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Undergraduate Curriculum Council Minutes

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### 2011 February 9 - Undergraduate Curriculum Council Minutes

University Governance, East Tennessee State University

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Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, February 9, 2011  
2:00pm, B & F Conference Room, Dossett Hall Room 202

#### Attendance

Members: Todd Emma, Suzanne Smith, Debbie Dotson, Ellen Drummond, Mel Page, Kathy Campbell, Leslie Adenobojo, Alison Deadman, Shawna Lichtenwalner, Keith Green

Visitors: Dilshod Achilov (Assistant Professor/Political Science), Timothy McDowell (Professor/Biology), Marsh Grube, Alan Holmes (College of Arts and Sciences), Billie Lancaster and LaDonna Hutchins (Registrar's Office)

1. **Approval of the minutes from January 26, 2011** Mel page moved to accept with one spelling correction. Seconded Shawna Lichtenwalner, Unanimously accepted.

2. **Report of actions by the chair on behalf of the committee** (Per Agenda)

a. **Returned for revision and reconsideration by the committee**

b. **Returned for minor revision (approval pending these changes)**

c. **Tabled**

d. **Approved**

New Course Proposals—PSCI 3440

Non-Substantive Curriculum Change—Management Minor

Political Science Major

Political Science Minor

3. **Proposals to be considered**

a. (2:05-2:25 pm) New Course Proposal: PSCI 3850 Politics of the Middle East (Dilshod Achilov) **Debbie Dotson & Leslie Adebonojo**  
[http://etsuis.etsu.edu/CPS/forms.aspx?DispType=OutputForms&NodeID=5\\_2a&Instance=4499&FormID=6&WFID=1798](http://etsuis.etsu.edu/CPS/forms.aspx?DispType=OutputForms&NodeID=5_2a&Instance=4499&FormID=6&WFID=1798)

Proposal was presented to the committee by Dilshod Achilov, Assistant Professor in Political Science.

Proposal: Debbie Dotson, who reviewed the proposal for the committee, recommended a more succinct catalog course description.

Reviewers noted that the course goal text more appropriate for the purpose field. Dotson noted that goals need to address more specifically what the course is expected to do for student. Revised text was recommended by Dotson.

Sample Course Syllabus: Committee noted that under the attendance field, more specific information needs to be given about any specific penalty for absences. Achilov noted that the bibliography attached

to the sample syllabus focuses mostly on 'classic' scholarly papers as well as the most recent scholarship. Alison Deadman and Jason Davis urged clarification in the assignments field: of what percentage of the final course grade is participation worth (?), for example. Mel Page urged emphasizing engagement with reading assignments and the quality of participation, and not merely attendance in the assessment of participation. (Language course is a 4596).

Action: Motion to accept provisionally with editorial revisions, Green; Second, Debbie Dotson, approved by unanimous vote.

b. (2:25-2:45) New Course Proposal: BIOL 4377/5377 Tropical Botany in Ecuador (Timothy McDowell) **Suzanne Smith & Ellen Drummond**  
[htCotp://etsuis.etsu.edu/CPS/forms.aspx?DispType=OutputForms&NodeID=5\\_2a&Instance=4430&FormID=6&WFID=1834](http://etsuis.etsu.edu/CPS/forms.aspx?DispType=OutputForms&NodeID=5_2a&Instance=4430&FormID=6&WFID=1834)

Timothy McDowell presented the proposal for the Biology Department. McDowell noted support from the Honors College and Sister Cities Project in Johnson City for supporting the course in several material ways. McDowell notes that this course parallels a co-offered language course, offered in the field.

Proposal was reviewed for the committee by Suzanne Smith and Ellen Drummond.

Proposal: Suzanna Smith noted that credit-hour maximum needs to be switched to n/a.

Sample Course Syllabus: Alison Deadman noted that information about quizzes were vague (number not specified). Alison also urged more specific information about expectations for participation; but McDowell had clarified this field to the satisfaction of the committee.

Motion to approve: Alison Deadman made motion to approve with minor editorial revisions, Shawna Lichtenwalner seconded: unanimously approved.

#### 4. **Old Business:**

Marsh Grube shared proposed changes to CPS form for site-based and online delivery form.

Advisory motion made by Mel Page to support the following definition of "a credit". Alison Deadman seconded: Unanimously endorsed

Credit hours definition: "A credit is a unit of value that certifies a quantity of learning."

**We were reminded that the coming meeting on February 23, is to be in 309 Dossett Hall, at the usual time—2:00pm.**

#### 5. **Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn: Adebonojo, Deadman seconded, Unanimous vote to adjourn at 3:00pm**