

**Annual Report of the  
University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee**

AY20-21

The University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee (UICC) consists of voting members and alternates representing the 8 undergraduate schools and colleges and additional regional campus representatives. In addition, ex-officio, non-voting members represent academic and student affairs units that offer relevant courses, as well as other stakeholders. The UICC oversees the interdepartmental and interdisciplinary and/or program-based, non-departmental curriculum and advises faculty members and staff on these course proposals. In January 2014, its mission was extended to oversee the Military Science (MISI) and Air Force (AIRF) courses, administered by the Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs. The UICC reports to the Provost's Office, and administrative support for the committee and routine matters related to INTD, UNIV, MISI and AIRF courses have been provided this year by an Administrative Services Assistant assigned to the University Senate office.

The committee met four times during the last academic year. Additional ad hoc meetings were held to discuss "pop up" courses. This report summarizes committee activities.

**Clarification and documentation of UICC policies**

The principles for separation of the existing INTD curriculum into INTD and UNIV sections developed by the committee were approved by the University Senate in 2012 (Senate meeting 2/27/12). The INTD designation is used for interdisciplinary courses offered by more than one department from within the schools and colleges, whereas UNIV is used for those courses that originate from units that report to the Provost outside of the schools and colleges. The latter require careful oversight since they arise outside of the normal departmental and school/college curricula and courses review structures. The mechanisms developed for oversight for UNIV courses were built on the principle of faculty governance of the curriculum and attempt to replicate those used within the schools and colleges. The curriculum now comprises 17 INTD and 33 UNIV permanent courses, including special topics and independent study offerings. In addition, UICC oversees 9 MISI, and 9 AIRF courses offered by the Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs.

The UICC has a policy guide to record their decisions on matters of protocol and a website <http://uicc.uconn.edu/> to better communicate UICC activities to the University community and to serve as a source of forms and instructions for those wishing to conduct business with it.

As part of its mandate to oversee the curriculum, the UICC has a policy to govern the periodic review of UNIV courses. The units outside of the schools and colleges that offer UNIV courses are required to have faculty committees to provide oversight of their curriculum and this policy will specify the course reports expected from them.

**Course Request (Add/Drop/Revise)**

The UICC approved the following new courses:

- UNIV 4800 Senior Year Experience
- UNIV 4820 SYE Seminars
- UNIV 1995 and UNIV 3995 Tools for Emotional Wellbeing
- UNIV 1985 and UNIV 3985 Anti-Black Racism
- UNIV 3985 Climate Crisis: Take Action
- UNIV 1995 Honors Human Flourishing

- UNIV 3088 Variable Topics (S/U graded)
- UNIV 3098 Variable Topics (letter-graded)
- UNIV 1993 International Study (see Education Abroad section for reference)
- UNIV 2993 International Study (see Education Abroad section for reference)
- UNIV 3993 International Study (see Education Abroad section for reference)

### **Addition of Variable Topics Option**

During the past year, the UICC was asked to approve several special topics “pop up” courses. It became apparent that there is a need for a new designation that can be used for university-wide courses that require expedited approval. An ad hoc working group was formed to consider options. The group consisted of members representing the UICC, Registrar’s Office, CETL, Senate C&C and GEOC. The result of the group’s work is a letter and/or S/U graded variable topics course option designated as UNIV 3088 &/or UNIV 3098. The goal of these courses is to provide on-time information and awareness on current and emerging issues of relevance to the university community. The learning objectives will follow the general guidelines as described by UConn e-campus knowledge-based model and examples.

These courses have no pre-requisites or enrollment restrictions and are repeatable for credit (with a change in topic) Courses are open to freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior students, and may be taken for non-credit by others. UNIV 3088/3098 designations are designed for in-person, distance learning, or hybrid modalities and can be offered on all campuses.

### **Review of UNIV courses**

Good teaching practice requires that faculty evaluate their courses on a regular basis to ensure the efficacy of the pedagogy and the currency of the material presented. Academic departments often develop policies and practices to assist faculty in doing this and to ensure that their curriculum in aggregate continues to meet the goals defined for their major(s). UNIV courses are offered by units outside of the schools and colleges, and part of the mission of UICC is to ensure that oversight of these courses follows best practices. Thus, courses undergo rigorous review at the time they are added to the curriculum and our policies require that units offering UNIV courses have faculty committees that are responsible for curricular oversight. This oversight should include periodic review of existing courses to ensure their continued efficacy, consistency among offerings and alignment with course goals as originally approved. This policy is intended to support the faculty curricular committees in performing these functions.

This policy distinguishes between courses that regularly offer multiple sections (Course Shells, e.g. UNIV 1800) and those that are taught only once or twice a semester (Individual Courses). The oversight requirements for the former are greater since they must include consideration of qualifications and training of multiple instructors and consistency and comparability across what may be a large number of sections.

#### Course Shells

Units offering courses with multiple sections/semesters shall supply to UICC a periodic report for each course shell. This report will include:

- A listing of the offerings of the course for the academic year, including section title and instructor name and rank.
- A narrative description of how comparability across parallel offerings and consistency between repeat offerings of the course is achieved.
- Three representative syllabi from the course.

### Individual courses

Units offering individual courses shall supply to the UICC a copy of the syllabus for each offering of the course. They will also report on any significant changes in the course since its approval by UICC.

### **Experiential Global Learning (formerly Education Abroad)**

The UICC continues to receive requests from students to align courses taken while studying abroad. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the UICC was asked to align select courses taken by our international students in their home countries. This academic year, the UICC received 24 course alignments requests from 9 countries.

### **The UNIV Curriculum**

<b>Offering unit</b>	<b>Course number</b>	<b>Course title</b>
First Year Programs and Learning Communities	UNIV 1800	FYE University Learning Skills
	UNIV 1810	FYE Learning Community Seminar
	UNIV 1820	First Year Seminar
	UNIV 1840	Learning Community Service-Learning
	UNIV 3820	Learning Community Advanced Seminar
Honors Program	UNIV 1784	Freshman Honors Seminar
	UNIV 3784	Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar
	UNIV 1730	Holster Research Proposal Development
Center for Career Development	UNIV 1991	Supervised Internship Experience
	UNIV 1981	Documented Internship Experience (S/U)
	UNIV 3080	Peer Mentorship Leadership Development
	UNIV 3991	Interdisciplinary Internship Field Experience
	UNIV 4800	SYE Senior Year Experience
UNIV 4820	SYE Seminars	
Center for Academic Programs within the Institute for Student Success	UNIV 2100	The McNair Scholar
African American Cultural Center	UNIV 2230	The PA <sup>2</sup> SS Program, Mentoring African American Students
Rainbow Center	UNIV 2500	Gender, Sexuality and Community
Individualized & Interdisciplinary Studies Program	UNIV 2600	Individualized Study Across Academic Disciplines
	UNIV 4600W	Capstone Course
	UNIV 4697W	Senior Thesis
Other courses	UNIV 1985/3985	Special Topics (S/U)
	UNIV 1995/3995	Special Topics (graded)

UNIV 1993/2993/3993	International Study
UNIV 1983/2983	International Study (S/U)
UNIV 1999/3999	Independent Study

**The INTD Curriculum**

Sponsoring unit(s)	Course number	Course title
Experiential Global Learning	INTD 1993/1999 3993/3999	International Study
Other	INTD 1985/1995 3985/3995	Special Topics
African American Cultural Center	INTD 2245	Introduction to Diversity Studies in American Culture

**The AIRF and MISI Curriculum**

Sponsoring unit(s)	Course number	Course title
Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs	AIRF 1000/1200	Air Force Studies I
	AIRF 2000/2200	Air Force Studies II
	AIRF 3000/3200/W	Air Force Studies III
	AIRF 3500	Aviation Ground School
	AIRF 4000/4200	Air Force Studies IV
Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs	MISI 1101/1102	General Military Science Ia/Ib
	MISI 1133	General Military Science: Air Rifle Marksmanship
	MISI 2201/2202	General Military Science IIa/IIb
	MISI 3301/3302	General Military Science III
	MISI 4401/4402	General Military Science IV

**UNIV, INTD, MISI and AIRF Course Offerings (3-year snapshot)**

	2018-2019		2019-2020		2020-2021	
	Section	Seats	Sections	Seats	Sections	Seats
UNIV 1730	1	14	1	15	1	15
UNIV 1784	33	552	35	577	34	592
UNIV 3784	3	35	3	43	3	77
UNIV 1800	146	2652	158	2650	160	2869
UNIV 1810	97	1674	97	1932	108	1726
UNIV 1820	51	720	51	710	27	807
UNIV 1840	15	317	15	284	14	230
UNIV 1991	2	10	2	7	1	5
UNIV 3991	1	1	0	0	0	0
UNIV 1981	1	1	1	1	1	2
UNIV 2100	2	17	2	14	2	29
UNIV 2230	2	114	2	112	2	46
UNIV 2500	2	56	2	53	1	20
UNIV 2600	2	53	4	43	4	58
UNIV 3080			1	16	1	15
UNIV 3820	27	410	27	475	32	440
UNIV 4600W	2	34	2	38	2	33
UNIV 4697W	14	14	21	23	16	16
UNIV 4800	0	0	2	89	11	205
UNIV 4820			0	0	3	54
UNIV 1985/3985	1	9	0	0	4	2502
UNIV 1995/3995	1	17	0	0	3	48
UNIV 1999/3999	1	1	1	3	0	0
<b>TOTAL UNIV</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>6701</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>7085</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>9789</b>
INTD 1985/3985			0	0	0	0
INTD 1995/3995			0	0	0	0
INTD 2245	1	35	1	36	1	35
INTD 3222			0	0	0	0
INTD 3260	1	19	1	16	0	0
INTD 3584			0	0	0	0
INTD 3590			0	0	0	0
INTD 3594/W			0	0	0	0
INTD 3999			2	15	3	19
<b>TOTAL INTD</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>TOTAL INTD &amp; UNIV</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>6755</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>7152</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>9843</b>
AIRF 1000/1200	6	78	6	92	6	66
AIRF 2000/2200	4	74	4	48	4	82
AIRF 3000/3200	4	40	4	58	4	34
AIRF 3000W/3200W			0	0	0	0
AIRF 3500	2	30	2	29	2	21
AIRF 4000/4200	4	42	4	36	4	54
<b>TOTAL AIRF</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>257</b>
MISI 1101/1102	4	50	6	43	5	26
MISI 1133			0	0	0	0
MISI 2201/2202	2	28	2	48	2	32
MISI 3301/3302	4	58	4	56	5	106
MISI 4401/4402	6	72	5	48	4	48
<b>TOTAL MISI</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>212</b>
<b>TOTAL UICC COURSES</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>7174</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>7577</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>10312</b>

**UNIV Courses offered at Regional Campuses**

<b>FALL 2020</b>	<b>Avery Point</b>		<b>Hartford</b>		<b>Stamford</b>		<b>Waterbury</b>	
UNIV 1800	11	181	14	294	16	316	13	236
UNIV 1810	1	20			2	34		
UNIV 1820	4	32	2	10				
UNIV 1784			2	27				
UNIV 3784					1	13		
UNIV 3820					1	29		
UNIV 3985								
UNIV 3991								
UNIV 3995	1	4						
UNIV 4800					1	8		
<b>SPRING 21</b>								
UNIV 1784								
UNIV 1800								
UNIV 1810					1	33		
UNIV 1820	2	25						
UNIV 1985								
UNIV 3784					1	11		
UNIV 3985								
UNIV 3991								
UNIV 3995	1	11						
UNIV 3999			1	1				
UNIV 4800					1	9		

Based on data supplied by OIRE.

## UICC Membership 2020-2021

<b>Faculty (voting members and alternates)</b>		
Chair	SOE/ECE	Eric Donkor
Member	SOE/ECE	John Ayers
Member	CLAS/ HDFS	Shannon Weaver
Member	NEAG/EDLR	Laura Burton
Member	SFA/ Dramatic Arts	Adrienne Macki
Member	SOB/ACCT	Mohamed Hussein
Member	CAHNR/NRE	Morty Ortega
Member	SON	Louise Reagan
Member	SOP/ PHAR SCI	Adrian Hernandez-Diaz
Member	REGIONAL/CHEM	Jessica Aguirre
Alternate	CLAS/ANTH	Kari Adamsons
Alternate	CAHNR/AHS	Susan Gregoire
Alternate	NEAG/EDCI	Jaci Van Heest
Alternate	SFA/DRAM	Ed Weingart
Alternate	SOB/MRKT	Joseph Pancras
Alternate	SOE/ECE	John Ayers
Alternate	SON	Thomas Long
Alternate	SOP/ PHAR SCI	David Grant
Alternate	REGIONAL/ENGL	Pam Bedore
<b>Ex-Officio (non-voting members and alternates)</b>		
Member	Enrichment Programs	Jaclyn Chancey
Member	Inst. for Student Success	David Ouimette
Member	CCD	Beth Settje
Member	Registrar's Office	Terra Zuidema
Member	Senate C&C	Eric Schultz
Member	Student Affairs	Maureen Armstrong
Member	VA and Military Programs	Alyssa Kelleher
Alternate	Enrichment Programs	Monica van Beusekom
Alternate	CCD	Jim Lowe
Alternate	Registrar's Office	Marcus Hatfield
Alternate	Student Affairs	Daniel Doerr
Alternate	VA and Military Programs	Nikki Cole

Administrative support was provided by Cheryl Galli, Administrative Services Assistant.