

CURRICULUM REPORT 2008-2009

Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

A. 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 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 a 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.

B. Courses to be Deleted

None.

C. 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.

D. 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 the student gains knowledge of interior design theory and materials at this stage, she/he 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 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.