOWK 5230 - Multidimensional Assessment in Social Work** (requested exception yr. 2026-27; rationale: Immediate implementation is necessary to comply with external requirements.)

Description: Focuses on perspectives about mental health and disorders across the lifespan. Introduces major diagnostic classification systems with a primary focus on the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). Includes assessment skills and the diagnostic process utilizing the DSM. Emphasis upon facilitating a holistic multidimensional assessment inclusive of strengths. Analysis of diagnostic systems in relation to social work values and ethics.

X-4. **SOWK 5580 - Global Social Work** (requested exception yr. 2026-27; rationale: Immediate implementation is necessary to comply with external requirements.)

Description: Highlights social challenges faced by nations throughout the world: human rights, rapid and unplanned urbanization, poverty, housing, gender inequality, inability to care for the complex needs of children, poverty and indebtedness. Emphasizes the large number of possible intervention strategies available to respond to the diverse needs of communities and societies beyond the social work and social welfare models used in the United States. Prepares students for international social work or for work with immigrant and refugee populations in the United States by encouraging the development of appropriate strategies for working with those whose worldviews are beyond the narrow cultural contexts of this country.

B. Information Item - THECB Delete

C. Information Item - Documenting Changes

University of North Texas

College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Department of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures

X-5. **Spanish, BA with grad track option leading to Spanish, MA** - grad track deletion (catalog yr. effective 2026-27)

Description: The Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures deleted the Spanish, MA degree, effective 2026-27. As one of the degrees in the Spanish, BA with grad track option leading to Spanish, MA has been deleted, the grad track will be removed from the catalog.

College of Public Affairs & Health Sciences

Department of Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology

X-6. **Audiology, AuD** - requirements clarification (catalog effective yr. 2025-26 and 2026-27)

Description: The Audiology, Aud program had a proposal approved at the December 2024 Graduate Council meeting: https://unt.curriculog.com/proposal:15387/form

The program was approved to have 45 credit hours of required coursework. The credit hours of the courses total 42 hours. Updated the Required Academic Course section by adding a note that states "One additional course selected in consultation with their advisor."

NO NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING - APPROVED
MOTION TO VOTE FOR MEETING TO BE ADJOURNED - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

ADJOURNED