

Academic Affairs Committee

Meeting #6, 12 February 2021

REMOTE MEETING

Present electronically: LaVette Burnette, Julia Carter, James Decker, Crystal O'Leary

Barry Monk noted that prior to MATH 1401: Elementary Statistics taking a place in Area A of the core curriculum, non-STEM students had had the option of taking Math Modeling as their Area A course and then MATH 1200: Elementary Statistics as an Area D course. The introduction of an Elementary Statistics II course will provide a beneficial continuation of the study of statistics for non-STEM students and will also be able to serve as an Area D course.

In response to Tom Hancock's question as to whether this course would overlap with Biostatistics, Barry Monk explained that although there is some overlap, Biostatistics is largely biology applications, while Elementary Statistics II will primarily be a continuation of Elementary Statistics, covering things like hypothesis testing, sampling, and the like.

There was no further discussion. Crystal O'Leary-Davidson motioned to approve MATH 2402 course proposal, Viktoriya Lanier seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Rebekah Hazlett-Knewton explained that SOCW 3005 would serve as an option for an elective for Social Work students (the Social Work degree has six semester hours of electives). The course is open not only to Social Work majors, but to serve as an elective for students in other fields of study as well. The course is an overview, covering the intersection of social work and the law, e.g., domestic violence, prison, immigration, and the like. It begins with an introduction to what forensic social work is and moves through the different types of forensic social work that exist, to include the expanding role of social workers into thi

Information Technology courses and two Criminal Justice courses. The Homeland Security concentration will probably draw more enrollment than Critical Infrastructure Management did.

With respect to the Social Media concentration of the Information Technology degree, two courses are being eliminated and replaced with courses that will better align with the Information Technology degree and will help overall enrollment.

Neil Rigole noted that Forensic Accounting needs to be removed from the proposal; it had remained by mistake. LaVette Burnette struck the course from the proposal.

Kevin Cantwell enquired as to whether the Criminal Justice courses in the program modification already exist, and Paul Gladden and Neil Rigole explained that they were “in the pipeline,” i.e., approved by Academic Affairs and thus their place in the course catalogue is pending.

Kevin Cantwell that the modification did not constitute a change in more than 50% of the program and so is not a substantive change per SACSCOC guidelines.

There was no further discussion. Eli

Michael Gibbons presented notification memo (attached). Gibbons noted that the memo offers clarification on academic probation, academic suspension, repeated courses, and attendance policies.

LaVette Burnette noted that attendance policies for online classes need more specificity than currently defined.

Kevin Cantwell noted that the policy says, "students who do not attend class or are not engaged on a regular basis," and that the typical way of defining this in an online class involves participating in a class activity, e.g., taking a quiz, posting on a discussion board, etc. It needs to be more than simply logging in.

Crystal O'Leary-Davidson suggested possibly using the language of Last Date Attended used for no-show reporting to the Department of Education.

Michael Gibbons asked if over-specific guidelines might hamstring faculty flexibility for online courses.

Crystal O'Leary Davidson, Kevin Cantwell, and Andrew Reeves noted that such guidelines already exist and that junior faculty and adjunct instructors need more guidance.

Michael Gibbons and Kevin Cantwell noted that the Provost's office might need to work more on the language of the memo.

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