

# **SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **CURRICULUM REPORT**

**Curriculum Requests Not Associated with New/Altered Degree Programs**

**To Become Effective  
Fall 2008**



**SUBMITTED BY  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

**TO THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

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*A Member of the Texas State University System*

## Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

### Courses to be Added

- FCS 278 Special Topics in Family and Consumer Sciences  
Students sometimes need to take freshman-and sophomore-level courses through the Family and Consumer Sciences Alliance. The only present option for registration is a senior-level research problems course. Using a sophomore-level number will more accurately record level of course material and will avoid giving upper-level credit for lower-level course content. The FCS Distance Education Alliance (informally known as the FCS Alliance) is a consortium of all the public universities in the State of Texas that offer teacher certification in Family and Consumer Sciences. Several years ago, this certification was suffering not only from a lack of qualified graduates to fill openings state-wide but also from a lack of students wanting to pursue this degree/certification. One of the hindrances to pursuing this degree was that often on a single campus there were not enough FCS teacher certification majors to make the required classes. Based on the model developed by the Great Plains Distance Education Alliance for FCS, and working through the office of the Texas Education Agency, nine universities in the State of Texas formed a distance education alliance of their own.
- FCS 288 Building Systems for Interiors  
The purpose of this course is to incorporate understanding of building systems into the design program. Discussion of building systems has been introduced in other courses taken by interior design majors (FCS 364 and IT 263). FCS 364, which is proposed to be moved to a 200 level, will still give students an introduction, but that class heavily focuses on design theory and materials. This course allows the student to understand the complexity of each system and how systems are integrated into the completed building. Students will be able to develop a broad range of drawings to communicate design solutions which will benefit them as they progress to upper level design courses and then into the interior design industry. This course will also assist the program's accreditation process. This course aligns with standards for accreditation from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).

**FCS 337 Design Process**  
 After working through the self study process for the interior design program's accreditation, it was determined that an additional transitional course is needed between the sophomore architectural graphic course and the senior applications course. This course will enhance the students' design process and application of 3-dimensional (volumetric) study of space.

This course will provide the students opportunity to investigate development of design ideas as well as link architectural drawing skills (FCS 287) to project implementations.

This course aligns with standards for accreditation from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).

**FCS 338 Residential Design**  
 The purpose of this course is to separate residential design from commercial and enhance it with greater emphasis on breadth of projects. Residential design has been covered in part through FCS 430 & FCS 431 Design Applications I & II along with commercial design. As a course devoted to residential design, the student will gain experiences in residential design of various sizes and types, as well as practice in the technical forms of communicating design ideas.

This course aligns with standards for accreditation from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).

This change to the interior design curriculum will additionally provide an opportunity to expand the focus of FCS 430 and FCS 431 commercial design in Interior Design Applications I and II with greater breadth of projects, as well as the opportunity for sustainability and green design to be applied within projects developed by students.

**FCS 445 Middle and Far Eastern Foods and Culture**  
 This course is needed for the upper-level electives in the Dept. of Family and Consumer Sciences and could be an elective for the proposed minor in the Middle Eastern Studies. Also students majoring in Food Science and Nutrition or Family and Consumer Sciences are in need of an elective that relates to their field. This course will enhance the understanding of the food patterns and religious diversity of the US population.

**Change in Course Title**

**FCS 140** Introductory Construction  
 TO  
 Introductory Soft Textiles Construction

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

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  
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  
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  
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  
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 362 TO FCS 462  
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 364 TO FCS 264  
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 432 TO FCS 332  
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**

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|-----|------|---|
| HIS | 362W | <p>The Middle East, 500-1700</p> <p>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.</p>  |
| HIS | 338  | <p>Economic History: Industrial Revolution to the Present</p> <p>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 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.</p>  |
| HIS | 467  | <p>The American South</p> <p>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.</p>   |
| HIS | 540  | <p>Recent African-American History</p> <p>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 cursory depiction of African American life and culture since the conclusion of the Civil War. Defining African Americans as actors and doers, and not merely individuals, families, and sub-groups acted upon, the course gives students as educators and future scholars a unique and critical analysis of African Americans in the United States, American history, race relations and ethnicity, and socioeconomic indicators. It complements the department's diverse faculty, student body, and important mission of teaching. The course especially bolsters the department's developing emphasis on social history, particularly as more faculty write and research African American, women's, immigration and ethnic, civil rights, and cultural history.</p> |
| HIS | 580  | <p>American Historiography</p> <p>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. This course links the current topically focused graduate courses through a historiographical approach fundamental to this discipline and the professional skills expected of historians at the Master's level.</p>  |