

Graduate Council Minutes
Thursday – February 21, 2019
Hurley Administration Board Room 204 – 3:00PM-5:00PM

Note: Course changes and additions will not take effect until they are listed in the graduate catalog. Items marked with an asterisk (*) must have approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board 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: Douglas Brozovic, Denise Catalano, Kris Chesky, Lynne Cagle-Cox, Nick Evangelopoulos, Jordan Frith (Absent), Jennifer Lane, Gwen Nisbett, Daniel Peak (Absent), Gayle Prybutok, Prathiba Natesan.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

I-1. Dr. Opping welcomed two new Graduate Student Council members to introduce themselves, GSC members Kimberly Berry, VP of Programming and Outreach and Haneen Elghazali, Parliamentarian.

I-2. Federation Coordinator, Keenan DeFoor made members aware of the upcoming Federation of North Texas Area Universities Graduate Student Research Symposium that will take place on Friday, April 5, 2019 at UNT's University Union – Ballroom 314. Mr. DeFoor urged members to register as a judge by March 8th.

I-3. Dr. Prybutok reminded members that if they were not able to make GC meetings to send proxy via a faculty member of their choice or to GC chair.

II. MINUTES

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM II-1. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM II-1.

II-1. Approval of January 17, 2019 minutes.

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

III-1. Dr. Prybutok encouraged members to attend Graduate Advisor Mtgs. if they would like to stay current on graduate school occurrences.

III-2. Dr. Opping thanked GC members for reviewing travel grant applications, Toulouse Scholar awards, etc. Dr. Denise Catalano asked about the evaluation process and requested for guidelines to ranking students. Dr. Opping volunteered to discuss the topic at the next GC mtg. and provide a rubric to evaluating students.

IV. REQUEST FOR NEW COURSES

College of Information

Department of Information Science

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM IV-1. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM IV-1.

IV-1. INFO 5505 - Applied Machine Learning for Data Scientists – 3 hours

Description: Introduction to concepts of machine learning and widely adopted machine learning algorithms including regression, clustering, support vector machine, and neural network. Defines complex modern machine

learning architectures in Google TensorFlow and Keras frameworks using Python programming language.
Introduces the applications of machine learning to computer vision with Convolution Neural Networks (CNN), natural language processing with Recurrent Neural Network (RNN), and information retrieval with RNN and CNN.

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

College of Information

Department of Information Science

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEMS V-1. AND V2. AS A BLOCK - UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEMS V-1. AND V-2.

During discussion, Dr. Prybutok mentioned to the department member that was present that they take notice to how they may want it transcribed on a student's transcript and/or diploma.

V-1. Information Science, MS - Request change in Requirements and Other; Concentration
(was submitted on, "Change in Program" form)

Justification: Faculty voted to change "Program of Study" to "Concentrations" to reflect the real meaning, and to streamline the admission process.

Information Technology Knowledge and Skills Assessment (ITKS) survey is no longer needed as students' technological skills have changed.

V-2. Library Science, MS - Request change in Requirements and Other; Concentration
(was submitted on, "Change in Program" form)

Justification: Faculty voted to change "Program of Study" to "Concentrations" to reflect the real meaning, and to streamline the admission process.

Faculty voted to remove the "distributed learning librarianship" concentration to reflect job market needs.

Information Technology Knowledge and Skills Assessment (ITKS) survey is no longer needed as students' technological skills have changed.

VI. REQUEST FOR ALL GRADUATE ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

VII. REQUEST FOR NEW GRADUATE TRACK PATHWAYS

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

College of Information

Department of Information Science

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEMS VIII-1. AND VIII-2. AS A BLOCK - UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEMS VIII-1. AND VIII-2.

VIII-1. Information Science, MS – Request change in Requirements and Other; Comprehensive Exam

Justification: Comprehensive Exam is no longer required as the students will be evaluated on the basis of their portfolios.

VIII-2. Library Science, MS - Request change in Requirements and Other; Comprehensive Exam

*Indicates THECB approval required

Justification: Comprehensive Exam is no longer required as the students will be evaluated on the basis of their portfolios

Frank W. and Sue Mayborn School of Journalism

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEMS VIII-3. THROUGH VIII-5. AS A BLOCK - UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEMS VIII-3. THROUGH VIII-5.

VIII-3. Digital Communication Analytics, MS – Request change in Requirements

Justification: Updated list of required and elective courses to assure all courses are offered in the 8/16 week format, don't have hidden pre-requisites and offer content that serves the purpose of the degree.

VIII-4. Journalism, MA – Request change in Requirements

Justification: Changed list of required courses substituting Media Ethics for Readings in Mass Communication.

VIII-5. Journalism, MJ – Request change in Requirements

Justification: Updated list of required courses substituting JOUR 5310 Media Ethics for JOUR 5050 Readings in Mass Communication.

College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Department of Geography & the Environment

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM VIII-6. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM VIII-6.

VIII-6. Geography, MS – Request change in Requirements

Justification: Techniques within the discipline of geography have evolved. Masters students in geography currently use a variety of techniques: quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods for their research; the Geography MS program requirement needs to be adjusted to reflect this development in the discipline. In addition, students who do not wish to pursue thesis research may still seek Master's level training to advance in their profession. Explicitly distinguishing the requirements for the professional and research options paves clearer pathways for students.

Therefore, GEOG- 5190-Advanced Quantitative methods should be replaced with:

Analytical Methods (any one of the following):
GEOG 5190-Advanced Quantitative Techniques
GEOG 5185-Statistical Research in Geography
ANTH 5031-Ethnographic and Qualitative Methods

Women's & Gender Studies

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM VIII-7. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM VIII-7.

VIII-7. Women's and Gender Studies, MA – Request change in Other; removal of GRE scores from Admission requirement

Justification: Based on the experience with WGST-MA's first cohort of graduate students and discussions with the WGST Advisory Committee, we found that GRE scores are not a reliable determinant in academic success. This aligns with TGS's general policy on graduate admissions.

*Indicates THECB approval required

A. In Grad Track

Frank W. and Sue Mayborn School of Journalism

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM VIII-8. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM VIII-8.

VIII-8. Journalism, BA with grad track option leading to Journalism, MA – Request change in Requirements

Justification: Updated prerequisites for concentrations according to recent undergraduate and graduate curriculum changes.

IX. REQUEST FOR DUAL OR JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Course Changes

College of Information

Department of Information Science

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM X-1. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM X-1.

X-1. INFO 5745 - Information Architecture (Prerequisite)

Prerequisite: *INFO 5200, INFO-5814* > INFO 5200

College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Department of Geography & the Environment

MOTION TO VOTE ON ITEM X-2. – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF ITEM X-2.

X-2. GEOG 5570 - Special Topics in GIS (Prerequisite)

Prerequisite: *Consent of department* > GEOG 3500 or GEOG 5510 or consent of department.

B. Course Deletions

NO NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST TO ADJOURN MEETING – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL