

SENATE

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL FORM 1999-2000

OCT 21

NON-GENERAL EDUCATION PROCESS A

DEADLINES: Deadline dates for 1999/2000 submissions: Regular proposals: October 22, 1999 to be implemented in Fall 2000; Short-Term proposals: December 10, 1999 to be implemented in Fall, 2000; Regular proposals February 18, 2000 to be implemented in Spring, 2001; March 24, 2000 for short-term courses to be implemented in Spring 2001.

PROPOSAL TITLE: Minor Curricular Changes: Drop Pre-calculus minimum grade requirement for Comp. Sci. majors
SPONSOR(S): K. Amer
DEPARTMENT: Computer Science
COLLEGE: LAS
IF LAS CHECK ONE: ___ History/Humanities [X] Math/Sciences ___ Social/Behavioral Sciences
Check one: [X] Undergraduate ___ Graduate

THE ATTACHED NON-GEN-ED PROPOSAL IS BEST DESCRIBED BY THE ITEM(S) CHECKED.
___ New non-gen-ed course
___ Short-term non-gen-ed course
[X] Minor curricular changes (fewer than three) to:
___ existing non-gen-ed course
[X] non-gen-ed degree requirements
___ major
___ minor, specialization, concentration, track, certificate program

DEPARTMENT (Signature indicates approval)
Dept. Curriculum Chair / Date: [Signature] 10/31/99
Dept. Chairperson / Date: [Signature] 10/31/99

ACADEMIC DEAN
Approved [X] Not Approved ___ Comments:
Dean's Signature/Date: [Signature]

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Date of open hearing (if necessary) 11/30/99 Approved Not Approved

Comments: None

Signature of College Chair/Date: [Signature] 11/30/99

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Date Received/Processed 12/6/99

Comments:

Curriculum Chair Signature [Signature] Date Announced At Senate 12/7/99

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST

Approved Not Approved If no, reasons are as follows:

Student Credit Hours _____ Faculty Load Hours _____ Equalized Credit Hours _____

Official Copy & Approval Sheet Filed (Date): _____ Executive VP/Provost Signature/Date [Signature]

REGISTRAR

Date Approved Course Description Received 12/17/99 Hegis Taxonomy & Course Number Assigned _____

Registrar Signature/Date Robert A. Kubat

NOTIFICATION FORWARD

____ Senate Curriculum Committee Chairperson _____ Academic Dean(s)
____ Department Chairpersons _____ Registrar _____ Sponsor(s)

Computer Science Department Minor Curriculum Change

1. Details:

a. Change Requested:

Dropping Pre-calculus from the list of courses in which a grade of C- or better is required for graduation.

b. Sponsor: K. Amer

2. Rationale:

Pre-calculus is not a required course for the Bachelor of Science degree in computer science. It is not even a prerequisite of one since equivalent preparation to Pre-calculus is accepted as a substitute. It should be removed from the list of courses in which a grade of C- or better is required since it is not taken by every student in the Major. Moreover, competence in this area of mathematics is assured since Calculus I is in the list.

3. Results of Consultation:

This proposal was approved at a meeting of the Department.

The Mechanical and Electrical and Computer Engineering Departments were also consulted.

From: Tirupathi R Chandrupatla
To: Kay, Jennifer S.
Date: 10/22/99 9:51AM
Subject: Consultations

Jennifer:

We support the following minor changes and course proposals from Computer Science.

Minor Changes:

- Change Semester Hours of Data Structures and Algorithms
- Change Restricted Electives for CS Majors
- Change Prereq's for CS Senior Project
- Drop pre-calc minimum grade requirement for CS majors

Course Props

- Data Structures For Engineers
- Grad Topics in CS
- Embedded Systems Programming

T.R.

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From: John L. Schmalzel
To: Kay, Jennifer S.
Date: 10/21/99 11:41PM
Subject: Re: Consultations

MEMORANDUM

Date: 21 OCT 1999

TO: Dr. Jennifer Kay, and CS Curriculum Committee
FR: J. Schmalzel, Chair ECE (jls)

SUBJ: Course/Curriculum Review

I have had a chance to review your department's proposed course/curriculum changes. In an effort to get you some immediate feedback, I am providing the following comments. In the case of Embedded Systems, additional comments to follow.

A. Minor Changes:

1. Change Semester Hours of Data Structures and Algorithms.

ECE Response: We understand your desire for more lab contact with your students. We wish it would have been possible under the original 3-SCH version of the course in order to avoid necessitating a new version of Data Structures intended for ECE students only. However, we have a firm cap on our total SCH required for the degree (128 SCH).

2. Change Restricted Electives for CS Majors.

ECE Response: This is a CS-Department decision taken in response to self-assessment of curricular objectives.

3. Change Prereq's for CS Senior Project.

ECE Response: This is a CS-Department decision taken in response to self-assessment of curricular objectives.

4. Drop pre-calc minimum grade requirement for CS majors.

ECE Response: This is a CS-Department decision taken in response to self-assessment of curricular objectives.

B. Course Proposals

1. Data Structures For Engineers.

ECE Response: (Continuation of comment from A.1. above.) A desirable outcome of the course development/planning process would be to determine a way to teach a hybrid course that would allow both CS and ECE students to co-exist within a single Data Structures course framework. We believe that it is important for our students to be mixed with your majors to enhance multidisciplinary opportunities--an objective that is not served by separating them by course.

A possible approach may be suggested by an experiment we've performed with our electronics course (0909.311), which has both ECE and ME students required to take it. We were able to create a hybrid course by sharing a single common lecture time per week, and then splitting off into second lecture/lab sessions to handle the perceived need for somewhat different focus between the groups. In the case of Data Structures, this might mean 2 lectures a week + lab, shared by both ECE and CS students, and a 3d lecture per week for CS students only. Other variations could be tried.

We would welcome the opportunity to explore options with your faculty.

2. Grad Topics in CS.

ECE Response: This is a CS-Department decision taken in response to self-assessment of curricular objectives.

3. Embedded Systems Programming.

ECE Response: (A more detailed response needs to be developed. Embedded systems development is dependent on hardware vs. software trade-offs, which is an ECE core element.)

{end memo}

>>> Jennifer S. Kay 10/21/99 09:48PM >>>
John,

Sorry for filling your mailbox tonight. We're still waiting for consultations from you on the following proposals:

Minor Changes:

- Change Semester Hours of Data Structures and Algorithms
- Change Restricted Electives for CS Majors
- Change Prereq's for CS Senior Project
- Drop pre-calc minimum grade requirement for CS majors

Course Props

- Data Structures For Engineers
- Grad Topics in CS
- Embedded Systems Programming

Any chance you could zap me an email with a copy of the above list of topics and "We support these" or any concerns that you have so that I can stick it on the back of our props? (In particular, let me know if you think the prereq's for the DS for Engineers makes sense)

I'm still waiting on some of our committee to finish looking over your two, My guess is that we'll have no problems with Adaptive Filters, but maybe some concerns over ANN's. I'm pushing people to finish reviewing so we can formally get back to you. I'll send you something or call you tomorrow morning.

Thanks!

-- Jennie

Jennifer S. Kay
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CC: Baliga, Ganesh; Bergmann, Seth; ECE_Faculty; Tinkham, Nancy; Waksman, Adlai