

School of Journalism
Curriculum Meeting, December 7, 2012

Faculty and staff in attendance: Barbara Barnett, Bob Basow, Tim Bengtson, Kerry Benson, Peter Bobkowski, Ann Brill, John Broholm, Jeff Browne, Pam Fine, Mugur Geana, Jimmy Gentry, Malcolm Gibson, David Guth, Penny Hodge, Carol Holstead, Mark Johnson, Kevin Lee, Linda Lee, Tien Lee, Denise Linville, Chuck Marsh, Dan McCarthy, Lisa McLendon, Corrie Moore, Kelli Nichols, Patty Noland, Scott Reinardy, Hyunjin Seo, Max Utsler, Natasha Veaser, Tom Volek, Doug Ward and Mike Williams.

All journalism students would be required to:

- Complete 40 hours in their major; they could take up to 48 hours in journalism.
- Complete a minor in any subject with at least 18 hours.
- Complete 36 hours in the KU core (up to 18 hours of KU core courses could also be journalism courses).

Action: Approve provision that allows students to take up to 18 journalism hours in the KU core.

In addition, all journalism school students would take courses to boost their marketability.

Scott Reinardy made the motion to approve this provision and Linda Lee seconded the motion. Discussion was followed by a vote with all in favor.

Business and leadership

Action: Require or recommend?

Back story: The KU core does not require any business or leadership courses. We currently require all students to take Econ 104, 142 or 144. This expands students' options.

Courses would include:

- Coms 201 – Introduction to Leadership
- DCSI 305 – Decision-making in business
- Finance 101 – Personal finance
- Management 305 – Survey of Management & Leadership
- Entrepreneurship 301 – Starting your own business
- Entrepreneurship 302 – Financing your own business
- Economics 104 – Introductory Economics
- Economics 142 – Principles of Microeconomics
- Economics 144 – Principles of Macroeconomics
- Journalism 616 – Financial Basics for Communicators
- Journalism 617 – Multimedia Management & Leadership
- PUAD 641 – Public Administration Leadership
- Or, a course approved by the assistant or associate dean

Mugur Geana made the motion to require business and leadership courses. Bob Basow seconded the motion. Discussion was followed by a vote with all in favor except one opposed.

Foreign language

Action: Require or recommend? One year or two?

Back story: This is not required in the KU core. The j-school currently requires students to take two years (four semesters) of foreign language to achieve intermediate proficiency. Students can test out of sections of a foreign language. Students can take any foreign language. However, CLAS is considering a provision that would require all students take four semesters of one foreign language OR three semesters of one language and one semester of a different language.

David Guth made the motion to require students to take two years (four semesters) of foreign language by giving students the option of reaching fourth semester proficiency in one language or third semester proficiency in one language plus one semester another language. Malcolm Gibson seconded the motion. Discussion followed and the question was called by Mike Williams. A vote was taken with all in favor except three opposed.

Quantitative literacy

Action: Require more than one math course?

The back story: Students are required to take one quantitative literacy course as part of the KU core. Students with MATH ACT scores of 26 or higher are likely to be exempt from the quantitative literacy requirement in the core. The j-school currently requires students to take one math course beyond college algebra (MATH 101). This course can be Math 105 (topics), 106, 111, 115, 121, 141 (all are calculus), 365 (elementary statistics) or Biol 570 (Intro to biostats). This would require students to take an additional quantitative literacy course. So, it's possible students would take 101, plus one additional math course from those listed in the Core or in the list below or another approved by the assistant or associate dean.

Courses could include:

- Any of the math courses listed above, including statistics
- Acct 200 – Financial accounting
- Acct 205 – Survey of accounting
- Psy 200 – Research methods in psychology

Mugur Geana made the motion to require a basic math course plus a statistic course and added that the course list needs to be revised. Lisa McLendon seconded the motion. After discussion, Tom Volek suggested that the motion be withdrawn. Instead a vote was taken with five in favor and the majority opposed. After further discussion, Geana made the motion to require one math course beyond Math 101. Volek seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor and one opposed.

History

Action: Require or recommend?

The back story: The KU core does not specifically require a history course. It does require one unit each in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and a history course could

fulfill the humanities requirement if approved by the UCCC. The j-school currently requires students to take a humanities course, two western civ courses, and one non-western culture requirement, which can be a history course. This proposal would require j-school students to take a history course – but not specifically western civ or non-western courses.

The list of courses would include:

Jour 503 – Media history
Humanities and Western Civ 110 – Intro to Humanities
Western Civ 114 – Western Civ I Honors
Western Civ 115 – Western Civ II Honors
Western Civ 204 – Western Civ I
Western Civ 205 – Western Civ II
HWC 300 – Studies in Western Civ
History 101 – Introduction to history
Hist 118 – History of East Asian
Hist 120 – History of Latin America
Hist 124 – Latin American Culture
Hist 128 – US through the Civil War
Hist 129 – US history after the Civil War
Hist 136 – History of early science

Mugur Geana made the motion to require one history course and to add the addendum that any history course approved by the assistant or associate dean may be taken. Bob Basow seconded the motion. After discussion, the question was called and a vote was taken with all in favor and four opposed.

Grammar

Action: Make one-hour grammar class mandatory for all journalism students.

Back story: There is no KU core requirement for grammar. The KU core writing requirement focuses on writing and rhetorical flexibility; there is no grammar requirement. The English department does not include grammar in its ENGL 101, 102, or 105 classes. J-school faculty continue to express frustration that students do not know grammar basics. Students will still be able to test out of this requirement and the test will be revised to make it more rigorous.

Scott Reinardy made the motion to adopt the action and make revisions to the grammar test used for opting out to make it more rigorous. Bob Basow seconded the motion. After discussion, Mugur Geana called the question and a vote was taken with all in favor.

Writing

Action: Allow at least one KU core writing course within the j-school.

The back story: The KU core requires two writing course. Currently, we require students to take three English courses. This does away with the requirement for three English courses, including a 200-level or above literature course. Instead, students would take two writing courses—one outside the j-school and one inside the j-school.

Courses would include:

English 101, 102, or 105
Jour 304 Media Writing

Tom Volek made the motion to adopt the action, include the statement that both courses must meet KU core requirements and add the addendum to allow any writing course approved by the assistant or associate dean. Scott Reinardy seconded the motion. After discussion, Volek withdrew his motion and moved to accept the action as written. Mugur Geana seconded the motion. A vote was taken with five opposed.

Oral communication

Action: None; keep as is.

Back story: This is a KU core requirement. Currently, students can take Coms 130 Public Speaking or Coms 230 Debate. No change.

Natural science

Action: None; keep as is.

Back story: KU core requires one course. The j-school currently requires one natural class with lab. No change.

Social sciences

Action: None; no change.

Back story: KU core requires one course J-school requires. J-school requires one course. No change. JOUR 101 has been approved in the KU Core to fulfill Goal 3 (social science). Would J101 fulfill the social science requirement for journalism students or do we want them to take another?

Humanities

Action: None; no change.

Back story: KU core requires one course. J-school requires one course. No change.

Diversity

Action: None; no change.

Back story: KU core proposes two courses – one focused on the U.S., one focused on international cultures (this is being debated). J-school requires all students to meet a diversity requirement. Faculty voted to require students to meet their j-school diversity requirement within the school. No change.

Mike Williams made the motion to make no changes in the oral communication, natural science, social sciences, humanities and diversity requirements. Mugur Geana seconded the motion. Discussion was followed by a vote with all in favor.