

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

To: Emily Tai, Academic Senate Steering Committee

From: Philip A. Pecorino, Chairperson, Committee on Curriculum

Date: April 7, 2009

Subject: Monthly Report

The Committee on Curriculum has approved of the following changes and forwards them for the consideration of the Academic Senate.

I. Course Additions

A. Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

1) LC-121 Mandarin for Students of Chinese Heritage I 4 hours, 4 credits, 1 hour weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: Departmental permission.

Course description: This course is designed for students of Chinese heritage who have some listening and speaking skills in Mandarin or other Chinese dialects. The focus is on reading, writing, and grammar, along with improvement of oral communication skills. Departmental permission is required.

Rationale: The predominant population in some parts of Queens is Chinese. With the growing Chinese student population at QCC, the Chinese program faces an increasing number of students of Chinese heritage who wish to improve and expand their Mandarin language skills while fulfilling their foreign language requirements. For students who take Chinese to fulfill their language requirement, this course serves as the first course of the language classes they need. Students can also take this course as an elective. The aim of this course is to utilize students' previous language background to lay a solid foundation for further Chinese language study (second level, LC122). Enrollment of about 30 is expected the first time it is offered and it will be offered every semester.

2) LC-122 Mandarin for Students of Chinese Heritage II 4 hours, 4 credits, 1 hour weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: LC121 or permission of the department

Course description: Continuation of LC121. It aims to consolidate the foundation which students have built in LC121, to expand their vocabulary, to introduce them to more complex grammatical structures, and to continue to strengthen their oral communication skills.

Rationale: The predominant population in some parts of Queens is Chinese. With the growing Chinese student population at QCC, the Chinese program faces an increasing number of students of Chinese heritage who wish to improve and expand their Mandarin language skills while fulfilling their foreign language requirements. For students who take Chinese to fulfill their language requirement, this course serves as the second course of the language classes they need. Students can also take this course as an elective. The aim of this course is to consolidate the foundation which students have built in LC121, to expand their vocabulary, and to introduce them to more complex grammatical structures. Enrollment of about 30 is expected the first time it is offered and it will be offered every semester.

B. Department of Biological Sciences and Geology

1) BI-457 Seminar in Biological Sciences 2 class hours and 2 credits

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: BI-201 or CH-151 or BI-140

Course description: An introduction to reading, analyzing and interpreting primary scientific literature. The format of the course is a series of lectures by visiting researchers and faculty on various biological topics. Students will prepare for each seminar through directed readings from primary literature. Appropriate for biology and chemistry students.

Rationale: Early exposure to reading and critically analyzing primary literature develops skills that will benefit students throughout their academic careers. The CREATE (consider, read, elucidate, hypotheses, analyze and interpret data, and think of the new experiment) method of guiding students through journal articles has been shown to increase understanding of and interest in research among minority undergraduates (Hoskins et al. 2007). This seminar course will teach students how to read primary literature and introduce them to a wide range of fields within the biological sciences. The lectures will provide information that might not be covered in classes, or covered in less detail. Students will have the opportunity to interact with invited researchers from Queens College or QCC faculty members and learn about their goals and personal experiences as well their research.

2) BI-480 Environmental Science 3 class hours lecture, 3 class hours lab, 4 credits

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: BE-112 (or 205) and BE-122 (or 226) or satisfactory scores on the CUNY ACT Assessment test

Course description: An introduction to Earth's natural systems, including ecosystem structure and function. Topics include human impact on the environment, air and water pollution, global climate change, and sustainability of natural resources and environmental quality. Field trips are required.

Rationale: This course is needed to increase student awareness of problems related to their environment, link them to their natural world, and help them develop the skills needed to move toward sustainability. It will also introduce career opportunities in fields related to remediation and sustainability (green jobs).

NOTE: Students will not be given credit for both BI-501 and BI-480..

C. Department of History

1) HI-144 Modern Economic History 3 hours, 3 credits

Prerequisites: BE-122 (or 226) and BE-112 (or 205), or satisfactory score on the CUNY/ACT Assessment Test.

Course description: History of the global economy from the development of capitalism to contemporary economic issues including finance, trade, industrialism, energy, and business organization. Readings will be drawn from primary and secondary source material.

Rationale: More than ever students need to understand the structure and problems of the global economy for their personal well-being and to live as responsible citizens. This course has already been offered on a trial basis and enrolled 29 students in the Spring of 2007; projections are that it would enroll 35 students each semester if offered every other Spring.

2) HI-191 History of Genocide in the Twentieth Century 3 hours, 3 credits

Prerequisites: BE-122 (or 226) and BE-112 (or 205), or satisfactory score on the CUNY/ACT Assessment Test.

Course description: Major political, economic, intellectual, social, and scientific factors are considered in order to understand the cause and nature of genocides in a global setting. The course traces the development of the concept of 'Race' and the ideas and practices of annihilation and extermination in the twentieth century. Case-studies of, and comparisons amongst genocides from 1890 to the present construct a global history of the twentieth century in the context of genocide. Readings will be drawn from primary and secondary source material.

Rationale: The importance of the topic of genocide in the current world; a broad interest among students; use of the available Holocaust center and resources on campus; fulfill the mission of the college of promoting intellectual inquiry and global awareness among students.

II. Course Changes

A. Massage Therapy Program

1. Change in the description of HA-100

FROM:

HA-100 Foundations of Therapeutic Massage

3 hours 3 credits

Prerequisite: BE-112 (or 205) and BE-122 (or 226) or satisfactory placement on the CUNY/ACT Assessment Test. Open to Massage Therapy majors only.

An introduction to the massage therapy profession. Topics will include: the history and role of massage therapy in health and illness, different styles of bodywork, ethics and professionalism, and self-care practice. [Foundational concepts necessary for the study of Eastern massage and Shiatsu will be explored.] Note: This is not a hands-on course.

TO:

HA-100 Foundations of Therapeutic Massage

3 hours 3 credits

Prerequisite: BE-112 (or 205) and BE-122 (or 226) or satisfactory placement on the CUNY/ACT Assessment Test. Open to Massage Therapy majors only.

An introduction to the massage therapy profession. Topics will include: the history and role of massage therapy in health and illness, different styles of bodywork, ethics and professionalism, **research literacy**, and self-care practice. Note: This is not a hands-on course.

Rationale: The Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation has designated research literacy as an important curriculum standard. Thus, HA-100, which is a Writing Intensive course,

is being revised to include research literacy content. The Eastern massage content will be covered in the Eastern courses (HA-101 and 103).

2. Changes in Pre and Co-requisites

HA-103 Eastern Massage II

FROM: Prerequisites: HA-100 and HA-101. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better

TO: Prerequisites: HA-100, HA-101, and BI-301. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better

HA-203 Massage Practicum I

FROM: Prerequisite: BI-331 [(completed with a grade of C or better)]

TO: Prerequisite: BI-331; co-requisites: HA-220 and 202. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better

HA-204 Massage Practicum II

FROM: Prerequisite: HA-203 [(completed with a grade of C or better)]

TO: Prerequisite: HA-203; co-requisite: HA-221. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better

HA-220 Pathology for Massage Therapy I

FROM: Prerequisites: BI-302, HA-104. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better.

TO: Prerequisites: Prerequisites: BI-302, HA-104; co-requisite: BI-325. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better

Rationale for pre and co-requisite changes: These changes ensure that students have all the courses they need prior to or alongside courses in the program.

3. Change in repeat policy

FROM: Students may repeat any HA course only once, on a space available basis.

TO: Students may repeat any HA or BI course only once, on a space available basis.

Rationale: Adding Biology courses to the limited repeat policy brings the policy into congruence with the C or better requirement for all BI and HA courses.

B. Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Changes in Course Prerequisites (High School background in Foreign Languages)

1. FROM:

LF-112 Elementary French II

4 class hours 4 credits

Prerequisites: LF-111 or [two years of high school French]

Continuation of LF-111. Weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required.

TO:

LF-112 Elementary French II

4 class hours 4 credits

Prerequisites: LF-111 or the equivalent

Continuation of LF-111. Weekly attendance in the

language laboratory is required.

2. FROM:

LF-213 Intermediate French I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LF-112, or [three years of high school French]
Review of French grammar; selected readings in French literature studied and analyzed.

TO:

LF-213 Intermediate French I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LF-112, or the equivalent .
Review of French grammar; selected readings in French literature studied and analyzed.

3. FROM:

LF-214 Intermediate French II
3 class hours 3 credits Offered as needed
Prerequisite: LF-213, or [four years of high school French]
Intensive training in literary analysis through study of French works. Emphasis on French composition and conversation.

TO:

LF-214 Intermediate French II
3 class hours 3 credits Offered as needed
Prerequisite: LF-213, or the equivalent
Intensive training in literary analysis through study of French works. Emphasis on French composition and conversation.

4. FROM:

LG-112 Elementary German II
4 class hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: LG-111, or [two years of high school German]

The study of basic German grammar is completed. Students learn to read easy German prose and express their ideas. Weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required.

TO:

LG-112 Elementary German II
4 class hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: LG-111, or the equivalent

The study of basic German grammar is completed. Students learn to read easy German prose and express their ideas. Weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required.

5. FROM:

LG-213 Intermediate German I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LG-112, or [three years of high school German]
Intensive review of German grammar through
practice of the phonological and grammatical
structure of German orally and in writing.
Selected readings in contemporary German prose.

TO:

LG-213 Intermediate German I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LG-112, or the equivalent
Intensive review of German grammar through
practice of the phonological and grammatical
structure of German orally and in writing.
Selected readings in contemporary German prose.

6. FROM:

LH-215 Intermediate Hebrew Conversation
2 class hours 3 credits Offered as needed
Prerequisite: LH-112, or [three years of high school Hebrew]
Hebrew.
Not credited toward the language requirement.
Elective credit only.
Intensive practice in spoken Hebrew for those
who have covered the fundamentals of grammar,
and desire to develop further fluency in
communicating. Not designed for native speakers
of the language.

TO:

LH-215 Intermediate Hebrew Conversation
2 class hours 3 credits Offered as needed
Prerequisite: LH-112, or the equivalent
Not credited toward the language requirement.
Elective credit only.
Intensive practice in spoken Hebrew for those
who have covered the fundamentals of grammar,
and desire to develop further fluency in
communicating. Not designed for native speakers
of the language.

RATIONALE: These changes reflect the Department's new placement testing procedure, whereby students are placed according to their performance on the placement exam and/or their prior college credits, rather than by the number of years of high school study. The number of years of high school study has not been changed as a determiner of the foreign language requirement for some programs such as the A.S. in Visual and Performing Arts and the A.S. in Business Administration.

CHANGES IN COURSE PREREQUISITES (GRADE)

1. From: LX-112 Elementary (Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, German) II
4 class hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: [LX-111 or the equivalent]
- To: LX-112 Elementary (Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, German) II
4 class hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: ~~LX-111~~ or the equivalent with a grade of C or better
2. From: LX-213 Intermediate (Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, German) I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [LX-112 or the equivalent]
- To: LX-213 Intermediate (Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, German) I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: ~~LX-112~~ or the equivalent with a grade of C or better
3. From: LX-214 Intermediate (Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, German) II
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [LX-213 or the equivalent]
- To: LX-214 Intermediate (Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, German) II
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: ~~LX-213~~ or the equivalent with a grade of C or better
4. From: LS-221 Workshop in Reading and Writing for Spanish Heritage Speakers I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [Placement to be determined by Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test and by Department]
- To: LS-221 Workshop in Reading and Writing for Spanish Heritage Speakers I
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LS-214 with a grade of C or better, or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test
5. From: LS-222 Workshop in Reading and Writing for Spanish Heritage Speakers II
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [LS-221 or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test]
- To: LS-222 Workshop in Reading and Writing for Spanish Heritage Speakers II
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LS-221 with a grade of C or better, or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test
6. From: LS-223 Workshop in Reading and Writing for Spanish Heritage Speakers III
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [LS-222 or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test]
- To: LS-223 Workshop in Reading and Writing for Spanish Heritage Speakers II
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LS-222 with a grade of C or better, or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test
7. From: LS-315 Readings in Contemporary Spanish American Literature

3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [LS-214 and/or LS 223, or permission of the Dept.]

To: LS-315 Readings in Contemporary Spanish American Literature
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LS 223 with a grade of C or better, or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test

8. From: LS-311 Spanish Literature of the 19th Century
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: [LS-214 and/or LS 223, or permission of the Dept.]

To: LS-311 Spanish Literature of the 19th Century
3 class hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: LS 223 with a grade of C or better, or placement through Native/Heritage Speakers Placement Test

Rationale:

Language learning is a cumulative process. The majority of students who perform below C in a language course that belongs to a learning sequence are unable to perform at a satisfactory level in the course that follows.

C. Department of Physics

CHANGES IN COURSE PREREQUISITES (GRADE)

From: PH-202 General Physics II
3 class hours 2 laboratory hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: PH-201

Second semester of PH-201,202 sequence. Topics include vibration and wave motion, electrostatics, electric and magnetic fields, electromagnetic waves, optics and topics in modern physics.

To: PH-202 General Physics II
3 class hours 2 laboratory hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: PH-201 (with a grade of C or better)

Second semester of PH-201,202 sequence. Topics include vibration and wave motion, electrostatics, electric and magnetic fields, electromagnetic waves, optics and topics in modern physics.

From: PH-302 College Physics II
3 class hours 1 recitation hour 2 laboratory hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: PH-301

Second semester course following PH-301. Topics include electro-magnetism, vibrations, wave phenomena and radiation, and modern physics.

To: PH-302 College Physics II
3 class hours 1 recitation hour 2 laboratory hours 4 credits
Prerequisite: PH-301 (with a grade of C or better)

Second semester course following PH-301. Topics include electro-magnetism, vibrations, wave phenomena and radiation, and modern physics.

From: PH-412 Calculus Physics II
2 class hours 2 recitation hours 2 laboratory hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: PH-411. Corequisite: MA-442

Fundamentals of heat, waves, and optics; includes heat transfer, first and second laws of thermodynamics, kinetic theory of gases; nature of light, geometrical and physical optics; optical instruments; sound.

To: PH-412 Calculus Physics II
2 class hours 2 recitation hours 2 laboratory hours 3 credits
Prerequisite: PH-411 (with a grade of C or better). Corequisite: MA-442

Fundamentals of heat, waves, and optics; includes heat transfer, first and second laws of thermodynamics, kinetic theory of gases; nature of light, geometrical and physical optics; optical instruments; sound.

From: PH-413 Calculus Physics III
2 class hours 2 recitation hours 2 laboratory hours 3.5 credits
Prerequisite: PH-411. Corequisite: MA-443

Electricity and magnetism. Includes Coulomb's law, electric field and potential, elementary DC and AC circuits; magnetic fields, induction, Maxell's equations.

To: PH-413 Calculus Physics III
2 class hours 2 recitation hours 2 laboratory hours 3.5 credits
Prerequisite: PH-411 (with a grade of C or better). Corequisite: MA-443

Electricity and magnetism. Includes Coulomb's law, electric field and potential, elementary DC and AC circuits; magnetic fields, induction, Maxell's equations.

Rationale: As C indicates the minimum level of satisfactory work it does not make sense to allow a student to continue on in a subject where their work in the prerequisite course is unsatisfactory. While most students who pass physics I (201, 301 or 411) with less than a C realize they should not continue without retaking physics I, approximately 30% of these students go on to take physics 202, 302, 412 or 413 without repeating physics I. While most students (approximately 80%) achieving a C or better in physics I achieve satisfactory performance in their next physics course (202, 302, 412 or 413), only approximately 50% the students with less than a C achieve satisfactory performance. Moreover, the presence of underprepared students tends to slow the class down as instructors are forced to review more material, increasing the likelihood that some topics will be skipped.

III. Course Deletions

Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures From:

LF 115 French for the Traveler I

LF 116 French for the Traveler II

LF 311 French Theater of the Seventeenth Century

LF 312 French Literature of the Nineteenth Century

LF 313 French Literature of the Twentieth Century]

To:

Delete

RATIONALE: These courses have not been offered in the last 10 years. The French language coordinator wishes to delete them permanently from the catalog.

IV. Notice to the Academic Senate

On 9-23-08 the Committee reported in its monthly report to the Academic Senate the following:

"The Committee on Curriculum has communicated to the Office of Academic Affairs that in the Fall and Spring semesters the contact time for some classes is not in conformity with the NY State Education Department requirements (750 minutes per credit). In some cases the contact time in the last week of the semester has been shortened. This situation should be remedied through actions of the Office of Academic Affairs working with the Academic Departments involved and the Office of the Registrar."

We must now report that there has been no real progress on the resolution of this matter. Some time ago, the reasonable resolution discussed by the academic department chairs of scheduling the last week of the Fall and Spring semesters as with the previous 14 weeks was agreed to by all departments but one; Mathematics and Computer Science. It has not been explained as to why this matter has not since proceeded through governance for action by the Academic Senate.