Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Approval Form

Proposal Title: Decision Support Systems

Sponsor(s): Diane Hamilton  
Daniel Davis

Dept.: School of Business Admin.

Check one:  
☒ Course  ☐ Specialization  ☐ Concentration  ☐ Achievement Certificate
☐ Certification Program  ☐ Major Program  ☐ Minor Change

(please name: deletion or credit/title/catalog change)

☐ Undergraduate  ☐ Graduate  3 Credit Hours

Step 1 (Department)
☒ Approved  11/14/95
☐ Not Approved
☐ Reviewed  

Chairperson, Dept.

Step 2 (Receipt)

SCC# 85-86-41
Proposal Received 11/15/95

Bunda A. Bolay
Chairperson, SCC

Step 3 (School CC)

Reviewed 11/14/95
☒ Approved  
☐ Not Approved

Comments:

Step 4 (Academic Dean)

Comments:

Reviewed  

Signature, Dean of School

Step 5 (SCC)

Open Hearing 12/5/95
☒ Approved by Senate Curriculum Committee  
☐ Returned to sponsor(s) for the following reasons:

Step 6 (Faculty Senate)

Presented to Faculty Senate:  
☒ Approved  ☐ Not Approved

Notification to Vice-President Academic Affairs 2/13/96

Signature, SCC Chairperson

Rev: 5/82
Step 7 (Vice-President for Academic Affairs)

Received 2/13/84

Approved □ Yes □ No

If no, reasons are as follows:

Student credit hours 3
Faculty load hours 3
Equalized credit hours 3
Official copy and approval sheet filed

Signature

Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Registrar

Approved course description received

Hegis Taxonomy and Course Number assigned

Signature

Registrar Date

Notification forwarded: Senate Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Department Chairperson(s), Academic Dean(s), Registrar, Sponsor(s).

TRANSMITTAL 4/18/84
NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

A. COURSE PROPOSAL FORMAT

1. Details
a. Course Title: Decision Support Systems
b. Sponsors: Diane Hamilton & Daniel Davis  
   School of Business Administration
c. Course level: Junior
d. Curricular effect: This course will replace  
   Advanced Systems Design as a requirement  
   for all Business Administration students  
   specializing in Management Information  
   Systems
e. Prerequisites: Principles of Finance (0504.300)
f. Suggested time and scale of implementation: Along  
   with the other Business Administration  
   curriculum changes, this new course  
   should become part of the MIS  
   specialization starting Fall 1986.
g. Adequacy of present staff: The present MIS faculty  
   is sufficient to handle this new course.

2. RATIONALE

This course will cover Strategic Information  
Systems involving fourth generation languages  
such as Symphony (electronic spreadsheet and  
graphics), statistical packages (SAS or SPSS),  
Dbase (database management system), and IFPS  
(interactive financial planning)in a future time  
frame for forecasting, what-if scenerios, etc.  
The systems development life cycle is not  
measured in man-years, rather it is an iterative  
process involving manager and developer  
interaction. The development process can take  
several approaches i.e. quick hit, systematic  
development, and the complete DSS approach.  
Persons involved in building these systems are  
not only systems analysts/programmers but also  
the manager/user or information resource
consultant. Different skills are required to build these systems. Due to the proliferation of Decision Support Systems as a separate module within the corporate management information system it is necessary to give it an appropriate place in our curriculum.

3. ESSENCE OF THE COURSE

a. Objectives of the course in relation to student outcomes: This course is designed to give the student in the MIS specialization an opportunity to study model building and apply this skill to the popular software packages currently utilized in business.

Students will be able to:

1. create and manipulate electronic spreadsheet models
2. create and exercise computerized database management systems
3. develop financial models for "what-if" analysis
4. apply statistical methodology through popular statistical packages
5. understand the management of an information center
6. gain confidence through their experience in all phases of microcomputer use

b. Topical Outline/Content:

Introduction to Decision Support Systems
Modeling the Business Environment
Designing a DSS
Building Effective DSS
Information Flow in a DSS (utilizing a typical manufacturing firm)
Computer Business Graphics
The Internal DSS Database

External Databases

The Electronic Spreadsheet

Financial Packages

Investment Packages

DSS Statistical Techniques -- regression and time series analysis

Statistical Analysis Packages

Expert Information Systems

c. Evaluation and grading of students: Students will be required to research, make class presentations and build several DSS systems. Grading will be based upon performance in these three areas as well as in the regularly scheduled examinations.

d. Course evaluation: traditional student evaluations will be obtained to assess the value of the course.

4. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

a. Consultations have been requested of the three Business Administration Chairpersons: No written response was received; however, all verbal comments have been incorporated into this proposal, and the proposal has been approved by a vote of the faculty in the School of Business.
0702.335
Decision Support Systems
(Prerequisite: 0504.300)
Students study principles and techniques of building business models using decision support systems. Each student is assigned a number of case assignments using 4th generation languages. This course demonstrates the importance of "what-if" scenarios in the business environment. 4th generation languages include electronic spreadsheets, statistical packages, financial planning systems, and database management systems.