

CLAS Committee on Curricula and Courses
Chair: Stephen Stifano
Minutes
September 28th, 2021

WebEx: <https://uconnvtc.webex.com/uconnvtc/j.php?MTID=m19897ed9c004c7197b06e4f541d4d322>

I. Chair Approvals:

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Form</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Action (Syllabus linked)</i>
2021-224	545	MCB 5895	Add Special Topic: 3D Genome in Development, Disease, and Evolution

II. Old Business - Approved Proposals:

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>CAR</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Action (Syllabus linked)</i>
2021-168	7326	GEOG 4300	Revise Course (Guest: Anji Seth)
2021-169	7303	GEOG 5390	Revise Course (Guest: Anji Seth)
2021-220	8304	SOCI 2315	Add Course (S)

III. New Business - Approved Proposals:

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>CAR</i>	<i>Course/Discipline</i>	<i>Action (Syllabus or Form linked)</i>
2021-225	8384	COMM 5979	Add Course (Guest: Ken Lachlan)
2021-229	8405	COMM 6800	Revise Course (Guest: Ken Lachlan)
2021-232	8444	COMM 5991	Revise Course (Guest: Ken Lachlan)
2021-226		COMM	Review 4+1 FastTrack (Guest: Ken Lachlan)
2021-223		CHEM	Revise Minor
2021-231	7964	ENGL 3509W	Add W Version (G)(S)
2021-236	7704	GSCI 3040	Revise Course
2021-237	8484	GSCI 5330	Add Course
2021-233		LLAS	Revise Major
2021-234		Latin American Studies	Revise Minor
2021-235		Latino Studies	Revise Minor
2021-227	8324	GEOG 4240	Add Course (Guest: Christopher Burton)
2021-228	8245	GEOG 5240	Add Course (Guest: Christopher Burton)
2021-230	8224	GEOG 6815	Add Course

IV. Items for Discussion:

1. [Core Curriculum for Leadership and Global Citizenship](#) - New General Education Structure approaching Senate C&C for review and vote.
2. Guidance for “Revision or Add Course?” Dilemmas.

2021-168	7326	GEOG 4300	Revise Course
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Approved Copy:

GEOG 4300. Classic Papers in Climate Science

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: GEOG 2300 or instructor consent; open to juniors or higher.

Grading Basis: Graded

An examination of the defining primary literature in the evolution of climate science to the present state of knowledge. Topics may include the Greenhouse Theory of Climate, El Niño, Climate Prediction, and regional processes of interest such as monsoons, storm tracks, and desert dynamics.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-169 7303 GEOG 5390 Revise Course

Approved Copy:

GEOG **5300**. Classic Papers in Climate Science

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: May not be taken for credit by students who have passed GEOG 4300.

Grading Basis: Graded

An examination of the defining primary literature in the evolution of climate science to the present state of knowledge. Topics may include the Greenhouse Theory of Climate, El Niño, Climate Prediction, and regional processes of interest such as monsoons, storm tracks, and desert dynamics.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-220 8304 SOCI 2315 Add Course (S)

Approved Copy:

SOCI 2315. Guns and Society

3 credits

Prerequisites: None

Grading Basis: Graded

The history, culture, and politics of guns in the U.S. and the social problem of gun violence through a sociological lens. Topics may include the symbolic meaning of guns, the Second Amendment, different types of gun violence, and approaches to reducing various forms of gun violence such as suicide, mass shootings, and everyday gun violence.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-225 [8384](#) COMM 5979 Add [Course](#) (Guest: Ken Lachlan)

Approved Copy:

COMM 5979. Master's Capstone Project

Prerequisites: Department Consent.

Recommended Preparation: COMM 5001

Grading Basis: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

Capstone project addressing problems or opportunities in the field of communication.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-229 [8405](#) COMM 6800 **Revise [Course](#) (Guest: Ken Lachlan)**

Approved Copy:

COMM 6800. Seminar and Directed Research in Communication

3.00 - 6.00 credits | May be repeated for a total of **6** credits.

Prerequisites: Open to graduate students in the Communication Program.

Grading Basis: **Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**

Completion and presentation of directed research projects to advance the scholarship of communication graduate students.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-232 [8444](#) COMM 5991 **Revise [Course](#) (Guest: Ken Lachlan)**

Approved Copy:

5981. Internship in Communication

1.00 - **6.00** credits | May be repeated for credit **up to a maximum of 6 credits**.

Prerequisites: Open to graduate students in Communication, others with consent.

Grading Basis: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

Completion of a departmentally-approved internship.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-226 **COMM** **Review [4+1 FastTrack](#) (Guest: Ken Lachlan)**

Proposed Copy (No Vote at this Body):

4+1 FastTrack B.A./M.A. Program in Communication

Students pursuing a UConn undergraduate B.A. degree in Communication can apply to use up to 12 credits of graduate-level coursework taken as an undergraduate towards an M.A. degree in Communication. By joining the COMM FastTrack program, undergraduate Communication majors can enroll in graduate Communication courses and complete the requirements for both degrees over a period of five total years.

This program is intended for undergraduates pursuing a B.A. in Communication; students must meet all requirements for the B.A. degree. The M.A. program requires students to complete two graduate-level methodology courses (COMM 5001 and 5002) as well as two graduate-level core theory courses (COMM 5100, 5200, 5230, 5300, 5660, or 6850.) An additional 21 credits of graduate-level coursework must be completed, including one of the exit options; most FastTrack students will complete the Master's Project (COMM 5979) as an exit option.*

Beyond required graduate-level courses, each FastTrack student's plan of study and sequencing of courses will differ; support from a student's assigned FastTrack advisor will assist in the selection and sequencing of courses. As an example, below is a potential student plan to complete the M.A. requirements during the fourth and fifth years.

Year 4 Fall: Two Graduate Courses (including one core theory course)

Year 4 Spring: Two Graduate Courses (including one core theory course)

Year 4 Summer: One Graduate Course (COMM 5991 Internship)

Year 5 Fall: Three Graduate Courses (including COMM 5001)

Year 5 Spring: Two Graduate Courses (including COMM 5002) and COMM 5979, Master's Project

Academic Qualifications:

For admission to the FastTrack program in Communication, students should be in **Year 3 or later**** of the B.A. in Communication, and have a 3.00 cumulative grade-point-average or better at the time of application. Students should have completed COMM 2000Q and at least two 2000-level core courses by the time of application.

To apply, students must submit:

- Unofficial transcripts for all college-level studies regardless of if a degree was awarded.
- A current resume.
- A 2-3 page double-spaced personal statement explaining your interest in the program, why you are pursuing the program, and how this program can help you reach your career goals.
- A copy of or a screenshot of their SAT or ACT scores. If you do not have access to these scores or if you do not remember them, please state that in your application email.

We seek highly motivated students who are committed to the discipline and the pursuit of a graduate degree. Please note that to count graduate courses toward the M.A. in communication, FastTrack students approaching their undergraduate graduation must still apply to - and be accepted by - the graduate school. FastTrack students will be provided guidance on this process as part of their enrollment in the program. The Graduate School requires students to maintain at least a B (3.00) cumulative grade point average in the 33 credits used for the M.A. degree.

Costs

Students can complete up to 12 credits of graduate-level coursework as an undergraduate as part of their undergraduate education costs. Students are subsequently responsible for the cost of at least 21 credits of graduate education.

Advising

During the undergraduate portion of their work, admitted FastTrack students will be paired with an advisor from the graduate faculty in Communication. Once a FastTrack student has completed the undergraduate degree and been accepted to the graduate school, the student may elect to continue working with the faculty advisor or select a new advisor from the graduate faculty. The advisor provides guidance in course selection and preparation for the M.A. Project or alternative exit options.

Feedback:

*One member suggested a more explicit statement of graduate-level courses that students will complete as part of the FastTrack.

******One member suggested revising this passage to reflect number of credits completed, instead of student “year,” to be more inclusive of students who transfer a number of credits or complete degree requirements more rapidly.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-223 **CHEM** [Revise Minor](#)

Approved Copy:

Students taking this minor must take at least 15 credits of 2000-level or above Chemistry courses.

The following courses are required: CHEM 2443, 2444, and 2445*; CHEM 3332.

*CHEM 2446 may be used in place of CHEM 2445 by Chemical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering majors only.

Further, students must take one course from the following list: CHEM 3210, 3334, 3442W, 3563, **3564**, 3661.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-231 [7964](#) **ENGL 3509W** **Add [W Version](#) (G)(S)**

Approved Copy:

ENGL 3509W. Studies in Individual Writers

3.00 credits | May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher.

Grading Basis: Graded

Concentrated study in one or two authors writing in English. May be repeated for credit with a change in topic.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-236 [7704](#) **GSCI 3040** **Revise [Course](#)**

Approved Copy:

GSCI 3040. Earth Materials

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: GSCI 1050 or both GSCI 1052 and one of GSCI 1010 or 1051 or 1055 or 1070 or GEOG 1070.

Recommended preparation: CHEM 1124-1126 or 1127 and 1128.

Grading Basis: Graded

Principles of symmetry and crystal chemistry and the identification of minerals by hand sample, petrographic and x-ray methods. Description of the mineralogy and texture of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks and the application of contemporary petrogenetic models to the interpretation of the geologic environments they record. One or more weekend field trips may be required.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-237 [8484](#) **GSCI 5330**

Add [Course](#)

Approved Copy:

GSCI 5330. Active Tectonics

3.00 credits

Prerequisites: Not open for credit to students who have passed GSCI 4330.

Grading Basis: Graded

Tectonic processes that shape the Earth's surface, particularly its landforms. Emphasis on short-term processes that produce disasters and catastrophes and affect human society.

2021-233

LLAS

Revise [Major](#)

Approved Copy:

Prerequisite for the major

A 1000-level introductory course on Latino or Latin American Studies.

Required Courses (16 credits)

1. Critical Methodology sequence of [LLAS 2011W](#) and [2012](#)
2. Experiential Learning Requirement. Choose six credits from:
 - a. Community immersion project (combination of Independent Study [LLAS 3999](#), Field Work [LLAS 3990](#) or [4212](#), or service-learning courses that involve Latino American community)
 - b. Urban Semester with Latino Studies focus ([INTD 3584](#) and [INTD 3594](#) or [3590](#), the internship itself); additional credits can count as related courses, or towards the capstone)
 - c. Study abroad courses or internship in Latin American or Caribbean Studies
3. Capstone project: [LLAS 4994W](#) or comprehensive project through Urban Semester (three credits)

Elective Courses (nine credits)

Elective courses must have a LLAS designation, and must fall within content area of chosen concentration, either Latino or Latin American Studies.

Related Courses (12 credits)

Language Requirement

Intermediate proficiency in a language spoken in Latin America is required for students focusing in Latin America, and proficiency in Spanish is strongly suggested for students focusing on Latinos in the United States. Proficiency can be demonstrated in one of the ways below:

- Take at least one 3000-level or above course in literature, culture, film or the arts in the target language
- Pass equivalent language exam
- Requirement waived for native speakers

[\[top\]](#)

2021-234

Latin American Studies

Revise [Minor](#)

Approved Copy:

Latin American Studies Minor

The interdisciplinary minor in Latin American Studies offers a basic understanding of the peoples and cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean, their history and contemporary economic, social, and political problems, and the region's relations with the United States.

Requirements

The minor consists of a minimum of 15 credit hours of course work selected from at least three disciplines distributed from the courses below:

- LLAS 2011W, 2012, 2293, 2995, 3293, **3990**, 3998, 3999, 4212, 4994W ;
- ANTH/LLAS 3021, ANTH/LLAS 3029; ANTH 3041/LLAS 3241; ANTH 3042, 3150; ANTH/AFRA 3152; ANTH/LLAS/HRTS 3327;
- ARTH 3630/W, 3640/W, 3645/W;
- ECON/LLAS 2474;
- GEOG 4710;
- HIST 2621; HIST/URBN 2650; HIST/LLAS/AFRA 3618, HIST/LLAS/AFRA 3619/W, HIST/AFRA 3620; HIST/LLAS/AFRA/WGSS 3622; HIST 3643; HIST 4994W; HIST/AFRA 3206; HIST/LLAS/AFRA 3208; HIST/LLAS 3607; HIST/LLAS 3608W, HIST/LLAS 3609, HIST/LLAS 3635, HIST/LLAS 3660W;
- POLS 3218, 3235, 3237; POLS/LLAS 3667; POLS 3834/LLAS 3271;
- SPAN 3201, 3205, 3207, 3214, 3233, 3234, 3250, 3251, 3254, 3260, 3266, 3267W; SPAN/LLAS 3265.

With approval of the minor advisor, appropriate sections of 3293 courses taken through Education Abroad may count towards the minor. Appropriate sections of special or variable topic courses, including AFRA 3898, ANTH 3098, HIST 3098, HRTS 3298, POLS 2998, SPAN 3298, and WGSS 3998 may also count towards the minor with advisor consent.

Language Requirement

(Credits do not apply to minor's 15 credit minimum) Students may demonstrate elementary proficiency in a Latin American language in one of the following ways:

- One 2000-level or above language course
- Pass equivalent language exam administered by the Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages
- Requirement waived for native speakers

Students minoring in Latin American Studies should also consider participating in an Education Abroad program in Latin America or the Caribbean. Courses taken abroad may be counted toward the minor if they are equivalents of the courses listed above.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-235

Latino Studies

Revise [Minor](#)

Approved Copy:

Requirements

The Latino Studies minor requires a minimum of 15 credits of coursework. At least nine of these credits must be from courses listed as, or cross-listed with LLAS:

- LLAS 2001, 2011W, 2012, 2995, 3210, 3211, 3990, 3998, 3999, 4212;
- LLAS 3241/ANTH 3041;
- LLAS/COMM 3320, 3322;
- LLAS 3232/ENGL 3605, LLAS 3233/ENGL 3607;
- LLAS 3250/HDFS 3442, LLAS 3251/HDFS 3268;
- LLAS 3220/HIST 3674, LLAS/HRTS 3221/HIST 3575, LLAS/HIST 3660W;
- LLAS 3270/POLS 3662, LLAS 3271/POLS 3834, LLAS/POLS 3667;
- LLAS/SOCI 3525;
- LLAS/SPAN 3265;
- LLAS 3230/WGSS 3258, LLAS 3231/WGSS 3259, LLAS 3264/WGSS 3260/COMM 3321.

Additional courses elected from the following list may be counted for up to six credits permitted toward satisfaction of the required total of fifteen:

- AASI/HIST/LLAS 3875;
- AFRA/HIST/LLAS/WGSS 3622; AFRA/HRTS/SOCI 3505; AFRA/SOCI 3501;
- ANTH 3021, 3029, 3042, 3150, 3152;
- ARTH 3640;
- COMM 3220, 4450W, 4802;
- DRAM 3133;
- ECON 2444, 2456; ECON/LLAS 2474;
- ENGL 3218, 3265W, 4203W;
- HDFS 3421;

- HIST 2621, 3554, 3608W, 3610, 3620, 3660W; HIST/LLAS 3609, 3619, 3635;
- INTD 2245;
- POLS 3218, 3235, 3237;
- SOCI/HRTS 3421/W, 3831; SOCI 2503, 2907, 3429, 3901, 3911, 3971;
- SPAN 3204, 3205, 3208, 3214, 3266;
- URBN 3276;
- WGSS 2267.

The minor is offered by El Instituto: Latino/a, Caribbean and Latin American Studies Institute. For information, contact Anne Gebelein or call 860-486-5508.

With approval of the minor advisor, appropriate sections of 3293 courses taken through Experiential Global Learning may count towards the minor. Appropriate sections of special or variable topic courses, including AFRA 3898, ANTH 3098, HIST 3098, HRTS 3298, POLS 2998, SPAN 3298, and WGSS 3998 may also count towards the minor with advisor consent.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-227 [8324](#) GEOG 4240 Add [Course](#)

Approved Copy:

GEOG 4240. Disaster Risk, Vulnerability, and Community Resilience

3.00 Credits.

Prerequisites: None.

Grading Basis: Graded

Overview of geographical perspectives on disaster risk, vulnerability, and resilience using an integrated environmental, social, and infrastructural approach. The theory, methods, metrics, and tools necessary to measure and understand risk, vulnerability, and the resilience of societies worldwide.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-228 [8245](#) GEOG 5240 Add [Course](#)

Approved Copy:

GEOG 5240. Disaster Risk, Vulnerability, and Community Resilience

3.00 Credits.

Prerequisites: None.

Grading Basis: Graded

Overview of geographical perspectives on disaster risk, vulnerability, and resilience using an integrated environmental, social, and infrastructural approach. The theory, methods, metrics, and tools necessary to measure and understand risk, vulnerability, and the resilience of societies worldwide.

[\[top\]](#)

2021-230

[8224](#) GEOG 6815

Add [Course](#)

Approved Copy:

GEOG 6815. Seminar on Geographic Information Science and Systems

3.00 Credits | May be repeated for a total of 6 credits.

Prerequisites: None.

Recommended Preparation: GEOG 5500 or GEOG 5510

Grading Basis: Graded

An exploration of Geographic Information Science (GISc) and Systems (GIS) theories, methods, and critiques for physical and social sciences. Topics may range from fundamental to emergent themes including measurement biases, uncertainties, qualitative GIS, spatial big data, human dynamics, and GeoAI.

[\[top\]](#)

Items for Discussion:

1. [Core Curriculum for Leadership and Global Citizenship](#) - New General Education Structure approaching Senate C&C for review and vote.
 - a. Several members expressed some confusion about the implementation plan for the new general education curriculum, including concerns about its impact on the college.
 - b. While some members have expressed support for updating our general education structures, concerns were expressed about the University approving a new general education curriculum without a clear understanding of the practical impacts of the new curriculum on departments, curricular bodies, and faculty.
 - c. One member pointed out that the entire plan will likely not be the subject of immediate vote, but rather a commitment to the general framework proposed. Stifano will seek written clarification from GEOC to inform this committee's subsequent discussions.
 - d. Stifano will set up an opportunity for CLAS CCC members to express feedback in writing that can ultimately be shared with members of the Senate C&C ahead of its vote.
2. Guidance for "Revision or Add Course?" Dilemmas.
 - a. The case of GEOG 4300/5390 was used to discuss the broader need for collaboration and consultation across relevant units when courses undergo substantial revision (including when the revision is merely to bring the catalog up to speed with what's being taught "on the ground" in the course, but represents a substantial change to the public-facing course title/description as originally approved.)
 - b. The committee generally agreed that such matters need to be addressed on a case-by-case basis due to myriad potential differences, but that substantial course revisions that stand to impact other units due to potential disciplinary overlap should warrant the same degree of consultation as would occur when a unit adds an entirely new course.
 - c. In an effort to clarify the expectations for committee members going forward, Stifano will issue some simple guidance to this effect to ensure that such courses can advance through the committee efficiently.

ATTENDANCE (in black):

AAAS	Na-Rae Kim
AFRA	Fumilayo Showers
AMST/HIST/MAST	Matthew McKenzie
ANTH	Dimitris Xygalatas
CHEM	Fatma Selampinar
CLAS DEAN'S OFFICE	Mansour Ndiaye
CLAS DEAN'S OFFICE	Rebecca Bacher
CLAS DEAN'S OFFICE	Lyn Tribble
COMM	TBD, Contact Steve Stifano
ECON	Richard Langlois
EEB	Paul Lewis
ENGL	Anna Mae Duane
ENVS/EVST	Jason Vokoun
EVST/GEOG	Debs Ghosh
GSCI	Jean Crespi
HDFS	Beth Russell
HRTS	César Abadia
JOUR	Steve Smith
LING	Vicki Carstens
LCL	Sara Johnson
LLAS	Anne Gebelein
MATH	Guojun Gan

MARN	Heidi Dierssen
MCB	David Knecht
PHIL	Alexus McLeod
PHYS	Vernon Cormier
PNB	John Redden
POLS	Evan Perkoski
PSYC	Rob Henning
PUBL	Ken Dautrich
SOCI	Ralph McNeal
SLHS	Lendra Friesen
STAT	Victor Hugo Lachos
WGSS	Ariana Codr