1979

One Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE
BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Frank Newman

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled One Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on March 8, 1979.

4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Regents, completing the appropriate endorsement below.

5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on March 29, 1979 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Regents for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Regents, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

March 12, 1979 (date) Dorothy F. Donnelly Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

1. Returned.

2. a. Approved 

b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Regents

c. Disapproved

3/15/79 (date) Frank Newman President

Form revised 7/78
The Curricular Affairs Committee has adopted the following policy statement on Introductory level courses designed for special constituencies:

The Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee has been faced with a recurring problem on which a statement of policy is necessary. The purpose of such a statement is to guide the deliberations of departments in formulating a course and to aid the presentation to the Committee of the case for a new course. The problem is the proliferation of courses at the introductory level designed for special constituencies. These courses give rise to difficulties which are detrimental to the integrity of the University's curricula and to the allocation of the University's resources. Such courses are often of a lesser difficulty than existing introductory courses of similar scope which were originally developed to serve a general constituency.

For example, courses in technical fields designed to attract majors in non-technical fields, often to satisfy Division B requirements, overlap substantially with existing introductory courses originally designed for non-majors but requiring laboratory work and the minimal use of basic mathematics. The new courses eliminate the mathematics and the laboratories, thereby diffusing both the rigor and the value of the courses for the understanding of science and the work of scientists. If students do not have an adequate background in high school mathematics to take rigorous introductory science courses, they should be encouraged to take college level mathematics courses first. If the requirements designed to foster a liberal education are to have any real meaning, students must fulfill these requirements by taking courses which will adequately introduce them to the rigors of professional science. Such courses will also prevent later scheduling difficulties for students who wish to transfer into a scientific or technical field. If they had been considering a non-technical concentration and had taken special constituency courses to fulfill general education requirements, they will have a considerable deficiency in preparation to overcome. Finally, special constituency introductory courses may be a serious waste of valuable faculty time. Often the new courses are added to a curriculum without any consideration of eliminating other courses which the new courses substantially overlap.

The Curricular Affairs Committee asks that each department or college when developing a new introductory course thoroughly consider the problems noted above. When proposing the course for approval by the Curricular Affairs Committee, please document your deliberations over these issues and the extent to which the proposed course is subject to these problems. The Committee will examine with special care any requests to use such courses as part of a concentration or program requirement.

SECTION II

Curricular Matters Which Require Confirmation by the Faculty Senate:

College of Human Science and Services

Department of Human Development, Counseling, and Family Studies

CHANGE: Prefix, number, description and/or prerequisite for the following courses:

a. CDF 150 to "HCF 150 Personal Development"

b. CDF 200 to "HCF 200 Growth and Development of Children"

c. CDF 270 to "HCF 270 Introduction to Work with Children"

d. CDF 290 to "HCF 290 Fundamentals of Preschool Education"

e. CDF 350 to "HCF 350 Gerontology: Theory and Application (1, 3) Introduction to the study of aging processes: biological, psychological, and social theories. Health, social and other age-related problems will be examined in the classroom and in interaction with older people. (Lec. 2, Rec. 1) Staff"

f. CDF 330 to "HCF 330 Curriculum for Young Children...Pre: 201."

g. CDF 331 to "HCF 331 Literature for Children"

h. CDF 370 to "HCF 370 Nursery School Practicum...Pre: prior or concurrent registration in 301."
SECTION III

Joint Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee and Graduate Council on 400-Level Courses

At the Curricular Affairs Committee's meetings of February 5, 12, and 19, 1979 and the Graduate Council's Meeting of February 9, 1979, the following matters were considered and are now presented to the Faculty Senate.

A. Informational Matters:

College of Resource Development

Department of Plant and Soil Science

1. CHANGE: Prerequisite for the following courses:
   a. PLS 405 to "Pre: 204, BOT 245"
   b. PLS 432 to "Pre: 331"
   c. PLS 461 to "Pre: 212, BOT 245, organic chemistry desirable."
   d. PLS 475 to "Pre: 212, BOT 111, 245 and organic chemistry."

2. CHANGE: Description for PLS 444 by deleting "Residential areas used."

B. Curricular Matters Which Require Confirmation by the Faculty Senate:

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

The following courses:

a) SOC 423 Mortality and Morbidity (1,3) Study of demographic methods, trends, differentials and policy regarding death and illness; emphasis on the U.S. situation. (Lec. 3) Pre: 336 or permission of instructor. In alternate years. Staff

b) SOC 452 Class and Power (1,3) Class structures and patterns of power in advanced societies. Comparisons of inequality in capitalist and socialist societies; theories of the relation between class and power, class consciousness, conflict and accommodation. (Lec. 3) Pre: 336 or graduate standing. In alternate years. Gershuny

2) DELETE: SOC 412 Occupations, Professions and Social Structure (1 or 1,1,1)