

September 8, 2020

TO: Department Chairs
Program Directors
Directors of Undergraduate Studies

FROM: Rebekah Massengill, Associate Dean of the College

RE: Curricular Proposals for the Undergraduate Committee on the Course of Study

In preparation for the new academic year you may find the following overview helpful. We encourage you to follow these guidelines carefully in order to expedite the review and approval process. **Please keep in mind that approved course decommissions and course conversions will impact your department's course listing in the next year's Undergraduate Announcement.** We look forward to receiving your proposals. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me or Vicky Glosson (vtgt@princeton.edu) with any questions. Additional information may be found on our [website](#).

Type of Proposal	Submission Deadline	Accompanying Materials
"One-time-only" (OTO) Course Conversions <i>(A minimum of two offerings of an OTO course must have occurred before a course conversion proposal is accepted).</i> Permanent Course Decommissions	Course conversion and course decommission proposals are reviewed throughout the academic year. The final submission deadline for AY 2020-21 is April 6, 2021	Conversions: Memo from the Chair, Director, or DUS (i.e. "faculty memo") to the Committee on the Course of Study (COCS). Attach a recent course offerings proof and syllabus. Decommissions: Faculty memo to the COCS. The memo should include the course title, course number, and rationale. Submit all materials to Vicky Glosson via email three weeks prior to scheduled COCS meetings .
New OTO courses, new Term Topics, and new Topics categories	For Spring 2021: September 28, 2020 For Fall 2021: Early Spring	Faculty memo to Dean Rebekah Massengill, syllabus, and any cross-listing approvals. Upload materials through the Curriculum Info Workcenter (i.e. "Workcenter") in PeopleSoft during the fall and spring course offerings approval process.
Change in course number, course title, or course "ownership" (i.e. primary listing) Request to change the general education designation for an existing course.	Reviewed throughout the academic year	Faculty memo to Dean Massengill. Include a rationale for the change. Enter the proposed new designation through the Workcenter in PeopleSoft and upload a revised syllabus and rationale for the change.

Type of Proposal	Submission Deadline	Accompanying Materials
Freshman Seminar Proposals	February 1, 2021	Applications for new and repeat FRS must be submitted through the application portal. Include the title, description, syllabus, general education designation , and preferred semester.
New Certificate Programs	February 3, 2021	Faculty memo to the COCS, proposal, and draft Undergraduate Announcement language per guidelines below. Email all materials to Dean Massengill.
Material changes to departmental or program requirements (e.g., plan of study, prerequisites, changes to or the addition of tracks within a concentration.)	February 3, 2021	Faculty memo to Dean Massengill. The memo should provide a rationale for proposed changes. Department will submit approved changes in Drupal as part of the process to update the Undergraduate Announcement (UA).
Minor changes to existing departmental or program requirements	Reviewed during the annual UA update process	Submit changes in Drupal as part of the UA update process.

Guidelines for New Courses, New Term Topics, New Topics Categories, and Course Conversions

- **Memo:** New course proposals must include a memo from the Chair, Director of Undergraduate Studies, or Program Director (uploaded in the Course Management System, or CMS). The memo should state that the course comes with departmental/program approval and include the following information:
 - Relation of the proposed course to other courses in the department or program, or to similar courses in other fields.
 - Distribution area, if any, that the course will fulfill. Please note that the [Council on Science and Technology](#) must also approve the SEL or SEN designation for courses that have no prerequisites and are otherwise appropriate for the general education of all students.
 - Long-range plans for the course and its impact on the curriculum: (a) if the proposal is for a permanent course, please explain the role it will play in your undergraduate offerings; (b) if the proposal is for an OTO course, please indicate whether you expect to convert it to a permanent course should it prove to be successful.
 - Staffing resources available for the course. Please note, for example, if an existing course will be dropped or altered in conjunction with adding the proposed course. (Approval of a new course by the Committee on the Course of Study will not, itself, provide justification for an increase in FTEs or AI hours.)
- **Syllabus:** New course proposals must include a preliminary syllabus (uploaded in the CMS). Please be sure that dates listed in the syllabus are consistent with the Princeton academic calendar and that the deadlines adhere to the academic rules governing the submission of work (e.g., Dean's Date). The expectation of the Dean of the College is that each course will require an average of 6-9 hours of work outside of class per week. When assigning percentages to graded

components, please remember that no more than 50% of the final grade may be determined by any one assignment, and that participation should normally not exceed 30% of the final grade.

- **Cross-listing confirmation:** If the proposed course will be cross-listed, please obtain written justification as well as the course number for the cross-listings from the cooperating department(s). A course normally may not carry more than three cross-listings. A copy of the e-mail correspondence from the cross-listed department(s) or program(s) (uploaded into the CMS) will suffice.

Guidelines for New Certificate Program Proposals

Proposals for new certificate programs will first be reviewed by the Dean and Deputy Dean of the College. After the deans' review, the process is as follows:

1. Review by the Academic Planning Group (APG);
2. Review by the Committee on the Course of Study (COCS);
3. Review and approval by the Faculty.

The proposal should come under a cover memo from the faculty member(s), include draft language for the [Undergraduate Announcement](#), and address at least the following:

- What need does the program meet?
- Does the program overlap with existing courses or programs? If so, how is it distinct?
- What existing or proposed courses will satisfy program requirements?
- Who will direct the program? What other faculty members are involved? Have they made the necessary commitment to sustain the program?
- What new resources, if any, will be required to support the program and where will they come from?