

UNL Graduate Council Minutes
February 4, 2021
Via Zoom
2:30 p.m.

Attending: Jennifer Clarke, Rhonda Fuelberth, Adam Houston, Laurie Thomas Lee, Yusong Li, Laura Muñoz, Eric Rodene, Kara Viesca; Dean Tim Carr, presiding.
Absent: Geoff Friesen, Luz Sotelo.

Approval of Minutes from January 7, 2021

Motion was made to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Old Business

- a. Proposed specialization in Engineering Education Research (second revision)
Primary revision was to rename from “STEM Education Research” to “Engineering Education Research” based on the engineering focus. Motion was made to approve. Motion passed.
- b. Proposed certificate in Additive Manufacturing (revision)
Primary revision was to remove specific course requirement and replace with statement of required expertise/knowledge. Other revisions were removal of conditional graduate admission statements and inclusion of minimum GPA requirement. Motion was made to approve. Motion passed.

Graduate Course Policy and Guidelines

The document was prepared by Luz Sotelo and Kara Viesca. The Council members applauded the document and those who put their time and effort into drafting it. The “policy” and “guidelines” are separate sections; the policy will reside in the graduate catalog and the guidelines, which are not policy, will reside on the Graduate Studies web page. They will link to each other.

It was suggested to revise one sentence in the Accessibility section to be: “Instructors are encouraged to develop content and adhere to practices that do not intentionally or unintentionally introduce learning barriers...”

A motion was made to approve the Graduate Course Policy and Guidelines with the final approval given to Dean Carr after slight revision to the Accessibility section as suggested. Motion passed.

Deletion of MS and PhD degrees in Survey Research and Methodology

The College of Business has had the MS and PhD SRAM major for several years, but the key professors have left UNL and all remaining students have graduated. There is no intention to offer the SRAM major in the future. The College of Business tried “giving away” the major, but no other program was interested. Related courses are still available and being taught.

Motion was made to approve the deletion of the MS and PHD degrees with the SRAM major. Motion passed.

Major name change from Geography to Global Integrative Studies

The proposal raised some important questions. First, as Dean Carr pointed out, the proposed subject code change from GEOG to SGIS is not possible because the Registrar's Office has already changed the subject code to GLST. (SGIS stand for "School of..." rather than a subject, so GLST was used instead.) This correction will be made in the proposal going forward.

Second, the proposal is basically a name change. However, the proposal contains a lot of extra information that distracts from the intent of a simple name change. The proposal discusses the development of specializations and related courses that has nothing to do with changing the name. The main benefit of changing to Global Integrative Studies is expanding the appeal of the major beyond just Geography. The Council agreed to focus on just the name change and strongly recommended that the unnecessary information be removed from the proposal. Dean Carr will convey this concern.

Motion was made to approve the proposed name change, with recommendation to modify the proposal going forward. Motion passed.

New course proposals (see attachment)

Discussion was held regarding approval of the large number of new course proposals we receive each month. Dean Carr asked permission to assign the courses and use the comments for revision requests prior to bringing it to the Council. He and/or Eva will forward the comments to the department and ask for revision/response. It will go back to the reviewers for a revisit. This procedure should expedite the action step when brought to the full Graduate Council. Dean Carr will set up an Excel spreadsheet in OneDrive to track progress of each course review.

Meeting adjourned: 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Bachman, Ph.D.

New Course Proposals
February 2021

AGRO 985	Rhonda Fuelberth Yusong Li	Revised syllabus. Still not clear how lab will be done for online students and in person. Needs more detail on how in-person and online will be evaluated equitably. Motion to table; request revision. Motion passed.
MUSC 890	Laurie Thomas Lee Kara Mitchell Viesca	Need to remove 4XX/8XX notation in syllabus. Graduate differentiation is unclear. Missing required components. Learning objective for graduate not separated out. What are the materials that are going to help them achieve that? Motion to table; request revision. Motion passed.
NUTR 975	Geoff Friesen Luz Sotelo	
NUTR 976	Adam Houston Jennifer Clarke	How will the practicum be graded? Relationship with the preceptors should be detailed. Learning objective seems long. How much is the student actually supposed to demonstrate achievement? Dean Carr pointed out that the LO correspond to accreditation standards and demonstrate the course will meet the standards. Grading scheme notes quizzes, but does not indicate grading of quizzes. Motion to table; request revision; final approval delegated to Dean Carr. Motion passed.
PSYC 912A	Jennifer Clarke Luz Sotelo	As a sequential introductory course, it should be offered every year (as should 912B). Is this course intended to replace PSYC 971? Is this course open to master's students? Grading scheme is confusing; objectives seem vague. Motion to table; request revision. Motion passed.
PSYC 912B	Laura Muñoz Rhonda Fuelberth	No concerns. Motion to approve. Motion passed.
PSYC 913	Yusong Li Eric Rodene	Uncertain about their grading scale; friendly suggestion to clarify. Motion to approve. Motion passed.
PSYC 914	Adam Houston Laurie Thomas Lee	Unclear what is needed grade wise to pass; friendly suggestion to clarify the syllabus. Motion to approve with suggestions. Motion passed.
SOCI 811	Luz Sotelo Adam Houston	
SOCI 812	Jennifer Clarke Kara Mitchell Viesca	

SPAN 955	Laurie Thomas Lee Geoff Friesen	
SPED 848	Eric Rodene Laura Muñoz	
SPED 850	Laura Muñoz Yusong Li	No concerns. Motion to approve. Motion passed.
BIOS 836	Kara Mitchell Viesca Yusong Li	
GLST 815	Adam Houston Kara Mitchell Viesca	
GLST 840	Rhonda Fuelberth Luz Sotelo	
MECH 839	Jennifer Clarke Laura Muñoz	
NRES 885	Eric Rodene Jennifer Clarke	
NRES 886A	Laurie Thomas Lee Laura Muñoz	
NRES 886B	Geoff Friesen Rhonda Fuelberth	
PHIL 822	Adam Houston Laura Muñoz	No concerns. Motion to approve. Motion passed.
PHIL 880	Rhonda Fuelberth Eric Rodene	
PLPT 818	Geoff Friesen Laurie Thomas Lee	There is a similar course (BIOS 942), but it is not cross-listed. Need to check if it is still being offered. Motion to approve with clarification of class overlap. Motion passed.
SOCI 882	Luz Sotelo Yusong Li	
SOCI 885	Yusong Li Eric Rodene	No concerns. Motion to approve. Motion passed.
SPAN 861	Kara Mitchell Viesca Geoff Friesen	