

**College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Curriculum Report 2009-2010**

Department of English

Courses to be Added

ENG 535 Workshop in Teaching Writing

Justification: This course will support the Sam Houston Writing Project, a grant program funded by the National Writing Project.

Department of Foreign Languages

Courses to be Added

ARB 131 Elementary Arabic I
ARB 132 Elementary Arabic II
ARB 263 Intermediate Arabic I
ARB 264 Intermediate Arabic II
ARB 380 The Contemporary Arab World
ARB 475 Individual Readings in Arabic

Justification: A formal minor in Middle Eastern Studies is currently being considered, and these courses will support that minor. Further, interest in Arabic 141-264 as a language to satisfy the language requirement for the B.A. has grown, hence an additional need for those four courses. Given the great increase in interest, involving both politics and economics, in the Middle East of late, a minor is proposed that would appeal to students majoring in Criminal Justice, International Business, Political Science, Sociology, and Foreign Languages.

FL 463 Methods of Teaching Secondary Foreign Languages

Justification: This course will support students seeking certification to teach Spanish, French, and German in the secondary schools.

Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Courses Added to the Core

FCS 160 Art in Design, Education, and Fashion

Justification: This course clearly reflects the spirit and content of the criteria listed in THECB's "Core Curriculum: Assumptions and Defining Characteristics" for the Visual and Performing Arts' Exemplary Educational Objectives. As such, it would be appropriate to list it as an option under that portion of the core at Sam Houston State University. In addition, it would help to bring degree programs in fashion merchandising, general family and consumer sciences, and interior design into compliance with the newly

proposed 120-hours rule by allowing students in these majors to double-dip this course between their major and the core requirement.

Courses to be Added

FCS 278 Special Topics in Family and Consumer Sciences

Justification: Students who are pursuing teacher certification in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences may opt to take certain courses in their major in an on-line format through the FCS Alliance, a consortium of universities in the State of Texas that offer teacher certification in family and consumer sciences. When these courses are freshman- and sophomore-level courses, they need to be listed on the student's transcript as such. The only present option for registering for Alliance courses is a senior-level research problems course. Using a sophomore-level number will more accurately record the level of course material and will avoid giving upper-level credit for lower-level course content.

FCS 288 Building Systems for Interiors

Justification: At present the interior design curriculum includes only an introduction to building systems as they appear on architectural plans in FCS 287 - Architectural Graphics. The main focus of the architectural graphics course is development of drafting skills in the form of basic floor plans, elevations and furniture plans. This course would provide for increasing the understanding of the complexity of each building system and how the various systems are integrated together in a building. As a lab-enhanced course the student would have the opportunity to build on basic drafted drawings through developing drawings which incorporate various building systems (i.e. construction HVAC, electrical, plumbing, and data/voice systems). This course will additionally provide students knowledge that can be applied to drawings at the junior and senior level, as well as for entry into the design industry. This course will further assist the program's accreditation process.

FCS 337 Design Process

Justification: At present the interior design curriculum has a course in architectural drafting and senior design studio courses, and there is an additional need for a specific design process course to provide students the opportunity to use drafting skills to develop design ideas focusing on the steps in the design process. Through increased understanding and initial applications of the design process at the junior level, the student will be better prepared to enter senior design studio courses. This course will assist the program's efforts in achieving program accreditation.

FCS 338 Residential Design

Justification: At present the interior design curriculum does not have a specific course that focuses on residential design. This course is needed to provide students with a more intensive application of residential design and allow greater depth of project development supported by a greater variety of residential drawings. By establishing residential design as its own course, the senior design studio courses will have an opportunity to broaden the scope of commercial projects in the area of sustainability and green design. This course will assist the program's efforts in covering curriculum topics needed for accreditation.

FCS 445 Social and Cultural Aspects of Middle and Far Eastern Foods

Justification: Students who are majoring in family and consumer sciences are in need of greater variety upper-level family and consumer sciences electives to satisfy that area of the degree plan. Many courses that can serve to complete this area are not offered every semester, and therefore students have difficulty with the scheduling. The plan to offer this course by correspondence will help those students as well as provide more depth in the content area for students majoring in food science and nutrition and food service management, as well. As an upper-level that students from across the university could elect, this course will enhance the understanding of foods patterns and religious diversity among the U.S. population. It will also be part of the proposed minor in Middle Eastern Studies.

Change in Course Title

FCS 140 Introductory Construction TO Introductory Soft Textiles Construction

Justification: The recommendation for title change for this course is to avoid confusion between soft textiles construction and building construction as taught in the interior design and construction management programs.

FCS 377 Design Problems, Codes and Standards TO Codes, Standards and Facility Maintenance

Justification: This course covers building codes and standards, both in regard to construction and in regard to maintenance of commercial spaces. The largest population of students for this course is within the interior design program, and with the addition of the two junior-level studio courses, the design problems aspect of the course will be reassigned to those courses. Therefore, a portion of the course will be re-focused on facility maintenance for commercial spaces, and the new

title reflects that re-focus. The catalog description also will be updated in the on-line catalog and in the hard copy of the catalog at the next publication date.

FCS 430 Interior Design App. I TO Commercial Design I

Justification: The recommendation for title change for this course is to update the title to better reflect the content of the course as other course content is to be moved to two new junior level courses, FCS 337 and FCS 338.

FCS 431 Interior Design App. II TO Commercial Design II

Justification: The recommendation for title change for this course is to update the title to better reflect the content of the course as other course content is to be moved to two new junior level courses, FCS 337 and 338. This course will incorporate the addition of design solutions using sustainability and green design.

Change in Course Number

FCS 140 to FCS 130 Introductory Construction

Justification: The reason for the request to move this course from a four-hour to a three-hour course is to better meet the needs of a reduced-hour curriculum. By reducing laboratory project assignments, the course would be structured as having two hours of lecture per week (as it is currently) and two hours of laboratory per week (as opposed to four hours per week as it is currently).

FCS 342 to FCS 330 Pattern Making and Apparel Production

Justification: The reason for the request to move this course from a four-hour to a three-hour course is to better meet the needs of a reduced-hour curriculum. By reducing laboratory project assignments and allowing students to complete work started in the laboratory before the next assigned laboratory time, the course would be structured as having two hours of lecture per week (as it is currently) and two hours of laboratory per week (as opposed to four hours per week as it is currently).

FCS 364 TO FCS 264 Design Theory and Materials

Justification: The reason for the request to move this course to the sophomore level is to better structure the interior design curriculum's sequence of content. As students gain knowledge of interior design theory and materials at this stage, they will be better prepared to enter

the new junior-level design courses that focus on application of theory to the design process and development of residential design. This move will also assist with aligning the courses in relation to the accreditation process. The reduction of this course from a junior to a sophomore level will have minimal impact on the students' ability to gain the 42 advanced credit hours needed to graduate since two new interior design courses are being requested, and the FCS teacher certification students take several four-hour 300 and 400- level courses.

FCS 362 TO FCS 462 Presentation Techniques

Justification: The request to move this course from a junior-level course to a senior-level course is that the course covers presenting oneself on paper or in an electronic format, including resume writing, writing of cover letters, and preparation of a portfolio, all of which are preparatory to presenting oneself to prospective internship supervisors, employers, etc. These activities are more appropriate during the senior year because the student will have had a chance to complete the kinds of projects and activities that should be included in an electronic portfolio.

FCS 432 TO FCS 332 Lighting Applications for Interiors

Justification: The reason for the request to move this course is to strengthen the interior design curriculum at the junior level and to increase application of lighting in senior design projects. Currently, this course is taken in conjunction with senior year and projects are developed separately. As a junior course, students will understand the basic principles of lighting and be able to apply them to smaller scope projects, and then move toward applying them to larger scope commercial projects in the senior year. This move will have no impact on the number of advanced hours. This recommendation also will assist the program's efforts in achieving accreditation and meeting national standards.

Department of History

Courses to be Added

HIS 335W The Middle East, 500-1700

Justification: This course will provide another non-Western component to the history curriculum and will afford students the opportunity to study the history of one of the major civilizations of the world. While the area we know today as the Middle East was the center of gravity of Islamic Civilization, Islam radiated well beyond that region. Islam was the first world civilization which encompassed much of the old world

(Africa, Asia and Europe). From China to Spain, from Russia to Indonesia, from the Sudan to the Balkans, Islam interacted with and influenced other civilizations. World history cannot be fully understood without an understanding of the history of the Classical Middle East. Among the topics to be covered in the course will be the Near East before Islam; the Rise of Islam; the faith and practices of Islam; the Rightly-Guided Caliphs; Shi'iah and Sunni Islam. the Umayyad and Abbasid Caliphates; Islamic law and jurisprudence; Islamic literature and art; Islamic Science and philosophy; Sufism; the advent of the Turks; the Fatimid Caliphate; the Seljuk sultanate; the Crusades and Islam; Islam and the Steppe Empires; the rise and apogee of the Ottoman Empire; the Safavids and Mughals; Islam and European overseas expansion; and Islam's initial responses to the encroachment of the west. The increasing United States involvement in the affairs in the Islamic world makes this course not only an important and interesting one for history majors, but for all concerned students wanting an historical foundation for their understanding of Islam and the Middle East.

- HIS 338 Economic History from the Industrial Revolution to the Present
Justification: Currently the History department has no dedicated course in economic history. Offerings in the College of Business are more geared to majors in that subject area and are not decidedly historical. This course will provide students with exposure to central events in history not covered by, but fully supplemental to, the current curriculum. The course is consistent with the Department's fundamental commitment to American history and at the same time has a distinct global aspect. Professors in the College of Business have informed the History department that this course would also make for a valid elective for their students. Professor Donald Freeman, incoming Department of Economics chair, has further confirmed to History that his department would be delighted to offer this course in its roster of electives and will consider incorporating it into certain requirements.
- HIS 467 The American South
Justification: This course provides an advanced examination of the development of the American South with an emphasis on the critical role of race in shaping southern identity among the peoples of the region. Southern culture will be combined with political and economic history to provide a multi-faceted portrait. This course provides students the opportunity to grasp the importance of the South in shaping American identity before and after the Civil War.
- HIS 540 Topics in Recent African American History
Justification: Currently the Department of History has no graduate course that underscores the African American experience in United States history. Covering the last 142 years of United States history, the course gives a

detailed depiction of specified topics in African American history since the climax of the Civil War. Describing people of African descent as actors rather than individuals acted upon, the proposed course provides graduate students with a fascinating perspective on United States history and race relations in general and African American studies in particular.

HIS 580 American Historiography

Justification: This course is an intensive readings course for graduate students in the major topics of interest among historians of the United States. Students will develop knowledge of the major works of American historians (historiography) to refine their research and analytical skills.

Change in Course Title

HIS 336 Modern Middle East TO Middle East Since 1700

Justification: To be done in conjunction with HIS 335 (see above New Courses) as part of effort to expand SHSU course offerings as part of potential inter-disciplinary Middle East minor. The Middle East has become such an important topic that increased study across two separate courses is necessary.

Department of Mass Communication

No Changes

Department of Political Science

Courses to be Added

POL 386 W International Political Economy

Justification: The reality of globalization and interdependence requires students to understand the politics of the international economic system. This course will allow students to explore the impact of human behavior in the world economy as well as the political nature of the global economic system. Globalization affects all our students in one form or another, through the internet, the products that students purchase as well as the ones they choose not to, in the way they travel, and the list could continue. In today's international events, students first need to be exposed to the global events and issues that cross borders and nationalities. Second, this course will provide students with an opportunity to examine how states use their power to make economic and political decisions. Here students will be exposed to various international political economy theories. The political process involved in economic decision-making obviously differs among various regime types. Third, students will examine how scarce resources are allocated, distributed, and even fought over by regimes and international institutions. This course is important in that it will help students to understand the global markets, the political decisions made nationally and internationally, and the impact of the global economy on

the human condition and the environment. This topic is a sub-field of political science and is a common offering in political science departments.

POL 374 Statistics for Political Science

Justification: This course is crucial for supporting the current and future Political Science curriculum by providing students more sophisticated tools for understanding, studying, and practicing the discipline. This course will indirectly benefit students by giving them tools to better understand their other courses—particularly those in which high-level books, journals, or other reading assignments where advanced methodology is employed. Further, this course will benefit students by allowing them to better understand the work of political science’s practitioners, while opening up additional employment opportunities. Additionally, this course will better prepare students for top graduate schools in the field of Political Science—the majority of which offer quantitative analysis as a field of emphasis. This course was initiated and developed after discussion with graduate-level administrators and professionals in the discipline.

POL 434W Constitutional Law I: Civil Rights and Liberties

POL 435W Constitutional Law II: Governmental Powers/State-Federal Relations

Justification: Pedagogically, it makes sense to teach constitutional law in two separate courses as proposed above. The two components of the area of the law -- 1) civil rights and liberties; and 2) governmental powers and state-federal relations -- need to be taught as they are articulated by the courts and studied by scholars. The scope (as well as volume of case law) on constitutional law is too broad to be taught in a one-semester course. Students would benefit greatly by turning this one semester course into a two course sequence. Today, constitutional law is taught in this manner in most universities and colleges.

POL 477W Gender and Political Theory

Justification: This course adds to the curriculum of the Political Science Department by introducing new content. Whereas there has traditionally been a place for political philosophy among the offerings of Political Science, this canon is not currently being re-read through the perspective of gender outside this course. While on the one hand, this new course will contribute to diversity of perspectives across our campus, on the other hand, it will also create a significant addition to electives. The current Political Philosophy survey course (POL 377) is an elective only as part of the Social Science Composite, and it is a requirement for Political Science majors. The only other current course in Political Theory proper is American Political Thought (POL 378). Adding a new course will strengthen the offerings in Political Theory and Political Philosophy.

POL 483W International Human Rights

Justification: Currently, our offerings in the field of International Relations and Comparative Politics do not include a course dedicated to the study of human rights. This is an important sub-field in political science and is relevant to issues facing the international community and the United States. Most political science programs include a basic course in human rights, which is generally quite popular with the students. Given the current political climate, the issues of torture and human rights violations are of concern to many students. This course would enhance the students' understanding and knowledge of human rights, what constitutes a human rights violation, including what responsibility states have to their citizenry, and what role international institutions play in pursuing the realization of human rights. It is also important for students to recognize that human rights violations go beyond the obvious violations against the person to include the right to basic human needs. This is important in that recent research indicates that issues such as poverty are indeed linked to terrorist activity.

Courses to be Deleted

POL 433 Constitutional Law (if POL 434 and 435 are approved)

Justification: We are dividing the course into two parts; see above. If that is approved, the course would be unnecessary.

POL 410 Seminar in Political Science

Justification: This one-hour course is no longer required. We are accomplishing its goals in other classes. Eliminating it moves us closer to meeting the 120-hour mandate.

Department of Psychology and Philosophy

Courses to be Added

PHL 461W Philosophy of Mind & Consciousness

Justification: The Mind-Body Problem concerns the relation of mental life to the physical world. After an introduction to the classical form of the problem in Descartes, students will examine a range of theories of mind which 20th-Century philosophers have advanced and the main objections they face. This course will allow the Philosophy Program to better serve the needs of students interested in understanding current philosophical theories of the nature of mind and consciousness. Additionally, this course will allow the program to expand its offering of upper-level courses and build on our current offerings in philosophy of science and philosophy of biology.

Department of Sociology

Courses to be Added

SOC 438W Sociology of Disaster

Justification: The Sociology of Disasters is a strong addition to the current curriculum because it offers advanced students empirical investigation of natural, technological and human-initiated events and how they differentially impact societies and groups within societies. The social impacts can often be deep and long term. An exploration of how race, ethnicity, gender, age, class, power and culture shape disasters and the response and recovery to them will provide students with the opportunity to use sociological concepts to understand how disasters happen and how they affect people through in-depth analysis of case studies.

SOC476W Sociology of Demography and Migration

Justification: This course will support the current curriculum focus on globalization through the study of population by first addressing population issues (mortality, fertility and migration) setting the background for the study of migration. Globally population movement is the most significant force in rapid population change. The United States receives the most immigrants globally and Texas is experiencing dramatic migrations so that within the next 25 years Texas will be a culturally and ethnically diverse state. The study of globalization and society must therefore address population and migration issues.

SOC577 Social Impact Assessment and Program Evaluation

Justification: This course will support one of the three specialized areas in the Sociology Department: Sociology of the Environment and Development. Because this course focuses on hands-on and practical experience in the field, it will also enhance the Sociology Graduate Program which has an emphasis on applied sociology. Students who complete this course will acquire essential knowledge and technical skills that will enhance their marketability. This course can benefit students from other programs such as Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Educational Leadership, Geography and Geology, Health and Kinesiology, Political Science and Psychology.

Change in Course Number

SOC 383 TO SOC 343 Social Statistics

Justification: This course is designed to provide students with both fundamental knowledge in social statistics and computer applications of statistical techniques. The inclusion of a one-hour lab session will provide students hands-on experience with various statistical packages such as SPSS and SAS. This addition is needed to ensure adequate training and acquire experience in actual data manipulation and analysis.

Department of Speech Communication

Program to be Added

BS in Communication Studies.

Justification: The addition of a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Studies, along with the already existing Bachelor of Arts degree, is designed to reflect the long-standing trend in this discipline toward the study of human communication as a social science. Therefore, the key objective is to include a degree that better reflects the content of the courses that are now offered in the program. For example, of the approximately twenty regularly offered undergraduate courses in the SHSU Department of Communication Studies, at least half are taught from a social science perspective and with reference to existing social science research in the field of communication studies. Other Texas universities in our region, including the University of Texas, Texas A&M, and Stephen F. Austin, offer B.S. degrees in our discipline. In addition, of the seven other departmental programs within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at SHSU, six of them currently offer B.S. degree options.

Proposed Program Name Change

From BA in Speech Communication to BA in Communication Studies.

Justification: The administrative unit (the department) has been renamed from the Department of Speech Communication to the Department of Communication Studies. Thus, the degree needs to be changed as well to reflect the shift in emphasis. Over the years there has been a shift in emphasis in Speech Communication Departments. A social scientific emphasis has grown to be the dominant one in the field. Teaching of “speech,” currently represents only a small fraction of what scholars in the field do. The majority of today’s scholars study interpersonal communication and its relatives such as nonverbal communication, family communication, intercultural communication, and the like, and the emphasis is on knowledge about communication rather than communication skills. The majority of college and university programs in the US have already moved beyond the designation “speech communication.”

Change in Course Title and Course Prefix

SCM 477 Mentorship in Speech Communication TO
COM 477 Mentorship in Communication Studies

SCM 478 Internship in Speech Communication TO
COM 478 Internship in Communication Studies

SCM 491 Undergraduate Seminar in Speech Communication TO

COM 491 Undergraduate Seminar in Communication Studies

SCM 531 Speech Communication Methods and Research TO
COM 531 Communication Studies Methods and Research

Justification: The name of the Department of Speech Communication has been changed to the Department of Communication Studies effective 9/1/07. We request that reference to Speech Communication in the following course titles be changed to Communication Studies, and that the three-letter course prefixes be changed from SCM to COM to reflect the new name.

Change in Course Prefix

SCM 131	TO	COM 131
SCM 161	TO	COM 161
SCM 231	TO	COM 231
SCM 233	TO	COM 233
SCM 282	TO	COM 282
SCM 284	TO	COM 284
SCM 290	TO	COM 290
SCM 286	TO	COM 286
SCM 370	TO	COM 370
SCM 380	TO	COM 380
SCM 381	TO	COM 381
SCM 382	TO	COM 382
SCM 383	TO	COM 383
SCM 384	TO	COM 384
SCM 465	TO	COM 465
SCM 481	TO	COM 481
SCM 482	TO	COM 482
SCM 486	TO	COM 486
SCM 490	TO	COM 490
SCM 531	TO	COM 531
SCM 560	TO	COM 560
SCM 561	TO	COM 561
SCM 570	TO	COM 570
SCM 571	TO	COM 571
SCM 580	TO	COM 580
SCM 590	TO	COM 590
SCM 591	TO	COM 591
SCM 698	TO	COM 698
SCM 699	TO	COM 699

Justification: The name of the Department of Speech Communication has been changed to the Department of Communication Studies effective 9/1/07. We request that the three-letter course prefixes all be changed from SCM to COM to reflect the new name.