

Research & Experiential Courses Proposal
Senate Scholastic Standards Committee
August 20, 2018

Background

The University has a variety of course numbers reserved for courses such as special topics, research, honors thesis, independent study, etc. However, these courses are not approved for all departments, they are not used consistently by the various departments across campus, and there are no shared definitions across disciplines. This causes myriad issues for many students, staff and faculty. Students are unaware of options, faculty are unsure of what course they should offer a student, and there is often an inability to report on and assess the number of these offerings by departments.

Proposal

In order to provide consistency throughout the University, it is proposed that every department has the attached list of courses created with the same general course description. Any conflicts discovered between course numbers already in use and those in the following table will be resolved by re-numbering the existing courses.

Course type	Number	Definition
Field study/Field experience	xx90	Credit awarded for applied academic work done in the field as a component of a student's academic program.
Internship	xx91	Credit awarded for professional work done in the field that may or may not be part of a student's academic program.
Practicum	xx92	Credit awarded for work done where the primary purpose is to apply information from coursework in a practical setting and aid a student's professional development (may be used for licensure programs).
International Study	xx93	Credit assigned to courses taken abroad which are not direct equivalents of a University of Connecticut course.
Seminar	xx94	Gives students the experience to critically understand a specialized subject area.
Special Topics	xx95	An offering approved on a provisional basis for the purposes of course development (i.e., pilot course).
Thesis	xx96	Credits earned by students for thesis preparation (3x96) and thesis writing (4x96).
Undergraduate Research	1x97	Introduction to Research Introduction to the practice of research for beginning students.
Undergraduate Research	2x97	Directed Research 1 Introductory research conducted under the supervision of the instructor.
Undergraduate Research	3x97	Directed Research 2. Research conducted under the supervision of the instructor
Undergraduate Research	4x97	Independent Research. Student-initiated research activities.
Variable Topics	xx98	A course that is offered periodically based on topic currency (e.g., during an election year) or instructor availability (e.g., taught by a visiting expert).
Independent Study	xx99	Credits earned by pursuing individual academic interests under the supervision of a faculty sponsor.

Recommendations:

S/U versions of these courses may be offered by substituting an 8 for a 9 in the third digit (e.g., Independent Study xx89 [S/U] instead of xx99 [graded]).

Honors versions of courses listed above should be assigned unique section numbers within the same course, rather than separate course numbers.