

Georgia Institute of Technology
Graduate Curriculum Committee
Minutes
October 23, 2008

Present: Storici (BIOL), French (ARCH), Potts (GRAD STUDIES), Mark (CoC), Parker (ISyE), Silva (ECON), Peponis (ARCH), Smith (AE), Rosen (ME), Babensee (BME), Patel (ISyE), Pikowsky (REG)

Visitors: Howson (REG), Senft (REG), Laros (REG), Jones (REG), Dunhan-Jones (ARCH), Hovorka (APPH), Daniell (APPH), Sanders (MSE)

Note: All action items in these minutes require approval by the Academic Senate. In some instances, items may require further approval by the Board of Regents or the University System of Georgia. If the Regents' approval is required, the change is not official until notification is received from the Board to that effect. Items that are marked below with an asterisk (*) require USG and/or BOR approval and are not official until approval has been received. Academic units should take no action on these items until USG and/or BOR approval is secured. In addition, units should take no action on any of the items below until these minutes have been approved by the Academic Senate or the Executive Board.

1. There were no minutes to approve. All previous minutes were approved via email.
2. A motion was made to approve the recommendations of the Petitions Subcommittee for petitions in the following areas.

Approved:

6 Graduate without GPA

Note: Registrar will contact major schools and Graduate Studies about minors.

2 Seven Year Waiver

1 Change from Special Status to Degree Seeking

1 Count classes taken while Special Status count towards degree

6 Substitute six hours XXX9000 for XXX7000 to meet MS degree Requirement

1 Substitute all CHBE9000 for CHBE7000

Denied:

1 Selective Withdrawal

3. Administrative items brought forward by the Registrar's Office.

Unit of credit definition

The Committee agreed that a definition of the unit of credit would be useful. The following edited version of the proposal will be resubmitted to the Undergraduate Committee for approval and then submitted to the Student Rules & Regulations Committee.

Unit of Credit Defined: One unit of credit represents how much time a typical student is expected to devote to learning per week of study. Each course is evaluated by a system of credits related to time spent in class, lab, research, or field study. One semester credit is expected to require at least three hours of scholarly activity per week.

For lecture-based course work, one 50-minute hour of class attendance is scheduled for each credit awarded, but any combination of class attendance, lab, research, or field study experience may be arranged

Studio and laboratory classes earn 1 semester credit for each three hours of attendance.

Exceptions to this policy for undergraduate courses must be approved by the Institute Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. Exceptions for graduate courses must be approved by the Institute Graduate Curriculum Committee.

Guidelines for Graduate Certificates

The Committee agreed that it would be useful to have guidelines, similar to those for undergraduate certificates, for graduate certificates. The Registrar's Office has drafted a set of guidelines and will distribute them via email for review by the Committee and discussion at the next meeting.

Grade and Level Requirements

The Committee concluded that it is not necessary to add additional requirements for minimum grades in graduate programs. The 2.7 cumulative grade point average required for Master's level students provides sufficient assurances and needed flexibility in grading to ensure that an acceptable plan of study is completed for the program.

Use of 1000, 2000, and 3000-level Courses

The Committee asked the Registrar's Office to draft language that would prohibit use of 1000, 2000, and 3000-level classes in graduate programs. The draft language will be submitted at a future meeting and then referred to the Student Rules and Regulations Committee.

Maximum Number of Pass/Fail Hours for Master's Programs

The Committee asked the Registrar's Office to review the number of pass/fail hours allowed in Master's programs and report back on findings to determine next steps to address this policy issue.

4. A motion was made to approve a request from the College of Architecture for new courses. The motion was seconded and approved.

NEW COURSES

ARCH 6137 Postwar Architecture and Urbanism in the U.S.: Design, Politics & History 3-0-3 (Note: include all three grade modes and add prerequisite “graduate standing or consent of instructor”)

ARCH 6227 Architecture & Ecology 3-0-3 (Note: include all three grade modes and add prerequisite “graduate standing or consent of instructor”)

ARCH 6303 Urban Design Policy 3-0-3 (Note: include all three grade modes and add prerequisite “graduate standing or consent of instructor”)

5. A motion was made to approve a request from the School of Materials Science and Engineering for new courses. The motion was seconded and approved.

NEW COURSES

MSE 6401 Thermodynamics of Materials 3-0-3

MSE 6402 Crystallography, Structure, and Defects 3-0-3

MSE 6403 Kinetics of Phase Transformations 3-0-3

MSE 6404 Scattering Theory 3-0-3

MSE 6405 Advanced Nanomaterials 3-0-3 (Note: add Level I notation)

MSE 6406 Corrosion of Materials 4-0-4

6. A motion was made to approve a request from the School of Applied Physiology for a change in the grade mode of a course. The motion was seconded and approved.

CHANGE IN COURSE

APPH 6997 Assistive Technology

Change grade mode to allow all three options.

7. A motion was made to table a request from the School of Literature, Communication and Culture to change the grade mode of a course. The motion was seconded and approved.

TABLED: Change in grade mode for LCC 7000 to allow letter grading.

The proposal was discussed by the Committee. It was tabled due to the need to discuss in more detail with a representative from the School.

8. A motion was made to note for the record the acceptance of the program review for Public Policy that was completed in Summer 2008. The motion was seconded and approved.

Note: The program review was accepted by the Committee last summer, but was not properly recorded in the Minutes or in the report for the Senate meeting in October 2008. This is intended to record officially the completion of this program review.

Adjourned,

Reta Pikowsky
Registrar