

Curriculum Committee Minutes Nov 14, 2006

Present: Bob Ramsey, Roberta Roswell, Walter Scott, Mary Ann Morse, Gregory Weber.

Absent: Kris Dhawale.

I. Minutes of October 24.

Approved with a correction: add that Bob Ramsey suggested "mild" be defined for the B.S. in Elementary Education revisions.

II. II. Education changes

A. B.S. Elementary Education

Bob suggested adding a definition of "mild intervention."

Greg suggested adding degree names to the document titles, to avoid confusion.

Roberta asked about the reduction of subject matter (i.e., learning what one is going to teach as a future teacher, as opposed to how to teach). Mary Ann responded that even with the reductions, the degrees will satisfy the university minimum requirements for general education.

Mary Ann mentioned a correction on item #9: science credits are reduced from 15 to 13 hours, not 12 to 9.

Mary Ann will revise the proposal as indicated above.

B. B.S. Secondary Education

One of the courses being dropped as a requirement is HPER H363, and Greg asked for the course title to be mentioned. It is "Personal Health." But as taught, the course is actually about public health for schools.

Mary Ann will revise the proposal as requested. She said that in addition, the Division of Education plans a long meeting in early January to talk about further program changes. So both proposals are withdrawn until after their January meeting.

III. Minor in Informatics

Roberta asked if the courses required for the minor exist.

Greg answered that of the five lower division courses, I101 is being introduced in spring 2007; I210 and I211 would be cross-listed with CSCI C201 and C202; I201 and I202 would be new courses. Students are required to take three from this group.

In the upper division courses, the IIM I300, I380, I340, and BUS S310 all are currently existing courses. INFO I320 has been adopted; the content has been taught as a variable topics course, but not yet under the course number I320. PSY P450 is an existing course, Greg thinks. The rest of the Informatics courses -- I300, I303, I310, and I400 -- would be new courses. Students need to take only two of these for the minor.

There was a question: most of the upper level courses seem to be in business, and the only other non-informatics course is one in psychology. So how would this minor benefit anyone who was not a business or psychology major? Greg answered that courses in database, data communications, and systems analysis are relevant to application of information technology in any field; they just happen to be taught in the business division. The inclusion of PSY P450 Human Factors, is not so that informatics students can learn to apply informatics to psychology, but so they can learn to use psychology in applying informatics to any field.

Mary Ann asked how many students are expected to take the minor, and how many classes will be taught?

It seems desirable to come up with a schedule for introducing the new courses, and clarify which courses are not new.

Other questions were raised: How do the courses relate to the student learning outcomes? What is the projected enrollment?

Bob pointed out that students could complete the minor requirements even without any new courses.

Walter asked if the minor requires 17 to 18 hours, depending on the selection of lower level courses? Greg said yes.

Item VIII in the proposal states that additional resources will be needed, and will be reallocated from current funds.

Committee members pointed out that in the current financial situation of the campus, this is unrealistic. There are no funds to be reallocated.

The paragraph is vague about the resources needed. For example, "equipment to support student projects" could be almost anything.

The committee believes that additional resources aren't available, unless it can be shown that the minor (and/or the major) will increase enrollment.

Informatics Committee: do we really need additional resources for the minor? If so, be more specific about what they are.

Greg said that Suzi Shapiro, of the Informatics Committee, had said in email that a requirement should be added for at least two of the courses to be taken at IU east. The Curriculum Committee thinks this is a good idea.

Questions were raised about whether comparable courses existed at Ivy Tech Community College, and whether students in the minor would be taking them there or here.

Submitted by: Gregory Weber, 11/15/2006