
Chapter: Academic Affairs

Modification No. 001

Subject: **Exploratory Courses**

- I. The purpose of exploratory courses is to provide faculty and students an opportunity to experiment with ideas and to explore areas of knowledge and new instructional techniques of particular interest or benefit to them. Exploratory courses may be related to one academic discipline or be interdisciplinary in content and may involve current or special interest topics. They are introduced initially on a trial or pilot basis. Exploratory courses meet the same instructional standards as all other courses.
- II. The President is authorized to establish procedures to provide for the offering of exploratory courses.

Board Approval: February 20, 1984.

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- I. The exploratory course process is intended for the offering of a new course. An exploratory course proposal will be processed through the procedures established by the College Curriculum Committee. The Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs has the final responsibility for approval and for transmitting appropriate course information for inclusion in the master course file to the Office of Admissions & Enrollment Management.
- II. Proposals to revise existing courses are not to be construed as meeting the definition of exploratory courses. Course and program revisions are to be processed through regular curriculum procedures.
- III. An exploratory course proposer is encouraged to communicate with faculty in the same discipline (or other interested faculty) on the other campuses early in the process of developing the exploratory course proposal. The approved proposal must be sent to the other campuses for information. This requirement is the dean's responsibility.
- IV. An exploratory course may be taught a maximum of three times over a period of time not to exceed three years. The outcome of the course will be examined by the appropriate campus discipline faculty and the responsible instructional dean at the end of the first offering and likewise at the end of the second offering to determine whether it should be taught again. Each course will be subject to evaluation by the appropriate discipline faculty and the responsible instructional dean prior to being submitted through the regular curriculum process for approval and listing in the catalog. While the course is in the regular curriculum process, it may be offered two additional times within the next academic year. If, in the process of College review and approval the proposal is disapproved, the course will no longer be offered.

Administrative Approval: February 20, 1984; May 16, 1991; December 17, 2002; August 13, 2010; October 5, 2012.