

**UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE**  
**November 21, 2019**

**Faculty Senate Curriculum and Standards Committee**  
**Report 2019-2020-4**

At the November 7, 2019 (originally scheduled for October 24, 2019) meeting of the Curriculum and Standards Committee and by electronic communication, the following matters were considered and are now presented to the Faculty Senate.

**SECTION I**  
**Informational Matters**

**NEW COURSES (2)**

**COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES::**

**AFS 488X, Marine Plastic Pollution**

(3 crs.) Overview of the sources, distribution and impacts of plastics on marine organisms; techniques used to collect, extract and identify marine plastics; solutions and policy considerations. (Lec. 2, Lab. 1) Pre: Students must be of Junior standing or more, or permission of instructor. Not for graduate credit.

**BIO 481X, Biology of Human Health and Disease**

(3 crs.) Application of biological concepts to understand the basis of human diseases and how biology relates to their treatment. Topics include traditional medicine, medical genetics, cancer, and molecular medicine. (Lec. 2, Seminar 1) Pre: BIO 101, BIO/CMB 352 and one or more additional BIO courses at the 200 level or above. Not for graduate credit.

## SECTION II

### Curricular Matters Which Require Confirmation by the Faculty Senate

#### COURSES CHANGES (6)

##### ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:

**BIS 100, Pro-seminar** (Change description, prereqs, grading method)  
(3 crs.) Introduction to critical approaches to ~~learning~~ interdisciplinary thinking with emphasis on reading and rhetorical skills appropriate to college students. ~~Pre: Must be taken concurrently with URI 101B: S/U credit.~~

**EDC 280, Teacher Program Prep. and Career Development-Math**  
(Title, description, methods of instruction (f-2-f, hybrid, and online versions)  
(1 cr.) Overview and review of required mathematics content and skills for admission into teacher certification programs. Education Program pre-admission test. Focus on content review, test-taking strategies, and time practice test. (Lab. 1, online/Online) This class prepares candidates to be successful in admission to Education programs at the University of Rhode Island.

##### COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:

**CSC 211, Computer Programming** (Change title, description, prereq.)  
(4 crs.) Problem specification, solution design, and algorithm development. Topics may include data types, functions, iteration, recursion, object-oriented programming, functional programming, built-in data structures, file operations, numerical and string-based operations. (Lec. 3, Lab. 2) Pre: (C- or better in CSC 110) or (B or better in CSC 106 or in CSC 201 or in CSC 200) or ELE 208 or permission of instructor.

**CSC 499, Project in Computer Science** (Change prerequisites)  
(4 crs.) Supervised work on a capstone project in computer science that prepares students for careers in industry and graduate study. (Practicum) Pre: advanced standing in computer science and departmental approval. Normally taken twice in two consecutive semesters. May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits. Not for graduate credit. S/U credit.

**GER 112, Intensive Beginning German II** (remove statement)  
(4 crs.) Study of the fundamentals of German with special emphasis on listening and speaking skills. Students enrolling in this course should have taken GER 111 or equivalent. (Lec. 3, Rec. 1/Online)  
~~Not for major credit in German. (A3) (C2)~~

**WRT 201, Writing Arguments****(change title and description)**

(3 crs.) Invent and craft arguments to become a more effective, influential writer. Analyze and critique textual and visual arguments. Identify and use credible evidence. Practice rhetorical strategies. (Lec. 3) (B1) (B4)

**NEW COURSES (20)****COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:****CCJ 485, Independent Study**

(3-6 crs.) Advanced work in criminology and/or criminal justice under the discretion of a faculty member. Students may use 3 credits in place of a CCJ elective course, with the approval of the Program Director. Additional credits may be taken and counted toward graduation and upper level requirements. (Independent Study) Pre: Permission of instructor. Not for graduate credit.

**CSC 477, Computer Science Internship**

(4 crs.) Supervised internship in computer science that prepares students for careers in industry. (Practicum) Pre: Advanced standing in computer science and departmental approval. May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits. Not for graduate credit.

**SOC 250, Social Movements and Change**

(3 crs.) A foundational course that examines theoretical and empirical explanations for social change through social movements, collective action and policy. Focus is on contemporary and historical inequalities and social justice. (Lec. 3) Pre: SOC 100.

**ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:****SPC 403, Positioning Nonprofits: Mission-based Marketing**

(3 crs.) Theoretical and practical applications that show novices how to lead not-for-profit organizations to successes in a competitive world. (Lec. 3) Pre: SPC 210 or permission of instructor.

**SPC 201, Introduction to Professional Leadership Studies**

(3 crs.) Introduction to leadership theories and practices, critical thinking and leadership in the community, civic and diverse workplaces. (Lec. 3)

**SPC 383, Finance and Budgeting Policy for Nonprofits**

(3 crs.) Introduction to language, purposes, uses of nonprofit finance and budgeting research; framing, designing research studies; procedures for generating, analyzing, interpreting issues related to nonprofit finance and budgeting practices, and analysis. (Lec. 3) Pre: SPC 201 or 210 or permission of instructor.

**SPC 450, Leading Through Change**

(3 crs.) Explore the social, political, economic and cultural realities of change and leadership through multiple interdisciplinary frameworks. Emphasis is placed on reexamination of values and assumptions in both character and leadership and skills required to make complex ethical decisions. (Lec. 3) Pre: SPC 201 or permission of instructor. Not for graduate credit.

**SPC 480, Supervised Professional Leadership Experience**

(6 crs.) Supervised professional leadership experience approved by instructor and student's advisor. In-depth examination of leadership experiences (Prac. 4) (Sem. 2) Pre: SPC 201 and senior standing. For students with full-time professional positions, a Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) option may be developed. Not for graduate credit. S/U only.

**EDC 281, Teacher Program Prep and Career Development-Reading**

(1 cr.) Overview and review of required reading content and skills for admission into teacher certification programs. (Lab. 1, online/Online) This class prepares candidates to be successful in admission to Education programs at the University of Rhode Island.

**EDC 282, Teacher Program Prep and Career Development-Writing**

(1 cr.) Overview and review of required writing content and skills for admission into teacher certification programs. (Lab. 1, online/Online) This class prepares candidates to be successful in admission to Education programs at the University of Rhode Island.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY NEUROSCIENCE PROGRAM:****NEU 101, Foundations of Neuroscience**

(3 crs.) Provides the basic concepts and language for the field of Neuroscience. It teaches molecular, cellular, behavioral, and computational mechanisms of the brain. (Lec. 3) Pre: credit for or concurrent enrollment in BIO 101.

**NEU 110, Neurosciences Seminar**

(1 cr.) Interpreting, thinking critically, and presenting neuroscience research from peer-reviewed academic journal articles. (Lec. 1)

**NEU 210, Neuroethics and Diversity**

(3 crs.) Introduction to concepts and ethics and diversity considered essential foundation knowledge for neuroscience research as well as other health related sciences. (Lec. 3)

**NEU 230, Neuroscience Professional Development**

(1 cr.) Introduction to careers in neuroscience and related graduate/professional degree programs. Students will create educational and career plans; write resumes and personal statements; and develop communication skills. (Lec. 1)

**NEU 262, Neuroscience Research Methods**

(4 crs.) Acquire knowledge and tools to solve problems in neurobiology. Topics covered include approaches in neuroscience, behavioral studies, tissue/cell preparation, histology/microscopy, electrode stimulation and molecular characterization. (Lec. 3, Lab. 1) Pre: NEU 101 and BIO 101 and 103.

**NEU 301, Cellular and Molecular Neurosciences**

(3 crs.) Examine essentials of cellular and molecular neurosciences: neuron growth and differentiation, neuromodulation, behavior of neural circuits, cell signaling, neurophysiology, regulation and homeostasis. (Lec. 3) Pre: Bio 101 and 102 and NEU 101.

**NEU 310, Developmental Neurobiology**

(3 crs.) Cellular and molecular mechanisms of developmental neurobiology using examples from invertebrate and vertebrate model organisms, and humans. Topics may include neuronal differentiation, cell-type specification, neuronal migration, cell death, neuronal morphogenesis, and synapse formation.. (Lec. 3) Pre: NEU 101.

**NEU 320, Clinical Neuroscience**

(3 crs.) Foundational principles of neural science followed by current research findings concerning neuroplasticity, brain imaging and brain stimulation techniques, and the physiological bases of psychological disorders and neurodegenerative disease. (Lec. 3) Pre: NEU 101 and PSY 113

**NEU 410, Experiential Neuroscience**

(1-6 crs.) Internship course using practical work experience with guided teaching to help students develop personal, professional, and academic competencies. (Lab. 1-6) Pre: Junior standing and NEU 262, or permission of the instructor. Not for graduate credit.

**NEU 460, Neuroscience Journal Club**

(1 cr.) Seminar focusing on recently published peer-reviewed neuroscience literature and on current techniques and critical assessment of scientific data. (Seminar) Pre: NEU 101, NEU 301 and NEU 320. Not for graduate credit.

**EXISTING COURSES SEEKING GENERAL EDUCATION (3)****ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:****BIS 399, Supervised Senior Project (change descript, prereq, seeking GE D1, B1)**

(3 crs.) ~~A project chosen by the student with faculty guidance on a topic relevant to the student's major, resulting in a paper or other demonstration of academic achievement.~~ **Culminating experience in which students prepare and present a project bringing together materials and methods from several disciplines.** (Independent Study) Pre: senior standing in B.I.S. program and approval of advisor and B.I.S. coordinator. Required of B.I.S. students. BIS 100 (D1) (B1)

**COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:**

**CSF 102, Cyber Security Technology and Issues in a Global Society**

**(Change title, descr., remove prereq.; seeking GE - C2, B3, GC)**

(4 crs.) This course provides an overview of the technology, threats, and social impact of cybersecurity. (Lec. 3, Lab. 1/Online) Pre: CSC 106 or CSC 201.

**HONORS PROGRAM:**

**HPR 401, Honors Project**

**(seeking D1, B4-p)**

(3 crs.) (Independent Study) Pre: permission of the director of the Honors Program, and overall GPA of 3.40 or better. (D1) Not for graduate credit.

**NEW COURSES SEEKING GENERAL EDUCATION (2)**

**ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:**

**SPC 491, Supervised Internship Nonprofit Organization**      **GenEd outcomes (D1) (B4-p)**

(6 crs.) Supervised internship in an approved public agency or nonprofit organization, providing students the opportunity to integrate and extend classroom learning with practice. (PRA 6) Pre: SPC 210 or permission of instructor and senior standing. For students with full-time professional positions, a Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) option may be developed. Not for graduate credit. S/U only. (D1)

**COLLEGE OF PHARMACY:**

**BPS/CHE 204G, Nanotechnology: It's a Small World**

**A1, B4, GC**

(3 crs.) This ~~Grand Challenge~~ course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of nanotechnology and its applications, while also providing a basic understanding of the social and ethical implications of implementing nanotechnology in everyday life. (Lec. 3) (A1)( B4) (GC)

**PROGRAM CHANGES (5)**

**COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:**

**Sociology Department:**

**BA-Sociology**

(See Appendix A)

The study of inequalities has been mainstreamed into the discipline of SOC; it no longer is a siloed specialization, but rather central to our discipline. As sociology is now practiced and taught, inequalities are taught through the paradigm of diversity. We are confident that our students learn inequalities in multiple ways in all their courses. We still will offer courses that directly teach about inequalities but feel that it is not necessary for students to be required to take a course specifically focused on a type of inequality (e.g. race, class, gender).

**Communication Studies Department:****Sports Media and Communication Minor:**

(See Appendix B)

Remove the following courses KIN 475 and KIN 478 from the minor, and add the following: COM 203, COM 204, COM 344, PRS 370, and PRS 477. The courses being added, with the exception of PRS 477, were developed specifically for the major/minor in Sports Media and Communication last year.

**Physics Department****BS - Physics major:**

(See Appendix C)

The Computer Science Department has changed the description of CSC211. Since CSC211 requires previous programming experience, the physics department wants to include CSC201 as an option for those with no experience. We, therefore, want to change that requirement so that either CSC211 or CSC201 will satisfy the requirement for the BS degree in Physics.

**BS - Physics and Physical Oceanography major:**

(See Appendix D)

The Computer Science Department has changed the description of CSC211. Since CSC211 requires previous programming experience, the physics department wants to include CSC201 as an option for those with no experience. We, therefore, want to change that requirement so that either CSC211 or CSC201 will satisfy the requirement for the BS degree in Physics and Physical Oceanography.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES:****Department of Health Studies**

(See Appendix E)

Our intention is to give students more choices and flexibility as they work towards a degree in this interdisciplinary major, and to formalize the acceptance of courses that have been approved as curriculum modifications in the past.

Since the inception of the major, new courses have been implemented that can fulfill either the core Health Studies courses, or one of the specialization areas in the major. In addition, some students take different math courses to meet their prerequisites for their intended graduate programs, and we want to add these as choices. We are requesting that the following be added as options for the major (as specified below).

- 1) MTH 103, MTH 111 – add to lower level math options
- 2) STA 308 – add to statistics option
- 3) COM 460 – Environmental Communication: Local and Global – add to Global Health
- 4) GWS 350 – Special Topics in Women’s Studies (Women and Aging Topic) – add to Health Promotion
- 5) HLT 320 – Health Communication – add to Global Health, Health Promotion, and Health Services

**NEW PROGRAMS (3)****ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:****School of Professional and Continuing Studies:**

(See Appendix F)

**Creation of a Bachelor of Science, Non-Profit Administration major:**

The BS in Non-Profit Administration is designed to be an interdependent major that combines historical and theoretical understandings of non-profit and not-for-profit organizations’ structural

underpinnings; and applied understandings of their impacts on interrelationships between organizational behaviors; individual attitudes of multiple constituents (e.g., external partners and internal stakeholders). And, importantly, this unique major – addressing the gap in focus on non-profit, not-for-profit, and quasi-market organizations – provides students opportunities to apply foundational and theoretical knowledge to applied internship experiences where clients will receive a research-based deliverable.

## **COLLEGES OF HEALTH SCIENCES, ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES, and PHARMACY:**

### **Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program:**

(See Appendix G)

This proposal is for the creation of an Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program (INP) that will integrate new undergraduate interdisciplinary neuroscience majors affiliated with COP, CELS, and CHS with the existing INP graduate program. An undergraduate interdisciplinary neuroscience major will leverage; a) our existing academic graduate programs in neuroscience (masters, Ph.D., and certificate), b) expertise in neuroscience research across the campus and c) the George and Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience.

All undergraduate students will receive a Bachelor of Science (BOS) in one of three major options: students will graduate with a BOS degree with a major in Clinical Neuroscience from CHS, students will graduate with a BOS degree with a major in Molecular Neuroscience from CELS, and students will graduate with a BOS degree with a major in Neuropharmacology from COP. The INP graduate program, which involves faculty from several colleges, will move from the Graduate School to become part of the INP. Faculty affiliated with the INP will continue to mentor, advise, and interact with INP graduate students and efforts will be made to bring greater identity and opportunity to the program and the students. The INP will be led by a Director and will include other support as necessary and affordable and consistent with the growth of the program.

### *Curriculum*

The required core curriculum for the undergraduate neuroscience program includes preparation courses and core courses with a minimum of 15 credits in one of three majors. Preparation courses currently exist at URI in chemistry, biology, and math. Core courses are in molecular biology, pharmacy, statistics and neuroscience. Ten new courses specific to the undergraduate major in neuroscience will be added to meet the core competencies for undergraduate neuroscience majors outlined by the Society for Neuroscience

(<https://www.sfn.org/Careers/Higher-Education-and-Training/Core-Competencies/Core-Competencies-for-Neuroscience-Undergraduates>, 2019).

In addition to completing core and foundational courses, students will select 15 credits (or more) from courses organized into three majors designed to customize learning towards professional goals. Undergraduates will initially matriculate through University College for one to two years in an exploratory neuroscience major and through advising will choose the neuroscience major that best suits their career goals. The three majors include: 1. Clinical Neuroscience; 2. Molecular Neuroscience; 3. Neuropharmacology



## **COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:**

### **Department of English**

(See Appendix H)

The Department of English currently offers a Minor in English (20 credits). Aside from a requirement concerning the level of courses that may be used to build a minor (see Catalog language, below), there are no specifications about the type or subjects of courses that contribute to a minor. It is possible and common for students to achieve a Minor in English mostly or entirely built on creative writing courses (currently, ENG 105, ENG 205A, B, C, D, ENG 305A, B, C, D, and ENG 405).

**The Minor in English.** In addition to fulfilling all the basic requirements for a minor (see Minor Fields of Study), students minoring in English are required to take 20 total English credits, which can be accomplished by taking five 4-credit classes, four of which must be at the 200 level or above.

**The Minor in Creative Writing.** In addition to fulfilling all the basic requirements for a minor (see Minor Fields of Study), students minoring in Creative Writing are required to take 20 total English credits, including ENG 105, ENG 205 (A, B, C, or D), ENG 305 (A, B, C, or D), and 8 credits of ENG courses from the 200 level or above.