

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Voting members present: Courtenay, Goldman, Holden, Kucharik, Ney, Vermillion Kalmon,
Wattiaux

Student Members present: Mui

Absent: Rossman, Van Pijkeren

Ex Officio: Barber, Ackerman-Yost

Minutes Taken by: Arnfelt

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from November 24, 2020
2. Admissions change
Environmental Sciences B.S. – disallowing double major with Environmental Studies B.S.
3. Course change: changing course numbering
A A E 726: Applied Econometric Analysis I
Effective Fall 2021
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=35>

Item 1-3 approved by consent.

ACTION ITEMS

1. New Course Wattiaux/Ney 1:05-1:15p
PL PATH/A A E/AGRONOMY/HORT 367:
Introduction to Organic Agriculture: Production, Markets, and Policy
Effective Fall 2021
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=14033>

Motion to defer (Wattiaux, Ney)

Discussion: The committee discussed that this course is a foundation course for the new certificate program but had some concerns on the learning outcomes, assessments, and the grading scale. The committee discussed that it was unclear how the learning outcomes are represented in the course learning outcomes, schedule, and assessments. They also found that the graduate assessments were not clear enough to demonstrate the requirements of the graduate attribute. The committee also suggested that revisions be made to the grading scale of the course, as the scale does not have discrete divisions between letter grades. Based on the presentation by the program, the committee's understanding was that this course focused on regulation, but that does not appear to be the case based on the syllabus – the committee requested clarification.

Vote: 6-0-1

2. **See Information/Discussion Items for next agenda item**

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| 3. | Re-review: New Course
PL PATH 499: Independent Study in Organic Agriculture
Effective Fall 2021
https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=14052 | Courtenay/Van Pijkeren | 1:45-1:55p |
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Motion to approve with revisions (Courtenay, Goldman)

Discussion: This course is a modified independent study course that has its own unique syllabus. The committee questioned why this syllabus did not provide more detail for students on the process for finding/setting up independent studies. Additionally, the committee was concerned about the lack of information for instructors to ensure that the specific objectives were understood and wanted to see more information about the administration of the course. Although the “syllabus” provided is similar to other independent study courses, the committee discussed that the central role of this course in the certificate program meant that more care was needed to ensure it fulfilled its purpose in the curriculum.

Vote: 2-5-0

Agenda items 4-6 were moved to the January agenda.

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| 4. | New Course
MICROBIO 345: Introduction to Disease Biology
Effective Fall 2021
https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=14046 | Kucharik/Ney | 1:55-2:05p |
| 5. | New Course
NUTR SCI 726: Nutritional Management of Gastrointestinal Disorders
Effective Fall 2021
https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=13383 | Holden/Vermillion Kalmon | 2:05-2:15p |
| 6. | New Course
NUTR SCI 750: Advanced Sports Nutrition
Effective Fall 2021
https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=13527 | Goldman/Courtenay | 2:15-2:25p |

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

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| 1. | New Undergraduate Certificate

Organic Agriculture Certificate
Effective Fall 2021
https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=1189 | Guests: Erin Silva
Katie Peterman | 1:15-1:45p |
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Discussion: This undergraduate certificate will bring together a diverse group of faculty. The program committee surveyed what opportunities were already on campus, so there were some opportunities to build on some courses where faculty have already invested in topics related to organic agriculture. The certificate has the funding for a certificate manager, who will engage with both UW-Madison departments and the industry. Immersive experiences are a key component of the program, to allow students to apply skills and learn more about the various aspects of the organic agriculture industry.

The committee questioned the overlap with other certificate programs, as the program has listed overlap with Environmental Studies, but not Food Systems. The program indicated they would look into this issue. The committee also questioned how the Introduction to Organic Agriculture course differed from the Introduction to Agroecology course. The program indicated the Agroecology course provided a broad perspective on land management and included both organic and conventional perspectives on agriculture, while the Organic Agriculture course provides an introduction to organic concepts and perspectives and regulatory structures. The program has had conversations with the Nelson institute about this and feel there is a good relationship built. They believe this certificate is a good opportunity for students with the Environmental Studies major. The committee also discussed the administration of the certificate, the declaration process, and the learning outcomes for the certificate.

Meeting adjourned 2:32 pm