

Education Council – Motions Carried June 1, 2023

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Education Council met on June 1, 2023 and approved the following:

Academic Courses

Arts and Foundational Programs

New courses:

1. POLI 231 Canadian Politics and Indigenous Peoples

Proposal Rationale

The course will have wide appeal among Okanagan College undergraduates, and would contribute substantially to teaching and learning at Okanagan College in accordance with the indigenization mission. This course will fill a gap in the present offerings of Okanagan College Political Science by offering a course explicitly addressing Indigenous politics. Apart from the contribution to be made to the advancement of knowledge, this course will also contribute to innovative curriculum development of the College by providing a much needed course for Arts and Foundational Programs and other degree programs.

2. POLI 321 Policy Analysis

Proposal Rationale

- The proposed course will not only provide students with the advanced knowledge and skills in this very active field, but also will contribute to innovative curriculum development of the College by providing a much-needed course for Arts and Foundational programs, diploma, interdisciplinary degree programs and applied degree programs.
- The course aims to fill a gap in current Political Science offerings which do not centrally focus on the knowledge and skills related to public policy analysis and policy advocacy.
- The course aligns Okanagan College Political Science course offerings with those of other post-secondary institutions in British Columbia.

3. POLI 325 Unconventional Politics

Proposal Rationale

- The proposed course will not only provide students with the advanced knowledge and skills in this very active field, but also will contribute to innovative curriculum development of the College by providing a much-needed course for Arts and Foundational programs, diploma, interdisciplinary degree programs and applied degree programs.
- The course aims to fill a gap in current Political Science offerings which do not centrally focus on the knowledge and skills related to the interplay of power, politics, and political participation or public engagement.
- The course aligns Okanagan College Political Science course offerings with those of other post-secondary institutions in British Columbia.
- With a focus on grassroots civil society efforts to agitate for change, the course fills a need for the study of social change and justice.

4. GEOG 118 Natural Hazards

Proposal Rationale

- As we observed in BC in November 2021, natural hazards such as flooding and landslides associated with intense rainfall can have a significant and deadly impact on society. Understanding what hazards exist, how to identify them and how to live with the risks inherent is the focus of this course. In this course, we will examine the science and evolution of natural hazards, such as tornadoes, earthquakes, and tropical cyclones, and in part use this information to assess how accurately film and television portrays the science of these events. This course examines how officials and the public become aware of, prepare for, and manage recovery from natural hazards. The course will draw from areas of geology, atmospheric science, geomorphology, hydrology and ecology to help students understand how the Earth works and what we as humans need to consider to work with our home planet.
- No current course at the college offers an overview of the scientific understanding of natural hazards.
- This course allows students to take a 100-level science credit course without a lab.
- The course fits into both the current AA (Environment, Geography) and existing ES Diploma streams. The proposed course addresses gaps in our current programming for (1) general interest courses that will appeal to students across programs at OC and (2) topics of current interest and importance.

5. GEOG 214 Global Climate Change

Proposal Rationale

- Global Climate Change is one of the most important issues facing our planet today. There is currently no course at the college that offers an overview of the wide range of impacts of climate change or on climate science. In this course learners acquire an understanding of the science behind, effects of, and potential management options for global climate change and how these aspects affect different regions.
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- The course fits into both the current AA (Environment, Geography) and existing ES Diploma streams. The proposed course addresses gaps in our current programming for (1) general interest courses that will appeal to students across programs at OC and (2) topics of current interest and importance.

6. EESC 118 Natural Hazards

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8. GSWS 214 Transnational Feminist Studies

Proposal Rationale

Transnational feminisms is introduced in our first year survey course, GSWS 100: An Introduction to Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies. This course is more detailed to expand students understanding of gender justice across national boundaries.

9. GSWS 300 Feminist Theories and Methods

Proposal Rationale

This course will be of interest to Arts students and specifically as an elective for students enrolled in the Applied Bachelor of Arts: Community Research and Evaluation degree program, with transfer to MSW at UBCO. Gender studies is interdisciplinary and intersectional, with strict attention to issues of race, class, gender, and sexualities which are topics in undergraduate and graduate studies in Social Work.

10. PHIL 125 Introduction to Scientific Reasoning

Proposal Rationale

This course is motivated by a desire to make some aspects of the philosophy of science relevant to the needs of all students. It also serves the wider goal of improving critical thinking skills beyond the scope of Phil 114, with an emphasis on skills that are useful for understanding and evaluating scientific material as found in college textbooks as well as a variety of popular and professional sources.

11. PHIL 252 Bioethics

Proposal Rationale

Bioethics is a fundamental field in applied ethics and as such is a course offered by most philosophy departments. As Okanagan College does not currently offer this course, this proposal seeks to rectify this shortcoming in our course offerings. Bioethics courses are popular with students and often have a high enrollment rate. This course would attract students from a variety of programs at Okanagan College including philosophy, biology, nursing, kinesiology, health care assistants, pharmacy technicians, and anyone else interested in the ethics of biology, medicine, and healthcare.

12. PHIL 299 Special Topics in Philosophy

Proposal Rationale

The rationale for the PHIL department proposing this Special Topics is primarily the need to expand PHIL course options for students, and, secondarily, as a vehicle for the development (and classroom testing) of potential new stand-alone courses.

Revised courses:

1. ARTS 499 Capstone Project

Proposal Rationale

In consultation with the ABA:CRE Ad Hoc Consultant Group, changes to the calendar description and learning outcomes are recommended. The change in 4 contact hours to 3 contact hours is to better align with scheduling, faculty workload planning, and to better reflect the needs of the learning activities in the course.

2. ECON 210 Women and the Economy

Proposal Rationale

Change calendar description to reflect an updated cross-listed course code.

3. SCIE 070 Science 070

Proposal Rationale

This course needed many updates to the learning outcomes in order to match the learning outcomes in the BC ABE Articulation Handbook. The course description was also updated. The hours have been changed from lecture to seminar to reflect how the course is actually offered. Self-paced is not an option, so we have chosen seminar as the closest description of the way the course is offered.

4. BIOL 011 Biology: Life Sciences 011

Proposal Rationale

Had to be updated to meet the 2022/ 2023 ABE Articulation Handbook. Also changing name to Biology: Life Sciences 011. Life Sciences is the new name in the K -12 system and therefore more recognizable to younger students wanting prerequisites for College programs. Precedent - Two colleges have already changed the name of the course in B.C. The hours are being updated to reflect how the course is offered - both a lecture and lab component - before it was only listed as lecture. There were no major changes to corequisites - English 081/0-82 were added - they had been missed originally, and then cleaned up of the wording/ordering for the rest.

5. BIOL 012 Biology: Anatomy and Physiology 012

Proposal Rationale

Updated the outline to match the BC ABE Articulation guide. Also a name change - Anatomy and Physiology is the new name in the K -12 system and therefore more recognizable to younger students wanting prerequisites for College programs. Precedent - Two colleges have already changed the name of the course in B.C.

The addition of English 081 and 082 to the outline is not new, it is just an equivalent course to our English 80 that is already a prerequisite and so just needed to be updated, but is not a new prerequisite.

6. CHEM 011 Chemistry 011

Proposal Rationale

Adding a new prerequisite - FOM 011 is becoming a very common course for students recently leaving the K-12 system. Many outcomes are similar to OC' s Math 080. Students are blocked or dropped from Chem 011 and Physics 011 registration without a recognized Math prerequisite. updating course outline to reflect changes in the BC ABE Articulation Handbook.

7. CHEM 012 Chemistry 012

Proposal Rationale

Had to be updated to meet the 2022/ 2023 ABE Articulation Handbook. The overall course hours are not changing, but are just being separated out to better reflect how it is really offered. Prerequisites are not changing, but have been cleaned up to match the outline.

8. PHYS 011 Physics 011

Proposal Rationale

Adding a prerequisite - FOM 11 is becoming a very common course for students recently leaving the K-12 system. Many outcomes are similar to OC' s Math 080 which is already a prerequisite for the course. Students are blocked or dropped from Chem 011 and Physics 011 registration without a recognized Math prerequisite. so adding FOM 11 will prevent this from happening. Also cleaned up the prerequisites on Quali and outline to match each other.

outline also had to be updated to meet the 2022/ 2023 ABE Articulation Handbook.

Also total hours for the course are not changing, but the details have been updated to show how the course is being offered.

9. PHYS 012 Physics 012

Proposal Rationale

Outline had to be updated to meet the 2022/ 2023 ABE Articulation Handbook.

Total hours for the course are not changing, but the weekly hours are reflective of how the course is currently offered to the students.

Also prerequisites/corequisites are not changing, but being cleaned up so Kuali and outline match.

10. GSWS 270 Feminist Philosophy

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department -- in consultation with the Interdisciplinary Studies department -- at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Feminist Philosophy. This is a quite recent course, so the rationale for doing this is simply to provide a small language fix to the calendar description.

11. PHIL 270 Feminist Philosophy

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department -- in consultation with the Interdisciplinary Studies department -- at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Feminist Philosophy. This is a quite recent course, so the rationale for doing this is simply to provide a small language fix to the calendar description.

12. PHIL 111 Introduction to Philosophy I

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Introduction to Philosophy I. The threefold rationale for doing this is: (1) to provide a much needed language update (the current calendar description dates from before 2005); (2) to retain some limit on which topics can be taught in this course to better differentiate it from Introduction to Philosophy II; and (3) to allow for the addition of other existing or developing disciplinary topics as desired.

13. PHIL 121 Introduction to Philosophy II

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Introduction to Philosophy II. The threefold rationale for doing this is: (1) to provide a much needed language update (the current calendar description dates from before 2005); (2) to retain some limit on which topics can be taught in this course to better differentiate it from Introduction to Philosophy I; and (3) to allow for the addition of other existing or developing disciplinary topics as desired.

14. PHIL 211 Ethics

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Ethics. The rationale for doing this is to provide a much needed language update (the current calendar description dates from before 2005).

15. PHIL 240 Social and Political Philosophy

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Social and Political Philosophy. The rationale for doing this is to provide a much needed language update (the current calendar description dates from before 2005).

16. PHIL 241 Contemporary Moral Issues

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Contemporary Moral Issues. The rationale for doing this is to provide a much needed language update (the current calendar description dates from 2009).

17. PHIL 260 Science and Pseudoscience

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department at Okanagan College is proposing to update the calendar description for the course Science and Pseudoscience. The rationale for doing this is to provide a much needed language update (the current calendar description dates from before 2005).

Course Deletion:

1. PHIL 124 Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking II

Proposal Rationale

The Philosophy department is requesting that PHIL 124 be deleted or archived since it is being replaced by PHIL 125.

Academic Programs

Arts and Foundational Programs

Revised program:

1. Applied Bachelor of Arts: Community Research and Evaluation

Proposal Rationale

These changes are being proposed based on the learning gained by AFP since the launch of the ABA CRE program in Fall 2021 and they are intended to help remove barriers to entry, support successful completion, and increase student choice where possible:

Remove the Math program entrance requirement. PSYC 270 (Statistics and Data Analysis) is the most math-intensive course in the program, and it does not have a math course pre-requisite. Comparable programs, here and at other post-secondary institutions, do not have this program entrance requirement. Removing the Math entrance requirement will improve student access to the ABA CRE program, and better align our program requirements with other comparable offerings.

Revise the first three credits of English writing requirement to include choice of a new course, ENGL 101 Indigenous Perspectives. For remaining three credits, allow greater choice of any 3 credits of ENGL or CMNS.

Instead of giving choice between GSWS 100 and GSWS 215, require GSWS 100 because it is a foundational course, and move GSWS 215 to elective list for student interest.

Require INDG 100 as a foundation course to enable necessary preparation for students going into INDG 200-level courses.

Remove science electives BIOL 112 (Evolution and Ecology) and COSC 180 (Multimedia Computing). The ABA CRE program already features 21 required credits in Psychology; notably, PSYC 270 meets science requirement for comparable degrees and pathway to MSW, so these three particular science credits (choice of BIOL 112 or COSC 180) are not needed to ensure students are exposed scientific methods, applications, and reasoning.

Increase student choice of language training, by adding six credits of FREN or SPAN as an alternative to FNIL courses.

Add INDG 203 and INDG 204 in 2nd year, as alternatives to INDG 201 and INDG 202. Change is needed so that students outside of the Okanagan region can take appropriate regional courses.

Require SOCI 202 Introduction to Social Problems, to increase student exposure to sociological concepts. Move ANTH 222 Indigenous Peoples of the BC Interior to the electives list to make room for SOCI 202.

Add new course GEOG 129 Human Geography: Resources, Development and Society as an elective for additional choice in degree.

Business

1. Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Human Resources Management

Proposal Rationale

The Business Administration Department has reflected on the significant changes moving online through the COVID-19 pandemic has had not only on students, but also on how we engage with the materials and assessments related to our educational deliverables. After careful review and several pilots over the last 24 months, the Business Administration Department would like to require all students who enter into a Business Administration credential to have a personal computing device.

For many institutions, laptop computers were considered an entrance requirement. Having this clearly stated in the expectations for students entering our programs does the following:

- it validates the purchase of a laptop eligible as a student loan or financial support expense
- it makes the expense of the purchase clear and visible to all students
- it allows us to clarify the minimum expectations for personal devices
- it allows us to prepare students to learn and use technology in much the same way they may be expected to in their lives and work outside of College and sets the expectation that proficiency in the use of technology is an expectation
- it allows students from out of country to better anticipate their costs and may alleviate stress by allowing them to purchase these devices in their own home country.

- The requirement for Business students to have a laptop will start with incoming students in 2023.

(Refer to Kualii for complete proposal rationale.)

Academic Policy

- Education Council approved the amendment to the Academic Integrity Policy Article 3 Section 2.