Final Report of the Weinberg Curricular Policies Committee for 2022-2023

June 2023

The Weinberg College Curricular Policies Committee (CPC) studies and makes recommendations to the faculty about policy matters above the level of individual courses. These include degree requirements, systems of course credit and grading, the creation of department and program majors and minors, and rules and regulations affecting the College's academic programs. In this year the committee additionally shared with the Curriculum Review Committee the work of reviewing proposals to map courses to the new degree requirement structure that will apply to new students who matriculate after Spring 2023.

Majors and Minors

Adjunct Major in Environmental Policy and Culture

In Winter 2023 the committee reviewed a proposal from the Program in Environmental Policy and Culture for the introduction of a new adjunct major in Environmental Policy and Culture. This was approved by the committee as an item to be presented to the Weinberg College faculty for a first reading at the Winter 2023 faculty meeting. Following that, at the second reading in Spring 2023 the proposal for the new adjunct major was approved by the faculty. This will be available for students to declare starting Fall 2023.

Update re: Minor in Arabic

As listed in last year's report, in Spring 2022 the committee reviewed a proposal from the Middle East and North African Languages Program for the introduction of an undergraduate minor in Arabic. The proposal was approved by the committee as an item to be presented to the Weinberg College faculty for a first reading at the Fall 2022 faculty meeting. At the second reading in Winter 2023, the proposal for the new minor was approved by the faculty. This will be available for students to declare starting Fall 2023.

New degree requirements

Foundational Disciplines grading options

In Spring 2022, the committee reviewed a plan to create an opportunity for students to count some courses graded with a P (in Pass/No Passs grading) towards the Foundational Disciplines (under the degree requirement plan to be implemented effective Fall 2023). This proposal was referred for a first reading at the Spring 2022 faculty meeting. A second reading and vote in favor of the proposal took place in the Fall 2022 faculty meeting. In light of this new grading plan, in Fall 2022 the CPC endorsed a policy that Grading Option be the same for any courses that are cross-listed (i.e. taught together as one class).

Overlay requirement title and learning objectives

In the degree requirement changes approved in the Spring 2019 faculty meeting, a new 2-course "overlay" requirement was established, to be woven into the other degree

requirements. Since then a working group of faculty further refined the title and the learning objectives for greater clarity and recommended this update to the Dean. This updated text was presented to the Curriculum Policies Committee, and they supported this adjustment such that Overlay 1 would be U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice and Equity, and Overlay 2 Global Perspectives on Power, Justice and Equity.

Courses assigned to new requirement categories

The CPC worked in tandem with the Curriculum Review Committee to review proposals from departments and programs to list courses in the new degree requirement structure. The two committees together placed a total of 551 courses in various categories of Foundational Disciplines, Overlays/Perspectives, and the Advanced Expression requirement. These are tabulated in the quarterly CRC reports and will appear in the 2023-2024 Undergraduate Catalog.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Hodgson Henri Lauziere Deborah Rosenberg Jili Sun Elizabeth Tipton Erin Waxenbaum Vicky Ji Hae Chung, Student Advisory Board representative Vitoria Monteiro de Carvalho Faria, Student Advisory Board representative Laura Panko, ex officio Mary Finn, ex officio