

SGA – Academics (SHSS)

Spring 2020

Proposal

OVERVIEW

During the last semester, the Academics Committee worked closely with the SHSS Dean, faculty, and representatives to make sure that the students are made aware of any modifications to the course offerings as well as the rotation list. This proposal summarizes the expected goals of the committee (SHSS) for Spring 2020 as well as the action it will be taking to improve the life of SHSS students.

COMMON GOALS FOR SP' 2020

1. Have a more varied class offering.
2. Reduce time conflicts and open more sections.
 - a. No time conflicts between the major classes and the SHSS core classes.
3. Reduce the number of courses with Junior Classifications as pre-requisite.
4. Rethink Special Topics courses when it comes to classification and advertising.

GOALS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJOR

1. The rotation list is not being followed:
 - a. The every 3 semesters column is not being respected.
 - b. Some classes are not even on the course rotation.*¹
 - c. Remove the column "When needs arise".
 - d. Add when the class was last offered.²
 - e. Separate between majors, GenEd, grad and undergrad classes, and minors.

¹ Please refer to the revised course rotation attached.

² Referring to the classes that are supposed to be offered every 3 semesters.

2. The program sheet has the following issues:
 - a. Remove junior classification and do the following:
 - i. For International Relations Concentration: Instead of junior classification have the prerequisite be INS 2301- Theories and Models of International Relations
 - ii. Exceptionally add junior classification to SSC 3303- Research Methods, so that students take it before their capstones.
 - b. **Add to the program sheet:**
 - HIS 2302 - North African and Middle East in the 21st century
 - SSC 2301 - Arab Society
 - c. For International Cooperation and Development Concentration: the 2 required classes SSC 2310- Development Policy and SSC 3405 - Field Methods are not offered on a regular basis (last time they were offered was Spring'19 and Fall'18 respectively)³
 - d. Remove SSC 3303 Research Methods as pre-requisite for SSC 3405 Field Methods.
 - e. Remove the classes that are not offered on a regular basis, specifically:
 - i. Classes that were last offered circa 2014/15.
 - ii. Classes that were never offered such as
 1. INS 3315 - Religion in International Affairs
 2. INS 3374 - EU Relations with Sub-Saharan Africa
 3. GEO 2402 - Geographical Information Systems
 4. GEO 4301 - Environmental Management (was only offered Summer 2018)
 5. HUM 3412 - Moroccan Cultural Heritage

GOALS FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT MAJOR

1. The rotation list is not being followed:
 - a. HRD Concentration courses are only offered in the Spring, this causes a lot of problems with students who want to go on exchange and who want to graduate on time, instead:
 1. The alternative would be to offer 2 in the Fall and 2 in the Spring
 - b. Optional courses should be offered regularly.
 - c. HRD 4308 - Global HRD is supposed to be offered every fall but the last it was offered was Fall 2017
2. Seeing that many students take the equivalent classes in management, we strongly advise for the production of an equivalent form.
3. HRD 3401 - Human Capital Management Lab is in French and professors do not take into consideration that not all students know French or are fluent.
4. HRD 3303 - Training and Development should have a lab and a more hands-on training instead of theoretical foundations.

³ Strongly encouraging a focus group session with the students who have a concentration in International Cooperation and Development.

GOALS FOR COMMUNICATION MAJOR

1. The course rotation is being followed to some extent:
 - a. COM 3328: Media Analysis has never been offered, since there was no need to open the class, it is preferable to remove it.
 - b. Regarding the optional classes, it would be best to offer three courses every fall and three different courses every spring and remove every three semester clause.
2. Students have issues when going on exchange because the classes they want to take abroad have to be really similar to the one offered here.
3. The class COM 3321-Moroccan Media and Society is usually taken by seniors and these past two semesters, this class has been offered at the same time as Capstone creating time conflicts.

GOALS FOR SHSS MINORS

Regarding the following minors: Gender Studies, International Studies, HRD, CS, BA, Organizational Studies; no major issue present itself.

1. **Psychology Minor:**
 - a. For the optional classes, make sure to not offer the same classes every semester. Offer half the classes in the fall and half the classes in the spring.
2. **African Minor:**
 - a. Two of the optional classes have never been offered, so it would be better to remove them: INS 3373-US Relations with Sub-Saharan Africa and INS 3374-EU Relations with Sub-Saharan Africa.
3. **Communication Minor:**
 - a. In the required section, students should take one of these two classes, COM 3330 - Organizational Communication and COM 3303 - Global Communication and Media Policy, it would be better to offer one in the fall and the other one in the spring.
 - b. On the program sheet, COM 2427-Art and Design Production only has junior classification as a prerequisite, whereas, on the portal, it has four possible prerequisites.

Course Schedules - Course Requisites

Conditions	Group	Requisite Type	Requisite
	1	Prerequisite - Course	COM2304 - Video/Film Production
Or			
	2	Prerequisite - Course	COM2403 - Photog & Visual Story Tel
Or			
	3	Prerequisite - Course	COM2326 - Visual Communication
Or			
	4	Prerequisite - Course	COM2404 - Intro to Film Making

Figure 1. COM 2427 pre-requisite

4. English Minor:

- a. Seeing that more than half of the classes have never been opened, it would be best to either offer them or just drop the minor all together, since it only causes frustration and confusion among students.

RECAP:

1. Reduce time conflicts and open more sections.
 - a. No time conflicts between the major classes and the SHSS core classes.
2. More sections per classes (i.e. ENG 2301)
3. Modify the program sheet and amend the course rotation

GOALS FOR THE MASTER OF ART IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND DIPLOMACY:

1. Graduate Academic Skills is a required foundation class but it has never been offered, maybe try coming up with a solution so that grad students do not end up taking FAS 2 instead.
2. Issues with the online courses
3. International Aid, NGOs, and Development - Water in International and Domestic Politics - Special Topics in MAISD have never been offered, so either take them off the program sheet or offer them.