

SPECIAL REPORT
OF THE
ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL
and
GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
concerning

REVISION OF A DEGREE PROGRAM
IN
COMMUNICATION (BA)
(#5888)

Presented at the
789th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
October 17, 2019

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

Wesley Autio, Carol Barr, Carolyn Bassett, Bryan Beck, William Brown, Allison Butler, D. Anthony Butterfield, Marcy Clark, Elizabeth Connor, Sharon Dormier, Wei Fan, Diane Flaherty, Laura Francis, Jennifer Heuer, Maeve Howett, Patrick Kelly, Matthew Komer, Linda Lowry, Roberta Marvin, Ernest May, Ruthanne Paradise, MJ Peterson, Sarah Pfatticher, Jennifer Randall, Kregg Strehorn, Patrick Sullivan, Jack Wileden, Kate Woodmansee

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

The Academic Matters Council recommends approval of this proposal.

GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Anna Floch Arcello, Philippe Bailargeon, Jessica Barr, Carol Barr, Jeffrey Beaulieu, Justin Fermann, Cynthia Gaudet, Stephen Olbrys Gencarella, Ela Gezen, Cynthia Goheen, Patricia Gubitosi, Charles Hsueh, Dori McKracken, MJ Peterson, Elsa Petit, Sarah Pfatteicher, Mei-Yau Shih, Razvan Sibii, Reiko Sono, Martha Stassen, Patrick Sullivan, Kalpen Trivedi, Annette Vadnais, Jack Wileden, Martha Yoder

GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

The General Education Council recommends approval of this proposal.

Please describe your proposal

We propose that courses used to fulfill General Education Requirements cannot also be used to fulfill the Communication Department's 9-credit "International/Intercultural Education" Requirement. In other words, no double counting FROM General Education Requirements to the International/Intercultural Education Requirement within the Communication major requirements.

The proposed change makes no substantive changes in major requirements. It simply closes a loophole that was inadvertently created when the Communication Department created the new International and Intercultural Education Requirements to take the place of the SBS Global Education Requirement.

Please describe the existing program requirements, listing all required courses and available electives, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.

Rather than giving all major requirements, the following is only the language for the requirement affected by the proposed change:

9 credits International/Intercultural Education

These 9 credits can be any combination of foreign language, study abroad, or regional studies courses (drawn from the SBS master list of approved courses).

Please describe the requirements that you are proposing, listing course requirements, elective options, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.

The only change from the existing requirement is the *starred* text, which limits double counting of courses.

9 credits International/Intercultural Education (IIE)

These 9 credits can be any combination of:

- Foreign language
- Courses taken from the SBS International & Intercultural Course List (*no courses applied to fulfill General Education Requirements may also count toward this course option*)
- Departmentally approved study abroad (*courses may not be double counted for other non-IIE degree requirements*)

Please provide the rationale for these revisions.

Under the SBS college level Global Education Requirement, no double counting of courses was allowed FROM General Education courses TO the Global Ed Requirement. When the Communication department added an International/Intercultural Requirement, it was not

our intention to create the opportunity for large-scale double counting of courses FROM General Education to the International/Intercultural Requirement. The proposed revision simply closes this inadvertent loophole.

For a detailed explanation of our rationale, please see the attached pdf titled “Rationale for Correcting Double Counting of Courses FROM General Education TO International-Intercultural Req within Three SBS BA Majors.”

If this proposal requires no additional resources, say so and briefly explain why. If this proposal requires additional resources, explain how they will be paid for. For proposals involving instruction, indicate how many new enrollments are expected and whether the courses have room to accommodate them.

This requires no additional resources. It will involve a slight tweak to the ARR programming.

Attachments:

1. Rationale for Correcting Double Counting of Courses FROM General Education TO International-Intercultural Req within Three SBS BA Majors

**MOTION: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision of a Degree Program In
09-20 Communication (BA) as presented in Sen Doc. No. 20-017.**

Rationale for Correcting Unintended Double Counting FROM General Education Courses TO New International/Intercultural Requirements within Three SBS B.A. Majors

3-27-19

This rationale applies to these three proposals:

5725 (Sociology) Katherine M. Fabel, Proposer

5878 (Anthropology) Boone Wingate Shear, Proposer

5888 (Communication) Benjamin H. Bailey, Proposer

In 2017, SBS B.A. majors replaced the college level Global Education Requirement with International and Intercultural Requirements that are part of the B.A. degree requirements.

Background under the College Level Global Education Requirement (Old Curriculum): Double Counting Was Not Allowed FROM Courses Fulfilling General Education Requirements TO the Global Ed Requirement

All credits earned to satisfy the Global Education Requirement, except those taken to meet the Certificate Option (see below), must be in addition to credits earned to satisfy General Education and Major Requirements. All credits must be graded; they cannot be taken on a Pass/Fail basis. Credits can be earned in education abroad programs, with the approval of the Global Education Coordinator or a Certificate Program Advisor (if the Certificate Option is chosen).

B.A. Departments Expected Double Counting to **Not** be Allowed FROM Courses Fulfilling General Education Requirements TO those fulfilling the International/Intercultural Requirements included within Major Requirements in the New Curriculum

The B.A. departments added international and intercultural requirements within the degree requirements when they ended the Global Education Requirement. They expected but did not explicitly state in their proposals that courses that counted for General Education requirements could not be double counted as also fulfilling International/Intercultural requirements within the major.

The Expectation of No Double Counting FROM Courses Fulfilling GenEd TO those fulfilling International/Intercultural Requirement was Incorrect

The University policy actually says:

- As many as 3 courses from a student's major department can be applied to GenEd requirements: Junior Year Writing, Integrative Experience, one course applied to another GenEd requirement, and one course applied to a Diversity requirement. There is no limit on GenEd or Diversity courses that can be counted toward major requirements.

Note:

- There are **specified limits** for courses counting in the direction FROM the major department TO GenEd as noted in the first sentence above (As many as 3 courses...).

- There is **no limit** for courses counting in the direction FROM GenEd TO major requirements as stated in the second sentence above (This is no limit...).

Thus, there is no limit on double counting FROM Courses Fulfilling GenEd TO Courses Fulfilling International/Intercultural Requirements that are part of the major requirements. This was not the intent of the majors in submitting their new curricula.

We became aware of this problem starting with New Student Orientation in summer 2018. For example, a student in Communication who signed up for two GenEd courses had these also automatically fulfill two courses in the International/Intercultural Requirement within the major requirements on the Academic Requirements Report (ARR). This was not intended and undermines the International/Intercultural Requirement within the major requirements.

Fixing This Problem

The proposals fix this problem by following the intent of the B.A. programs to not allow double counting FROM GenEd courses TO international/intercultural courses.


Julie Caswell checked with Claire Hamilton, Co-Chair of the GenEd Council about whether a department could limit double counting in this way. Claire replied on 8/23/18:

If students are taking multiple courses within their major that are also GenEds that's fine with GenEd but only 3 will count towards satisfying the GenEd requirement. If a department wanted to limit GenEd courses within their major that would be fine with GenEd.

Example of How to Implement No Double Counting by Major:

Communication

What Current ARR Says

 **7. Take 9 units of Intercultural/International Education courses**

Not Satisfied: 7. Take 9 units of Intercultural/International Education courses. These courses must have an international focus, be a foreign language, and/or be taken during a departmentally approved study abroad program. (r11769,ln110)

- Units: 9.00 required, 0.00 taken, 9.00 needed

New Suggested Language for ARR

9 credits International/Intercultural Education (IIE)
 These 9 credits can be any combination of

- Foreign language

- Courses taken from the [SBS International & Intercultural Course List](#) (no courses applied to fulfill General Education Requirements may also count toward this course option)
- Departmentally approved study abroad (courses may not be double counted for other non-IIE degree requirements)

SBS and departments have reviewed all B.A. majors and developed appropriate no double counting language.

Double counting is problem to be fixed under degree requirements of:

- Anthropology (in relation to SBS International & Intercultural Course List): Faculty Senate Proposal #5878 is submitted
- Communication (in relation to SBS International & Intercultural Course List): Faculty Senate Proposal #5888 is submitted
- Sociology (in relations to Sociology's Departmental List of Intl & Intercultural Courses); Faculty Senate Proposal #5725 is submitted
- Economics (in relation to SBS International & Intercultural Course List): Economics will be submitting a change of degree requirements to Faculty Senate in the future

Double counting is not a problem to be fixed under degree requirements of:

- Journalism (uses one course from SBS International & Intercultural Course List as an option for International/Intercultural Requirement, department does not view double counting as a concern)
- Legal Studies (uses Global Law & Society Course List, allows double counting with other degree requirements, list has limited overlap with GenEd courses)
- Political Science (uses Global Knowledge & Skills List, double counting for other degree requirements not allowed, list has limited overlap with GenEd courses)
- STPEC (course list is an approved portfolio of courses with intl & international focus assembled from student's coursework)