

**University Curriculum Committee  
September 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

The University Curriculum Committee met on **Thursday, September 23** at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom Meeting.

**Members Present:**

Melinda Anderson	Julie Baker	Jeff Boles	Brittany Copley
Lori Maxwell	Kim Hanna	Fred Vondra	Jerry Gannod
Thomas Timmerman	Stephen Robinson	Sharon Huo	Richard Rand
Linda Null	Jennifer Shank	Barbara Jared	Ben Mohr
Michael Allen	Wesley Pech	Janet Whiteaker	Brandi Fletcher
Jeff Roberts	Colin Hill	Christy Killman	Bruce Greene
Kent Dollar	Jeannette Luna	Allen MacKenzie	Steven Sharp
Lisa Zagumny	Darron Smith	Brenda Wilson	Kim Winkle
Allan Mills	Addison Dorris, Student	Jeremy Wendt, Chair	Chris Brown
Mariam Abbas, Student	Edith Duvier	Julie Galloway	Holly Stretz
Kayla Sorensen, Student			

**Members Absent:**

Mohan Rao	Lori Bruce	Jennifer Shank	Martin Sheehan
Mike Gotcher	Thomas Payne	Brandon Johnson	Steve Frye
Bruce Greene	Chris Wilson	LTC James Bryant	Savannah Griffin, Student

**Official Representative(s):**

Liz Sheets FOR	Rita Barnes	Sharon Holderman FOR	Doug Bates
Kumar Yelamarthi FOR	Joseph Slater	Elizabeth Honeycutt FOR	Stephanie Kazanas
Braxton Westbrook FOR	Melody Roth, Student		

**Guest(s):**

Simone McKelvey	Mary McCaskey		
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**Outline of Proceedings:**

<b>1.</b>	Approval of Agenda	<b>6.</b>	Economics, Finance, and Marketing
<b>2.</b>	Approval of March 25, 2021 Minutes	<b>7.</b>	Decision Sciences and Management
<b>3.</b>	Earth Sciences	<b>8.</b>	Music
<b>4.</b>	English	<b>9.</b>	Communication
<b>5.</b>	Computer Science		

Proceedings:

Perceiving a quorum, Dr. Jeremy Wendt, Chair of Committee, called the meeting to order at 3:00pm via Zoom.

**1. Approval of agenda**

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Christy Killman

**Vote.** Motion carried.

**2. Approval of minutes, March 25, 2021**

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Michael Allen

**Vote.** Motion carried.

**3. Earth Sciences**

**A. Course Change.**

**1) From:**

GEOG 4931. Senior Thesis Credit 3.

Prerequisite: GEOL 4930 and consent of instructor. Supervised independent study of an original research problem. Student is required to make a research proposal, collect data, review appropriate literature, write a paper and present orally the results of the research problem. (Available only to geology majors.)

**To:**

GEOG 4931. Senior Thesis Credit 3.

Prerequisite: **GEOG 4930** and consent of instructor. Supervised independent study of an original research problem. Student is required to make a research proposal, collect data, review appropriate literature, write a paper and present orally the results of the research problem. (Available only to geology majors.)

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried.

**4. English**

**A. Deletion of Prerequisite.**

**1) From:**

THEA 2015. Acting II. Lec. 3. Credit 3. Prerequisite: THEA 1015 and THEA 2155.

Continuation of the principles explored in THEA 1015 with a greater emphasis on scene work, text analysis, and character development.

**To:**

THEA 2015. Acting II. Lec. 3 Credit 3. **Prerequisite:** THEA 1015. Continuation of the principles explored in THEA 1015 with a greater emphasis on scene work, text analysis, and character development.

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried.

## 5. Computer Science

### A. Catalog/Prerequisite Changes.

#### 1) CSC 3220 – Fundamentals of Data Science

**From:**

Prerequisite: MATH 2010, MATH 3070 or MATH 3470 or MATH 4470 (5470), CSC 2220, CSC 3300, and C or better in CSC 1310. CSC 3300 and MATH 2010 may be taken concurrently.

**To:**

**Prerequisite: MATH 3070 or MATH 3470 or MATH 4470 (5470), CSC 2220, and C or better in CSC 1310. MATH 3070 or MATH 3470 or MATH 4470 (5470) may be taken concurrently.**

#### 2) CSC 4220 – Data Mining and Machine Learning

**From:**

Prerequisite: CSC 2400 and CSC 3220.

**To:**

**Prerequisite: MATH 3070 or MATH 3470 or MATH 4470 (5470), MATH 2010, and CSC 2400**

#### 3) CSC 4260 – Advanced Data Science and Applications

**From:**

Prerequisite: CSC 3220 and CSC 4220.

**To:**

**Prerequisite: CSC 3220, CSC 3300, and MATH 2010.**

#### 4) **Replace the 5-credit hour CSC Elective requirement in the second semester of the senior year with a 3-credit hour CSC Elective requirement and a 2-credit hour Elective requirement.**

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried

## 6. Economics, Finance, and Marketing

## A. General Course Requirement Changes.

- 1) Remove the ECON3320/3810/3820 requirement from the General Course requirements of the B.S.B.A. Our arguments for this request are the following:
  - a. ECON3810/3820 are intermediate courses specifically designed for economics majors. Their relatively high level of theoretical abstraction makes them poorly suited for a general course requirement;
  - b. A significant number of topics that are covered in ECON3320 are already covered in ECON2020, such as the structure of the financial system, the role of money in the economy, the behavior of interest rates, central banks and the Federal Reserve System, the money supply process, aggregate demand and aggregate supply, and monetary policy theory;
  - c. A reallocation of resources from ECON3320 to other courses, such as ECON2020 or a major elective, will benefit our lower-level students by reducing the number of Principles sections taught by part-time/adjunct faculty and our upper-level students by offering them more options for electives;

This change will impact the following majors in the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree program, and hours will be adjusted as indicated:

- Finance (add 3 hours of Business Elective)
- Marketing (add 3 hours of Business Elective)
- Business and Information Technology (add 3 hours of Business Elective)
  - Business Intelligence and Analytics concentration (add 3 hours of General Elective)
- Business Management
  - General Management concentration (add 3 hours of General Elective)
  - Human Resource Management concentration (add 3 hours of General Elective)
  - Production / Operations Management concentration (add 3 hours of General Elective)

(This change has already been made in the Accounting major via previous memo.)

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Michael Allen

**Vote.** Motion carried

## B. Addition of Courses.

- 1) **ECON 4700 – Game Theory**  
**Lec. 3. Credit 3.**

Pre-requisite: MATH 1830 or MATH 1845 or MATH 1910 or consent of instructor. Analysis of strategic decision-making. Sequential games, simultaneous games, mixed-strategy equilibrium, Bayesian games, signaling games, collective action games, repeated games, mechanism design, and evolutionary games.

**2) MKT 4200 – Marketing Analytics**

Lec. 3. Credit 3.

Pre-requisite: MKT 3400 and ECON 3610 or consent of instructor.

Application of data science to marketing decisions, with emphasis on data visualization, pricing, forecasting, market segmentation, A/B testing, conjoint analysis, retailing, and advertising.

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried

**7. Decision Sciences and Management**

**A. Elective Changes.**

Students in the Business Management – General Management Concentration are required to take 3 hours of DS Electives in addition to 12 other hours of DS classes (DS2810, DS3520, DS3620, DS3841). We have a limited number of DS electives appropriate for General Management students, so we would like to remove this requirement and allow students to take any Business course as an elective.

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Darron Smith

**Vote.** Motion carried

**8. Music**

**A. New Degree Proposal.**

The Tennessee Tech School of Music currently offers Bachelor's degrees in music education and music performance, as well as four minors: music history, music performance, music technology, and music theory & composition. While these degree programs continue to be successful, there is a growing need for a new program that provides students with greater curricular flexibility, broader content, and training for careers that don't fit the traditional models of music education and performance. The purpose of this program is to broaden the educational opportunities and graduation pathways for students seeking an accredited degree in music.

The School of Music seeks to add the Bachelor of Science degree to expand degree offerings in the College of Fine Arts and create new interdisciplinary collaborations with STEM programs. This new degree will provide opportunities for students who wish to acquire a liberal arts degree while also receiving strong musical training. In addition, it will serve transfer students and/or students not wishing or unable to complete the requirements of the rigorous professional Bachelor of Music degrees, which have little curricular flexibility; thus, we anticipate higher student retention and enrollment as a result of this new degree offering.

Currently, the BM degree in music education is Tennessee Tech's most popular music degree program. Unfortunately, the licensure benchmarks that occur during the junior year have been problematic for many students, contributing to a low School of Music retention rate of 61.5% over the last four years. Retention issues among the junior and senior class are overwhelmingly attributed to failing the PRAXIS subject assessment tests. The proposed BS degree will provide these students the opportunity to graduate with a music degree, rather than being forced to change academic disciplines.

As the music industry has evolved, the traditional BM degrees in music education and music performance can have a seemingly narrow focus. For this reason, this BS degree will create natural and less restrictive opportunities for collaboration with Tennessee Tech's strong STEM programs. Students will be given the tools to creatively marry their artistic background with their love of science, technology, engineering, and math. This STEM collaboration could take form in several possible areas, most notably Live Sound Engineering.

Conversely, the proposed degree plan may have the potential to appeal to STEM students who may choose to double-major and/or for whom the STEM specific program, ultimately, might not suit well. Thus, the proposed BS is the more logical and appropriate degree offering given the STEM focus and culture of TN Tech. This contemporary, wide-ranging, and interdisciplinary approach, will prepare students for numerous career paths of the ever-changing music industry. Further, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on many music education and performance-based positions. While these affects are hopefully temporary, there will certainly be long-term implications and permanent re-structuring of many traditional career paths in music.

The curricular flexibility of the BS degree allows students to pursue a minor in a complementary field of study. This flexibility enables students to further diversify their skillset while also maintaining eligibility for Federal Financial Aid. Currently, our BM degrees are void of electives, eliminating the possibility of Federal Financial Aid for any courses outside of the BM music curriculums. The BS degree will provide the mechanism to offer curricular flexibility alongside the financial support that many of our students require.

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried

## **9. Communication**

### **A. Course Deletion/Course Changes/Addition of New Minor.**

#### **1) Journalism Program Course Deletion**

**UNIV 1020 First-Year Connections Credit 1.**

#### **2) Deletion/Addition of Journalism Courses:**

**Delete:**

**JOUR 4843 (5843) Special Problems Credit 3.**

**JOUR 4846 (5846) Special Problems Credit 6.**

**JOUR 4849 (5849) Special Problems Credit 9.**

Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor. JOUR 2200 is a prerequisite for all other journalism courses. Independent work in mass media research and/or writing related to student academic and career goals.

**Add:**

JOUR 4840 (5840) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

JOUR 4841 (5841) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

JOUR 4842 (5842) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor and JOUR 2200. Independent study of an approved topic (area) within mass media research and/or writing related to student academic and career goals under the supervision of a member of the journalism faculty. Up to nine credit hours may be earned by independent study.

*\*Friendly Amendment: JOURN 4840 was already in Banner. Dr. Sharon Huo approved the changes. The following changes have been made to the addition of courses:*

**From:** JOUR 4840 (5840) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

JOUR 4841 (5841) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

JOUR 4842 (5842) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

**To:** JOUR 4870 (5870) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

JOUR 4871 (5871) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

JOUR 4872 (5872) Independent Study Credit 1, 2, 3.

### 3) Corrections and Updates

- a. Change to the Visual Communication emphasis area
  - i. Add JOUR 3370 Fundamentals of Photojournalism
- b. Change to the Digital ~~Electronic and Multi-Media~~ Multimedia Production emphasis area
  - i. Add JOUR 3370 Fundamentals of Photojournalism
- c. Change to the Sports ~~Multi-Media~~ Multimedia Communication emphasis area
  - i. Add JOUR 3370 Fundamentals of Photojournalism
- d. ~~Change to Writing: Fiction/Non-Fiction emphasis area~~
  - ~~i. Delete JOUR4843 (5843) Special Problems Credit 3.~~

*\* Friendly Amendment: Number 3, b, the name to the emphasis area was incorrect. It should have been Digital Multimedia Production instead of Digital and Electronic Multi-Media. Also, Number 3, c, the name of the emphasis area was incorrect. It should have been Sports Multimedia Communication not Sports Multi-Media Communication. In addition, number 3, d, should not have been added to the memo. This needs to be disregarded.*

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried

**4) Addition of Minor.**

A minor in journalism will consist of a total of 15 hours and must include nine hours of upper-division journalism courses. The minor in journalism will consist of the following courses:

JOUR 2200 Mass Communication in a Changing Society Credit 3.

JOUR 2220 News Reporting and Copy Editing Credit 3.

Students must take nine credit hours of additional upper-division journalism courses. At least one must be from the courses listed below:

JOUR 3470 Public Relations Writing Credit 3.

JOUR 4710 (5710) Literary Journalism Credit 3.

JOUR 4820 (5820) Advanced Reporting Credit 3.

JOUR 4830 (5830) Feature Writing Credit 3.

JOUR 4930 (5930) Advanced Copy Editing Credit 3.

**Motion to approve.** Lisa Zagumny

**Second.** Braxton Westbrook

**Vote.** Motion carried

**No other such matters being presented, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31pm.**