

May 12, 2026 – Academic Program and Curriculum Committee – Minutes

Time: Tuesday at 8:00 a.m.

Location: Lubar N116 and [Microsoft Teams](#)

Present: Anja Blecking, John Boyland, Dave Clark, Sandeep Gopalakrishnan, Matt Knachel, Emily Kuhnen, Linnae Laestadius, Yura Lee, Kim Litwack, Jesse McLean, Mike Newman, Hong Min Park, Matt Petering, Ionel Popa, Sara Riforgiate, Nathan Salowitz, Nicholas Silvaggi, Gwyn Wallander, Jonathan Wipplinger

Guests: Sonia Bardy, Jill Baum, Sara Benesh, Suzanne Boyd, Philip Chang, Qingsu Cheng, Jennifer Doering, Amy Harley, Ralph Janes, Kerry Korinek, Nadine Kozak, Chris Lyons, Lia Medeiros, Nora Miller, Stuart Moulthrop, Shabnam Nikravan, Renee Scampini, Cheryl Scherkenbach, Hilary Snow, Matt Steigerwald, Dimitri Topitzes, Dorrie Van Kerkvoorde, Elizabeth Watson

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

Announcements moved to the end of the agenda.

II. Auto consent

Remove the following items from auto consent: Art History, BA/MA and BME 102.

1. Approval of the meeting minutes from [April 14, 2026](#) (PDF).

2. Curricular changes – [Review in CourseLeaf](#)

a. New Courses (Requesting GER)

ANTHRO 100X	General Anthropology
BIO SCI 141X	Heredity
ENGLISH 237X	Digital Storytelling
FILM 105	Cinematic Content Creation (Humanities and Arts)
MUSIC 273X	Jazz History and Appreciation
PSYCH 281X	Deviant Minds
SOCIOL 220	Cultural Sociology of Milwaukee
WLC 501	Using Language Skills in Our Community

b. Changed Courses

ACTSCI 391	Investment Mathematics I
ARCH 601	Special Topics: (subtitle)
ART ED 328	Art Education Theory and Practice: Secondary
BME 296	Fundamentals of Biomaterials
BME 306	Introduction to Engineering Biomechanics
BUS ADM 452	Applied Portfolio Management
CHPS 103	Life Balance: An Understanding of Leisure
CHPS 203	Human Lifespan
CHPS 245	Cultural Diversity in Health Care
CHPS 250	Interprofessional Communication in the Health Sciences
COMPSCI 361	Introduction to Software Engineering
COMPSCI 422	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence
COMPSCI 423	Introduction to Natural Language Processing
COMPSCI 425	Introduction to Data Mining
COMPSCI 444	Introduction to Text Retrieval and Its Applications in Biomedicine
DANCE 192	First-Year Dance Student Seminar
DANCE 233	Improvisation for Dancemaking
DANCE 601	Senior Project
ELECENG 201	Foundations of Electrical Engineering
ENGLISH 406	Advanced English Grammar
FILM 346	Documentary Projects: doc/UWM
HIST 294	Seminar on Historical Method: Research Techniques
HIST 370	Topics in the History of Religious Thought: (subtitle)
HIST 386	Africans in World History
HIST 392	The History of Southern Africa
HIST 419	America Since 1945
HIST 436	Immigrant America Since 1880
JAPAN 370	Mastering the Kanji

MUSIC 152	Intermediate Guitar
PH 100	New Student Experience in Public Health
PSYCH 412	Psychological Disorders and Mental Health

c. Courses Requesting/Changing GER

i. Humanities and Arts

HIST 284	Buddhism Across Asia
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ii. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning

ED PSY 324	Quantitative Methods for Social and Behavioral Sciences
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d. Inactivated Courses

ITALIAN 155	Masterpieces of Italian Literature in Translation
ITALIAN 192	First-Year Seminar: (subtitle)
ITALIAN 243	Topics in Italian American Film: (subtitle)
ITALIAN 296	UROP Apprenticeship
ITALIAN 329	Italian Cinema
ITALIAN 335	Political Theory, Historiography, and Scientific Thought in Italy
ITALIAN 460	The Italian Novel from Manzoni to the Present
ITALIAN 463	Italian Poetry from Romanticism to Hermeticism
ITALIAN 466	Italian Theatre from the Commedia Dell'Arte to Pirandello
ITALIAN 551	Literature of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries
ITALIAN 552	The Renaissance: (subtitle)
ITALIAN 556	A Literary Period: (subtitle)
ITALIAN 570	Outline of Italian Literary History
ITALIAN 659	The Divine Comedy
ITALIAN 660	The Divine Comedy
ITALIAN 670	Studies in Italian Literature: (subtitle)
ITALIAN 671	Major Italian Authors: (subtitle)
ITALIAN 675	Literary Theory and Critical Perspectives
MUSIC 273	Harpsichord Technique for Pianists

NURS/GLOBAL 620 Global Food Security and Systems

NURS/GLOBAL 690 Global Health Governance: Key Players, Financing, and Challenges

e. Curricular Code Changes

CES – move all courses and programs to Geosciences.

GEOG - move all courses and programs to Geosciences; dissolve Department of Geography.

GEO SCI – change the name of the Department of Geosciences to Department of Earth, Environment, and Society.

f. Minor Program Changes

Actuarial Science, BA

Animation Arts, BA

Animation Arts, BFA

Anthropology, BA/Anthropology, MS

Applied Computing, BS

Applied Math and Computer Science, BS

Architectural Studies, BS

Architecture, BArch

Bilingual Education (Supplemental), Minor

Biological Sciences, BS/Biological Sciences, MS

Biomedical Engineering, BSE

Biomedical Sciences, BS: Biomedical Sciences/Biomedical Sciences, MS

Biomedical Sciences, BS: Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Civil Engineering, BSE

College of Letters and Science Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

College of Letters and Science Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements

Communication Sciences and Disorders, BS

Communication Sciences and Disorders, BS/Communication Sciences and Disorders, MS

Computer Engineering, BS

Computer Science, BA

Computer Science, BS

Criminal Justice and Criminology, BS

Dance Arts Requirements

Dance BA and BFA Admission and Retention Requirements

Dance, BA

Dance, BFA

Data Analytics and Applied Artificial Intelligence, BS

Economics, BA/Economics, MA

Education, BS: American Sign Language Studies

Education, BS: Elementary and Middle Education

Education, BS: English as a Second Language Education

Education, BS: Mathematics Education

Education, BS: Science Education

Education, BS: Social Studies Education

Education, BS: World Language Education

Electrical Engineering, BSE

Engineering, BS

English as a Second Language Education, Minor

Environmental Engineering, BSE

Exceptional Education, BS: K-12 Special Education

Film Arts Requirements

Film, BFA

French, BA

Freshwater Sciences, BS

Freshwater Sciences, BS: Aquatic Science

Freshwater Sciences, BS: Aquatic Science/Freshwater Sciences, MS: Aquatic Science (Professional)

Freshwater Sciences, BS: Aquatic Science/Freshwater Sciences, MS: Water Policy (Professional)

Freshwater Sciences, BS: Water Policy

Freshwater Sciences, BS: Water Policy/Freshwater Sciences, MS: Aquatic Science (Professional)

Freshwater Sciences, BS: Water Policy/Freshwater Sciences, MS: Water Policy (Professional)

General Letters, BA

Industrial Engineering, BSE

Industrial Engineering, BSE/Engineering, MS: Industrial Systems Engineering

Information Science and Technology, BS/Information Science and Technology, MS

Information Science and Technology, BS/Library and Information Science, MLIS

Journalism, Advertising, and Media Studies, BA/Communication, MA

Kinesiology, BS/Athletic Training, MS

Kinesiology, BS/Kinesiology, MS

Kinesiology, BS/Physical Therapy, DPT

Liberal Arts, AAS

Materials Engineering, BSE

Mechanical Engineering, BSE

Mechanical Engineering, BSE/Engineering, MS: Mechanical Engineering

Music Education BFA Arts Requirements

Music Education BFA Major Requirements

Music Education, BFA

Music Performance Ensembles Transfer Credit

Music PSOA Requirements

Music, BA

Music, BFA: Versatile Voice

Music, BFA: Collaborative Piano

Music, BFA: Guitar

Music, BFA: Music Composition and Technology

Music, BFA: Music History and Literature

Music, BFA: Piano

Music, BFA: Strings

Music, BFA: Voice

Music, BFA: Winds, Brass, and Percussion

Nursing, BS

Nursing, RN to BS Program

Occupational Science and Technology, BS

Physics, BS/Physics, MS

Political Science, BA

Political Science, Minor

Pre-Pharmacy

Psychology, BA

Psychology, BS

Public Health, BS

Public Health, BS/Public Health, MPH: Community Health Equity Promotion

Public Health, BS/Public Health, MPH: Environmental Health Sciences

Public Health, BS/Public Health, MPH: Epidemiology

Public Health, BS/Public Health, MPH: Public Health Policy and Management

Religious Studies, BA (Inactivation)

Social Work, BS

Theatre BA and BFA Advance to Major and Retention Requirements

Theatre BFA PSOA Requirements

Theatre Practices, BA

Theatre Practices, BA: Theater Education

Theatre, BFA: Performance

Theatre, BFA: Production

Therapeutic Recreation, Undergraduate Certificate (Inactivation)

Urban Studies, BA/Urban Planning, MUP

World Language Education, Minor

III. New Business

1. [Stage Directing, Undergraduate Certificate](#) (PDF)

This is a new certificate designed to fill a growing need. Previously, there was just one stand-alone class. The certificate utilizes existing courses and has crossover with other departments. The capstone, along with experiential courses, provides a continuation of the initial directing course. Students will be primarily Theatre majors.

Jonathan Wipplinger moved to approve the certificate. Ionel Popa seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. [Advanced Analytical Techniques for Linguistic Data, Undergraduate Certificate](#) (PDF)

There were no representatives from the program to present this certificate or answer questions from the committee.

Matt Knachel moved to approve the certificate and Gwyn Wallander seconded. The motion carried with one nay and one abstention.

3. [Astrophysics, Minor](#) (PDF)

The minor will replace the Astrophysics Emphasis for Physics majors. It will also be open to all students, increasing access to this popular field. The minor will use existing courses.

John Boyland moved to approve the minor. Matt Petering seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. [Peer Support Specialist, Microcredential](#) (PDF)

The microcredential consists of three existing social work courses and will qualify students for the Wisconsin Certified Peer Specialist registered apprenticeship. The program contributes to a federally funded project that expands the number of certified peer specialists in Wisconsin.

Matt Knachel moved to approve the microcredential and John Boyland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Art History, BA/MA

The committee had concerns about the plan of study and suggested creating guidelines for plans of study.

John Boyland moved to approve the program change. Jonathan Wipplinger seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

6. BME 102: Critical Thinking for Solving Problems

John Boyland moved to approve the course without GER and Nathan Salowitz seconded. The motion carried.

Communication and Literacy courses must be focused primarily on teaching speaking and writing. Though this course has strong components for speaking and writing, it isn't focused on TEACHING speaking and writing.

John Boyland moved to approve the course for Communication and Literacy GER. Ionel Popa seconded and the motion failed with three abstentions.

7. Elect new Chair

Ionel Popa nominated Mike Newman to serve as chair. Dave Clark seconded. John Boyland moved to close nominations and Nathan seconded. Both motions passed unanimously.

8. Authorize Chair to Act Over the Summer

Dave Clark moved to authorize the chair to act over the summer. Jesse McLean seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Announcements

GER Exceptions

There is a lack of uniformity in applying GER exceptions across schools and colleges. Some schools and colleges refuse to make exceptions while others are quite liberal in granting exceptions. The current policy relegates student appeals to the schools and colleges with monitoring by APCC. The committee is considering whether there should be university-wide guidelines.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 a.m.