

UConn

NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Curricula & Courses Committee

To: C&C Committee Members

From: Jaci VanHeest, Chair

Date: October 22, 2024

Re: Minutes of the Curricula & Courses Committee Meeting held October 22, 2024

In attendance via Microsoft Teams: John Zack, Alex Freidus, Adam McCready, Joe Madaus, Ann Traynor and Diane Matteau

- 1) Approval of September 2024 meeting minutes
 - *Jaci began the meeting at 10:02am. Zack made a motion to adopt the September, 2024 minutes, Adam seconded, and all voted in favor. (6-0).*

- 2) Course Revisions

- a) **EPSY 5641: Research Design and Measurement for Data Science (CAR 24-26454)**

Explanation: Requesting to change course name to Causal Inference and Measurement for Data Science and to update the course description. These changes do not reflect a change in the curriculum nor degree requirements but are designed to better reflect the content of the course to students and to prospective employers. The change substitutes "Causal Inference" for "Research Design"; while employers are unlikely to know what is meant by research design (here, we mean techniques for identifying causal effects), 'Causal Inference' is a phrase commonly used in industry.

Current Catalog Copy:

Research Design and Measurement for Data Science

Research design, ethical and measurement issues as they relate to data science. Measurement topics include: Design of surveys and survey instruments, reliability, validity and generalizability theory. Research design topics include: AB designs, clustering and the identification of internal and external validity threats. Open and reproducible science and ethical conduct of research are themes throughout the course.

Proposed Catalog Copy:

Causal Inference and Measurement for Data Science

Principals and practice of causal inference and measurement for data scientists. Topics include: fundamentals of causal inference, establishing causal (rather than correlational) relationships -- via AB tests, controlling for confounders, and the use of panel data -- and the fundamentals of measurement. Validity and reproducibility are themes throughout the course.

- *Jaci reviewed the course title change above. After a brief discussion, Alex made a motion to approve this change, Joe seconded, and all voted in favor. (6-0).*

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: October 11, 2024
APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: October 16, 2024
APPROVAL BY C&C COMMITTEE: October 22, 2024
APPROVAL BY NEAG FACULTY: October 30, 2024

3) New Courses

a) **EPSY 5437: Cognitive and Affective Basis of Psychology (CAR 24-25491)**

Explanation: The school psychology faculty are proposing adding a completely new course to the school psychology PhD course sequence. This course was created based on feedback from the American Psychological Association (APA, one of the accrediting bodies for the school psych program). Previously we addressed APA's standard through students taking EPSY 5510 Learning. APA provided feedback that EPSY 5510 Learning did not meet all their content requirements. We worked with EPSY 5510 Learning course instructors to make tweaks to the course to align with APA, but after several rounds of back-and-forth feedback with APA they determined the revised EPSY 5510 Learning did not meet their standards.

Based on APA's feedback, we plan to create this new course Cognitive and Affective Basis of Psychology, that meets all of their requirements. School psychology PhD students will be required to take this course. Content is specifically framed to address the American Psychological Association requirement for accredited programs in health services psychology as related to discipline-specific knowledge in the cognitive and affective basis of psychology.

Proposed Catalog Copy:

Cognitive and Affective Basis of Psychology

In this course, students will explore the complex relationship between affect and cognition and how they shape behavior in educational and clinical contexts. The course will delve into the psychological systems and neural structures that underlie human cognition and emotion, as well as how they influence learning, motivation, and decision-making processes. Students will be introduced to a range of theories and research findings that have contributed to our understanding of the link between affect and cognition. Content specifically addresses the American Psychological Association requirement for accredited programs in health services psychology as related to discipline-specific knowledge in the cognitive and affective basis of psychology.

- *Jaci reviewed the new course proposal above. After a brief discussion, Adam made a motion to approve this course, Joe seconded, and all voted in favor. (6-0).*

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4) Program Revisions

a) **Integrated Bachelors/Masters Program (GPAR 24-ABRA-QL3GZ8)**

Explanation:

All IB/M students are required to take one 3-credit language and cultural diversity course during the master's year. This would increase student choice for music education students when selecting a course to meet this requirement. The following courses are currently approved to meet the Language and Cultural Diversity in Education: One of the following three credit courses: EDCI 5700 – Foundations of Bilingual Education, EDCI 5705 – Curricular Issues in Bilingual Education, EDCI 5715 – Bilingualism and Second Language Acquisition, EDCI 5720 – Bilingual Education and Biliteracy, EDCI 5740 – Latinos and U.S. Education, EDCI 5742 – Sheltered English Instruction for English Language Learners, EDCI 5750 – Language Diversity and Literacy, EDCI 5830 – Theory & Practice of Intercultural Education, EDCI 5875 – Multicultural Education, EDCI 5885 – Introduction to Critical Pedagogy, EDCI 5890 – Educational Linguistics, EDCI 5895 – Language Ideology & Education, GERM/ALDS/CLCS 5324 – Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship & Human Rights, GERM/ALDS/CLCS 5325 – Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship and Human Rights II.

This proposal would add EDCI 5042 – Diversity, Culture, and Music Education.

Current Catalog Copy:

Three credits of one of the following: EDCI 5700, 5705, 5715, 5720, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5875, 5885, 5890, 5895, CLCS 5324, or GERM 5325.

Proposed Catalog Copy:

Three credits of one of the following: EDCI 5042, 5700, 5705, 5715, 5720, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5875, 5885, 5890, 5895, CLCS 5324, or GERM 5325.

- *Jaci reviewed the program change above. No discussion was needed, so Ann made a motion to approve this change, Zack seconded, and all voted in favor. (6-0).*

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: September 30, 2024

APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: September 30, 2024

APPROVAL BY C&C COMMITTEE: October 22, 2024

APPROVAL BY NEAG FACULTY: October 30, 2024

- *The meeting adjourned at 10:13am.*