

CANR Curricula and Courses Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2011
1:00 pm Room 207 WBY

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:17 pm by Chair Mike Darre. Members present: Marilyn Altebello, Rhonda Brownbill, George Elliott, Sal Frasca, Susan Gregoire, Pat Jepson, Gary Kazmer and Mark Rudnicki

II. The minutes of Minutes of November 4, 2011 were corrected and approved.

III. Old Business:

1. Agricultural Biotech Minor – revised catalog copy – changes in program. It was moved to approve a new catalog description.

Agricultural Biotechnology Minor – Revisions December 2, 2011

CURRENT CAT COPY

The Interdepartmental minor provides students with an in-depth, multidisciplinary education in the emerging field of biotechnology. The minor will prepare students for careers and advanced studies in agricultural biotechnology and applied molecular biology.

Requirements: Students must complete a minimum of 14 credits of the courses listed below. This includes 5 credits of required courses (Group A), a minimum of 3 laboratory credits (Group B) and 6 credits of discipline-based courses from outside the major department (Group C).

Group A - Core Courses: [PLSC 3230](#); [MCB 3414](#); [AH 3020](#)

Group B - Laboratory Modules: [PLSC 3250](#); [ANSC 3621](#); [AH/PVS 3501](#)

Group C - Cross-disciplinary course choices: [ANSC 3121](#), [3122](#), [3323](#), 5623; [DGS 3226](#), [4234](#), [4235](#), [4246](#); [HORT 3650](#); NUSC 3235, [4236](#), 6313; [PLSC 3240](#), [3810](#), [4210](#), [4215](#), 5298; [PVS 3100](#), 5502, 5503

Students must earn a combined grade point average of 2.5 or higher for all courses listed above.

REVISED CAT COPY

The Interdepartmental minor provides students with an in-depth, multidisciplinary education in the field of biotechnology. The minor will prepare students for careers and advanced studies in agricultural biotechnology and applied molecular biology.

Requirements: Students must complete a minimum of 14 credits of the courses listed below. This includes 5 credits of required courses (Group A), a minimum of 3 laboratory credits (Group B) and 6 credits of discipline-

based courses from outside the major department (Group C).

Group A - Core Courses: PLSC 3230; PLSC 3210 or AH 3020

Group B - Laboratory Modules: 3 credits from: PLSC 3250; ANSC 3621; AH/PVS 3501

Group C – 6 credits from: ANSC 3121, 3122, 3323, 5623; DGS 3226, 4234, 4235, 4246; HORT 3650, 4650; NUSC 4236, 6313; PLSC 3240, 3990, 4210, 4215, 5298; PVS 3100, 5502, 5503

Students must earn a grade of “C” (2.0) or higher in each individual course listed above. Students must earn a combined grade point average of 2.5 or higher for all courses listed above.

MOTION PASSED CANR CC 11-12-32

2. It was moved to add a Residency requirement for the CANR and allow six credits from other institutions to be used toward the 36 credits for the major.

After considerable discussion, the committee approved the following changes:

Current CANR Transfer Student Statement (catalog page 38)

Transfer Students. Transfer students can use transfer credits to meet General Education requirements and 2000-level course requirements in a specific major. Transfer students may apply a maximum of six credits of 2000-level work toward the 36 credit requirement for a major. These credits must be identified as courses comparable to specific University of Connecticut courses and cannot include internships, special topics, or non-specific discipline credits. Transfer students must complete at least 30 credits of 2000-level course work at the University of Connecticut, including at least 15 credits in College of Agriculture and Natural Resources courses.

(This Transfer student statement is to be removed from the catalog)

Revised CANR Residency Requirement, to replace the Transfer Student Statement:

Recommended Revisions for CANR Catalog 2012-2013:

Add Residence Requirement statement to beginning of CANR section in catalog (page 31 in 2011-2012 catalog):

Residence Requirement: It is expected that advanced course work in the major will be completed at the University of Connecticut. However, students may be eligible to use up-to six credits from other institutions in the 36-credit group if approved by their advisor and department head. These credits must be identified as courses comparable to specific University of Connecticut courses and cannot include internships, special topics, or non-specific discipline credits. Transfer students must complete at least 30 credits of 2000-level or higher course work at the University of Connecticut, including at least 15 credits in College of Agriculture and Natural Resources courses.

Modify CANR 36 Credit Requirement (2011-2012 Catalog, page 31) to incorporate existing *Transfer Student* statement and allow consideration of transfer credits for all students, regardless of whether they entered UConn as freshmen or transfer students.

Current CANR 36 Credit Requirement (Catalog page 31)

36 Credit Requirement for All Majors

Students in all majors of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources must successfully complete at least 36 credits of courses numbered 2000 or above in or relating to their major. Courses for this 36 credit group may be taken from specific major requirements (as listed below for some majors), or may be selected according to a student's individual educational and career goals. This group of courses must:

1. be numbered 2000 or above
2. be approved by the student's advisor and department head
3. be taken at the University of Connecticut
4. be taken in two or more departments
5. include at least 15 credits from departments in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
6. have a combined grade point average of at least 2.0
7. not include more than 6 credits (combined) of independent study, internship, or field studies
8. not be taken on Pass/Fail
9. not include more than 6 credits of S/U coursework

Revised CANR 36 Credit Requirement

36 Credit Requirement for All Majors

Students in all majors of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources must successfully complete at least 36 credits of courses in or relating to their major. Courses for this 36 Credit Group may be taken from specific major requirements (as listed for some majors), or may be selected according to a student's individual educational and career goals. This group of courses must:

1. be numbered 2000 or above
2. be approved by the student's advisor and department head
3. **include at least 30 credits** taken at the University of Connecticut
4. be taken in two or more departments
5. include at least 15 credits from departments in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, **which must be taken at the University of Connecticut**
6. have a combined grade point average of at least 2.0
7. not include more than 6 credits (combined) of independent study, internship, or field studies **(if included, these credits must be taken at the University of Connecticut)**
8. not be taken on Pass/Fail
9. not include more than 6 credits of S/U coursework

Background Information and Rationale

According to the Catalog (2011-2012, page 18), "Credits earned *in residence* include all University of Connecticut credits, without regard to the campus or where the student lives." The University Senate recently revised the University-wide residence requirement.

Previously, the residence requirement restricted all students from taking courses at other institutions during their last two semesters without permission from department head, dean, and vice provost. The revised University-wide residence requirement continues to specify that all students must earn a minimum of 30 credits at UConn, but no longer includes specific restrictions on the last two semesters. (See below.)

University-Wide Residence Requirement (as revised by senate 4/26/11, for 2012-2013 catalog)

It is expected that advanced course work in the major will be completed in residence. Students must earn a minimum of thirty credits in residence toward a degree at the University, though particular schools and colleges may require more. Courses taken at the University and through the University's Study Abroad, National Student Exchange and Early College Experience programs are all deemed in-residence. Students desiring to transfer credits should be aware of residence requirements in the individual schools and colleges, and should request necessary permissions in advance. Students seeking exceptions to any additional residence requirements of a school or college must petition the dean or director of the appropriate program from which they will earn their degree.

MOTION PASSED CANR CC 11-12-33 (6 for/ 1 abstention)

3. Other courses to use in place of POLS 1602 for the RH students. The group provided some alternative courses to Dr. Jepson for submission to the RH C&C committee for their approval.
4. Draft definitions for INTD/UNIV course for review. The departments will continue to review and provide any comments on this to Mike Darre to forward to the UICC.

IV. New Business:

A. The Department of Animal Science proposed the following:

1. REVISE: ANSC 3621. Animal Biotechnology Laboratory. Change credits from 1 to 2 and change from one class period to one class period and one laboratory meeting each week. Effective Spring 2012

Current Catalog Copy:

ANSC 3621. Animal Biotechnology Laboratory. First semester. One credit. One 4-hour class period every other week. Prerequisite: ANSC 3121 or equivalent. Recommended preparation: ANSC 3122 or equivalent. Instructor consent required. Tian

Focuses on the use of basic methods used in agricultural biotechnology research, including embryo manipulation, real-time PCR, karyotyping, SNP analysis and gene database searches and sequence alignment techniques.

Revised Title and Catalog Copy:

ANSC 3621. Animal Biotechnology Laboratory. First Semester. Two credits. One class period and one 3-hour laboratory period. Prerequisite: ANSC 3121 (or equivalent) and PLSC 3210 or AH 3020 (or equivalent). Recommended Preparation: ANSC 3122 (or equivalent). Instructor consent required. Tian

Laboratory techniques used in agricultural biotechnology research, including embryo manipulation, immunofluorescence, real-time PCR, karyotyping, SNP analysis, high throughput sequencing, RNA-seq, genome construction and gene database searches.

MOTION PASSED CANR CC 11-12-34

B. The Department of Allied Health Sciences moved the following items:

1. Add: Concentration in Environmental Health to the Allied Health Sciences major.
Effective Fall 2012.

MOTION TABLED CANR CC 11-12-35 (The motion was tabled and returned to AHS for clarification of the differences between the Concentration in Environmental Health in Environmental Science and the proposed one in AHS. Remove reference to NRE XXXX and Remove the NUSC 4236 from the Group B requirements. Also to consider a different name more suitable to its content)

2. Revise: AH 4241: Research for the Health Professional to change enrollment restrictions to remove AHS major. Effective Fall 2012.

Current Catalog copy:

4241. Research for the Health Professional

(241) Two credits. Two hours of lecture. Prerequisite: A course in statistics; open only to Allied Health Sciences, Dietetics, Diagnostic Genetic Sciences and Medical Laboratory Sciences majors; others with consent of instructor; open to juniors or higher. Concurrent enrollment in AH 4240W is required of Allied Health Sciences majors only.

Research questions/hypothesis, finding and using research literature, ethical considerations, research design, sampling, measurement, reliability and validity, descriptive and inferential statistics, computer analysis of data, evaluating research, reviews of literature and proposals.

Revised Catalog copy: (drop AH majors from enrollment restriction)

4241. Research for the Health Professional

(241) Two credits. Two hours of lecture. Prerequisite: A course in statistics; open only to Dietetics, Diagnostic Genetic Sciences and Medical Laboratory Sciences majors; others with consent of instructor; open to juniors or higher.

Research questions/hypothesis, finding and using research literature, ethical considerations, research design, sampling, measurement, reliability and validity, descriptive and inferential statistics, computer analysis of data, evaluating research, reviews of literature and proposals.

MOTION PASSED CANR CC 11-12-36

C. The Department of Plant Science/Landscape Architecture moved the following:

1. ADD: HORT 3765 Phytotechnology: use of plants for ecosystem services. Effective Fall 2012

Proposed Title and Complete Catalog Copy:

HORT 3765. Phytotechnology: use of plants for ecosystem services. First semester. Three credits. Two class periods and one 2-hour laboratory. Recommended preparation: HORT2750. Field trips and workshops are part of this class. Not open for credit to students who have passed HORT 3760 *Kuzovkina*

The application of science and engineering to study environmental problems and provide solutions involving plants. Principles of sustainable landscapes and ecological enhancement. Technical information on the effective use of planted systems, including green roofs and walls, bioretention, streetscaping, phytoremediation and brownfield reclamation, for urban environment modification, integrated water resources management, soil pollution remediation, biodiversity conservation and climate change.

It was suggested by the committee that the catalog description be changed as follows:

The application of science and engineering to study environmental problems and provide solutions involving plants. Principles of sustainable landscapes and ecological enhancement. Technical information on the effective use of planted systems, for urban environment modification, integrated water resources management, soil pollution remediation, biodiversity conservation and climate change.

The proposal was returned to the department for re-consideration:

MOTION TABLED CANR CC 11-12-37

D. The Department of Natural Resources and the Environment moved the following:

1. REVISE: NRE 3335 Wildlife Management Effective Spring 2012 (Remove pre-requisite of NRE 1315 and replace it with NRE 2345)

Current Title and Catalog Copy:

NRE 3335. Wildlife Management (232) (Formerly offered as NRME 3335.) Three credits. Prerequisite: NRE 1315; open to juniors or higher. Recommended preparation: Prior course work in ecology. Ortega Brief review of wildlife conservation and ecological principles; management of wetlands, farmlands, rangelands, and forest lands for wildlife; programs dealing with exotic, urban, nongame, and endangered wildlife; contemporary economic, administrative, and policy aspects of management.

Revised Title and Catalog Copy:

NRE 3335. Wildlife Management

(232) (Formerly offered as NRME 3335.) Three credits. Prerequisite: NRE 2345. Recommended preparation: Prior course work in ecology. *Ortega*

Brief review of wildlife conservation and ecological principles; management of wetlands, farmlands, rangelands, and forest lands for wildlife; programs dealing with exotic, urban, nongame, and endangered wildlife; contemporary economic, administrative, and policy aspects of management.

MOTION PASSED CANR CC 11-12-38

E. Other Departmental Business. None discussed, but several mentioned proposals to be submitted at the next meeting.

V. Report from Academic Programs:

1. Pat Jepson mentioned that the new UConn Policy website is easier to navigate. www.policy.uconn.edu and should be used as needed.
2. Pat Jepson asked if Mike Darre would provide feed back on courses going through the senate so we know when they are approved.
3. The Board of Regents has announce a new policy on credit limits for Minors, with a maximum of 15 required credits and proposals for more than that will need approval at higher levels.
4. Pat Jepson distributed the latest draft proposal on the AGNR – Individual Major requirements for review by department faculty.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Major

---DRAFT---

Proposed Description and Requirements (for discussion)

Catalog Description

The Agriculture and Natural Resources major is an interdisciplinary major designed for students who want broad training in agricultural, environmental, and/or health sciences, with content that does not readily align with any one department or major. Students work with advisors to develop and complete a personalized and interdepartmental baccalaureate program based on their educational and career interests and goals. Courses selected for this major will include both introductory and advanced material from multiple departments in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, as well as prerequisite and related knowledge and experiences in other disciplines.

Requirements

One course from BIOL 1107, 1108, 1110

One course from CHEM 1122, 1124Q, 1127Q, 1137Q

One additional course (minimum 3 credits) from BIOL, CHEM, GSCI, MARN, or PHYS, or one extra MATH or STAT course beyond those required for general education requirements

Two 1000 level courses (minimum 3 credits each) representing two departments in CANR.
(AGNR, AH, ANSC, ARE, HORT, LAND, NRE, NUSC, PLSC, PVS, SOIL, TURF)

Courses in the 36 Credit Group for Agriculture and Natural Resources majors must meet all the requirements listed under the 36 Credit requirements for all CANR majors, and also the more stringent requirements below:

- Courses must include at least six credits (each) from three departments in CANR
- Courses must include at least 24 credits (combined total) from departments CANR

Writing Competency: Students must pass one 2000-level or above W course in any department of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AH, ANSC, ARE, HORT, LAND, NRE, NUSC, PLSC, PVS, SOIL, TURF).

Computer Technology Competency: Satisfied by University entrance expectations.

Information Literacy Competency: Satisfied by meeting the Writing Competency Requirement.

Agriculture and Natural Resources majors must submit a statement describing how courses relate to their desired career. This statement and courses for the major must be approved by advisor and CANR Associate Dean as early as possible in order to confirm the courses approved for the final Plan of Study.

Background Information and Rationale:

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has had a non-departmentalized major in **Agriculture and Natural Resources** (previously titled General Studies in Agriculture and Natural Resources) for decades. The 2011-2012 catalog (page 32) describes the Agriculture and Natural Resources major, *“This interdisciplinary major is designed for students who want broad training in agriculture and natural resources. Students work with their advisors to develop a personalized program of study.”*

Currently, the requirements for the Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) major include the CANR 36 Credit Group and one “W” course from one of the CANR departments. The courses used for these major requirements must be approved by the student’s advisor and the CANR Associate Dean (in place of department head, as required for departmental majors).

It has been suggested in recent years that credibility and consistency of the AGNR major would be improved by establishing more specific requirements. These requirements would be designed to add structure and strengthen minimum expectations for the major, while maintaining the original goal of providing an option for students desiring a broad knowledge in various aspects of agriculture and related areas. Better-defined requirements would also decrease the likelihood of students viewing the AGNR major as an easy-way-out, when/if they are avoiding the most difficult requirements of a departmental major.

VI. Other Business - None

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 pm. **The next meeting is on Friday, December 16, 2011 at 1:30 pm. (Please note time difference)**