

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM (UCOC)

MINUTES

March 6, 2019

2:00-3:30 pm

****ACC 312****

I. UCOC FEBRUARY 2019 MINUTES

- Attachment: *UCOC February 2019 Minutes*

DEFERRED FOR REVISION, to be reviewed April 3, 2019.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Finalized Attendance Policy

DECIDED MARCH 6, 2019 While the tenets of the policy were preliminarily approved at the February 2019 meeting, members provided final input and suggested edits, which culminated in the following:

Guidelines on course participation and attendance: Participation should not exceed 15% of the total grade. Where it does, the syllabus must provide an added explanation. No portion of the grade may be awarded for class attendance but non-attendance can be the basis for lowering the grade, when clearly stated on the syllabus.

B. Inconsistent Treatment of Degree/Major Credit and GPA (Matt Bemis, Associate Registrar, Degree Progress and Curriculum Services)

DECIDED FEBRUARY, 2019 UCOC supported the efforts to standardize the treatment of these courses and their affect on the GPA. Given that there is no language advertising that coursework not applicable to the major/degree will be removed from the GPA in the first place, Degree Progress intends to discontinue the practice internally and will monitor for pushback that warrants further review by UCOC.

REVISITED MARCH, 2019 Members were interested in additional examples of not-for-credit courses and would discuss with Matt Bemis (absent) at a future meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Multiple Undergraduate Degrees, Continued Discussion from Previous Years (Brian Head, AHS Chair and Geoff Shiflett, SES Chair)

DISCUSSED MARCH 6, 2019 Shiflett explained that the conversation began when Viterbi proposed a major program in Informatics that would be adjunct in the sense that students would also adopt a primary major in addition to the adjunct major.

SES objected to this proposal, and to the idea of adjunct majors in general, holding firm that students should pursue developed and complete majors. Or, perhaps creating a minor was an appropriate solution. As a viable alternative, the department instead worked with Dornsife College to create a combined BA degree that included engineering components and a disciplinary specialization in the college, and which resulted in only one diploma. Following this discussion and subsequent research, Shiflett and Head were motivated to investigate more thoroughly how USC treats multiple majors and degrees as pursued by a single student.

Head added that there are various BAs that are conferred by Dornsife College but reside in the professional schools, and questioned the kinds and number of units involved. He noted that Dornsife College once waived the 'college rule' of minimum units required in Dornsife College for these students, but more recently amended the minimum to 70. He reiterated that the goal is to explore maximal flexibility for students and that there may be value in revisiting these questions. It was noted that the college rule (and potentially others) is specifically governed by Dornsife College and revising it is not necessarily within UCOC's purview. UCOC can, however, explore recommendations that may be proposed to the Provost's office for discussion. Chair Chi Mak asked to continue fact finding for further review.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. GE Memos

- *Attachments: UCOC GE Memo 1-8-19
UCOC GE Memo 2-7-19
UCOC GE Memo 2-27-19*

B. Scheduled Special Topics Report

- *Attachment: February 2019-March 2019 Special Topics*

Members Present

Megan Chan (Financial Aid)
Steven Bucher
John DeMartini (Support Staff)
Donna Garcia
Judy Garner
Lawrence Green
Brian Head
Chi Mak (Chair)
Danielle Mihram
Robin Romans
Geoffrey Shiflett

Members Absent

Diane Badame
Matt Bemis (Assoc. Registrar)

Guests