UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
October 5, 2020

A regular meeting of the University Senate will be held on
Monday, October 5, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via WebEx
Participant link sent to members of the Senate

The Agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Call to order and Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2020 University Senate meeting
2. Report of the President
   Presented by President Tom Katsouleas
3. Report of the Senate Executive Committee
   Presented by SEC Chair Carol Atkinson-Palombo
4. Consent Agenda Items:
   Report of the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee
5. Report from Senate Scholastic Standards Committee by Senator Bedore
   A) PRESENTATION / VOTE on a motion to amend the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the University Senate, II.H, University Calendar
   B) PRESENTATION / VOTE on a motion to amend the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the University Senate, II.E.3.b, Grades not used to calculate the GPA (Pass-Fail Option)
6. Update on University Budget
   Presented by Scott Jordan, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
7. New Business

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Carol Atkinson-Palombo, Chair
Rajeev Bansal Pam Bramble
Gary English Nafis Fuad
Deb Kendall Gustavo Nanclares
Angela Rola Will Schad
Eric Schultz Manuela Wagner

Participant link sent directly to Senate members

Public access link:
https://ait.uconn.edu/university-senate-meeting/
I. The Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommends ADDITION the following 1000- or 2000-level courses:

A. AMST 2993 International Study (#1890)  
   *Proposed Catalog Copy*  
   AMST 2993. International Study  
   1.00 - 9.00 credits | May be repeated for credit to a maximum of 12 credits.  
   Prerequisites: None.  
   Grading Basis: Graded  
   Special topics taken in an international study program. Consent of department head required, normally to be granted prior to the student's departure.

B. SLHS 1150W Introduction to Communication Disorders (#15156/1916) [Adding W version of existing course – Approved by GEOC]  
   *Proposed Catalog Copy*  
   SLHS 1150W. Introduction to Communication Disorders  
   3.00 credits  
   Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. RHAG students cannot take more than 22 credits of 1000 level courses  
   Grading Basis: Graded  
   Introduction to normal communicative processes and to disorders of communication. CA 2.

II. The General Education Oversight Committee and the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommend ADDITION of the following 3000- or 4000-level new courses into the General Education curriculum:

A. KINS 3545W Resistance Training for Health and Performance (#11322/1338) [Adding W version of existing course]  
   *Proposed Catalog Copy*  
   KINS 3545W. Resistance Training for Health and Performance  
   3.00 credits.  
   Prerequisite: KINS 4500; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Open only to students in Kinesiology programs.  
   Grading Basis: Graded.  
   Focuses on the knowledge, skills, and understanding of the scientific principles on which to design individualized resistance training programs needed for optimal performance, health improvement, disease treatment, and injury prevention. Presents analysis techniques of human
physiology specific to resistance training and performing. Laboratory and field methods to evaluate anaerobic ability, flexibility, muscular strength and power, and body composition will be discussed.

III. The General Education Oversight Committee and the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee recommend REVISION of the following 3000- or 4000-level existing courses within or into the General Education curriculum:

A. CHIN 3230W Language & Identity in Greater China (#15631/1976) [Adding W version of existing course]

*Current Catalog Copy*

CHIN 3230. Language & Identity in Greater China
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: None.
Grading Basis: Graded
Topics include role of language, linguistic indexing of socio-economic class, dialects and regional language variation, impact of state policies, linguistic borrowings, bilingualism and bicultural identity, and language shift and attrition in greater China. Taught in English. CA 4-INT.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

CHIN 3230. Language & Identity in Greater China
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: None.
Grading Basis: Graded
The role of language, linguistic indexing of socio-economic class, dialects and regional language variation, impact of state policies, linguistic borrowings, bilingualism and bicultural identity, and language shift and attrition in greater China. Taught in English. CA 4-INT.

CHIN 3230W. Language & Identity in Greater China
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Instructor consent required.
Grading Basis: Graded
The role of language, linguistic indexing of socio-economic class, dialects and regional language variation, impact of state policies, linguistic borrowings, bilingualism and bicultural identity, and language shift and attrition in greater China. Taught in English. CA 4-INT.

B. COMM 3000Q Research Methods in Communication (#15811/2012) [Revise number]

*Current Catalog Copy*

COMM 3000Q. Research Methods in Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 1000. Recommended preparation: A mathematics course.
Grading Basis: Graded
The scientific approach as it specifically applies to communication.

*Revised Catalog Copy*
COMM 2000Q. Research Methods in Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 1000. Recommended preparation: MATH 1011Q or equivalent.
Grading Basis: Graded
The scientific approach as it specifically applies to communication.

C. COMM 4300/W Advanced Media Effects (#15843/2044) [Revise prereqs]

*Current Catalog Copy*
COMM 4300. Advanced Media Effects
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 1000, 1300 and 3300; COMM 3000Q or STAT 1100Q or 1000Q; open to juniors or higher
Grading Basis: Graded
Contentious topics in current media effects research, and their theoretical implications. Topics may include sexual content on television, pornography, alcohol on television, video games, and media impact on body image.

COMM 4300W. Advanced Media Effects
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2000Q and 2300
Grading Basis: Graded
Contentious topics in current media effects research, and their theoretical implications. Topics may include sexual content on television, pornography, alcohol on television, video games, and media impact on body image.

*Revised Catalog Copy*
COMM 4300. Advanced Media Effects
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2000Q and 2300
Grading Basis: Graded
Contentious topics in current media effects research, and their theoretical implications. Topics may include sexual content on television, pornography, alcohol on television, video games, and media impact on body image.

COMM 4300W. Advanced Media Effects
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2000Q and 2300; ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Contentious topics in current media effects research, and their theoretical implications. Topics may include sexual content on television, pornography, alcohol on television, video games, and media impact on body image.

D. COMM 4460/W Cross-Cultural Communication (#15854/2054) [Revise title, number, description, & prereqs; add W version]
Current Catalog Copy
COMM 4460. Cross-Cultural Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Open to juniors or higher. Recommended preparation: COMM 3200.
Grading Basis: Graded
Communication behavior within and across cultures and subcultures.

Revised Catalog Copy
COMM 3220. Intercultural Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2200
Grading Basis: Graded
Formerly offered as COMM 4460. Communication behavior within and across cultures and subcultures. How cultures impact social structures, communication styles, and behavior.

COMM 3220W. Intercultural Communication
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: COMM 2200. ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011.
Grading Basis: Graded
Formerly offered as COMM 4460. Communication behavior within and across cultures and subcultures. How cultures impact social structures, communication styles, and behavior.

E. FREN 3211 Contemporary France (#14782/1836) [Adding W, dropping non-W]
Current Catalog Copy
FREN 3211. Contemporary France
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: Recommended preparation: FREN 1104 or 1175 or 3 years high school French or instructor consent.
Grading Basis: Graded
An historical and cultural overview of France in the 20th and 21st centuries: from D-Day to the European Union, from Communism to the Green Party, from ballad crooners to rap, from love stories to action films; the changing French nation through authentic documents, literary texts, and films. CA 1. CA 4-INT.
Revised Catalog Copy

FREN 3211W. Contemporary France
3.00 credits
Prerequisites: ENGL 1007 or 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Recommended preparation: FREN 1104 or 1175 or 3 years high school French or instructor consent.
Grading Basis: Graded
An historical and cultural overview of France in the 20th and 21st centuries: from D-Day to the European Union, from Communism to the Green Party, from ballad crooners to rap, from love stories to action films; the changing French nation through authentic documents, literary texts, and films. CA 1. CA 4-INT.

Respectfully Submitted by the 20-21 Senate Curricula and Courses Committee: Eric Schultz (Chair), Kate Fuller, Manuela Wagner (Ex-Officio), Alana Adams, Mark Brand, John Chandy, Marc Hatfield, Matt McKenzie, George Michna, David Ouimette, Sharyn Rusch, Lauren Schlesselman (Ex-Officio), Irene Soteriou (Student Rep), Steve Stifano, Gina Stuart, Julia Yakovich, Terra Zuidema

From the 9/21/2020 meeting
Proposal: Move spring break week from after the 7th week, March 14-20, 2021, to after the 12th week, April 11-17, 2021 and add two reading days to the calendar.

Justification:

Given that Covid-19 continues to pose a serious health risk, the SSC proposes adjustments to the Spring 2021 academic calendar in order to maintain a healthy campus. There are no perfect solutions to this situation. In consultation with student government leaders as well as with Student Health and Residential Life, the Scholastic Standards Committee proposes to move Spring Break later in the semester.

This proposal attempts to balance physical and mental health outcomes for students, faculty and staff. Having Spring Break March 14-20 may pose physical health risks due to Covid-19 and may require a two-week quarantine period that would be disruptive in the middle of the semester. For this reason, some universities and colleges are canceling Spring Break altogether.

The SSC proposes keeping a break, but moving it later in the semester. Given the increased stress and exhaustion of pandemic education, a break—for mental health as well as for members of the University community to catch up before the end of the semester—is deemed beneficial.

The timing of the break, April 11-17, affords maximum flexibility for responding to health conditions in Spring 2021. If it is deemed safe for students and faculty to return to campus after Spring Break without a quarantine period, they will do so; if it is deemed unsafe, the final weeks of classes and the exam period will be delivered online (mimicking the calendar in Fall 2020). Classes will end on Wednesday, April 28 and will be followed by four reading days: April 29, 30 and May 1, 2.

H. University Calendar

The Academic calendar will be determined according to the schedule given (and is on file in the University Senate Office and the Board of Trustees) and will adhere to the following principles:

1. There will be two semesters each year with 14 week of classes plus six days of examinations in each.* Fall semester classes will begin on the Monday before Labor Day. Spring semester classes will begin on the Tuesday following Martin Luther King Day. There will be two calendar days between the last day of classes and the first day
of final examinations which shall be known as Reading Days. *adjustments to the Spring 2021 semester calendar are detailed below*

Whenever appropriate, instructors with Monday classes are encouraged to arrange make up classes, make up assignments, or other accommodations for students having Monday class holidays so they will not be deprived of course content that would be available to students in Tuesday-Friday classes.

2. The general class schedule will be as shown in the file copy.

3. **Fall Semesters** will adhere to the following principles:
   a. Classes shall begin on the Monday preceding Labor Day.
   b. Residence Halls shall open no later than the weekend before classes start.
   c. Classes shall not meet on Labor Day.
   d. Classes shall not meet on the week of Thanksgiving.
   e. No regularly scheduled final examinations shall be held on the first Thursday of final examination week, which shall be known as a Reading Day.

4. **Spring Semesters** will adhere to the following principles:
   a. Spring semester classes shall begin on the Tuesday after Martin Luther King Day.
   b. Residence halls shall open no later than the weekend before classes start.
   b. **For the spring 2021 semester**, a one-week spring break shall take place after **12** weeks of classes, counting the week with Martin Luther King Day as the first week. __Two additional reading days will be held on Thursday, April 29 and Friday, April 30.__

   **Spring semester classes:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 – Saturday, April 10, 2021  
   **Spring break:** Sunday, April 11, 2021 – Saturday, April 17, 2021  
   **Spring semester classes:** Monday, April 19, 2021 - Wednesday, April 28, 2021  
   **Reading Days (no classes or assessments):**  
   Thursday, April 29, 2021 - Sunday, May 2, 2021  
   **Final Assessments:** Monday, May 3, 2021 – Saturday, May 8, 2021

   d. Commencement cannot occur at a time when a final exam is given.
Background:
The Scholastic Standards Committee considered whether or not to put forward a proposal to extend a relaxation of the P/F rules in the 20/21 academic year, as we did in Spring 2020. An SSC working group provided two recommendations to the SSC:

- No proposal to relax P/F rules for AY 20/21
- A clear communication signed by several offices (Provost, Advising, Grad School) reminding faculty and students of the many options available to those struggling academically (including the 3 P/F courses available to any student who meets the criteria established in the Senate by-laws)

The committee discussed these recommendations and considered the fact that many students continue to struggle with academic and mental health challenges in Fall 2020 as a result of the pandemic and associated difficulties. This will likely continue into Spring 2021. Several reasons were given for not relaxing the rule in AY 20/21:

- The long-term consequences of students having several P/F courses on their transcripts are unknown.
- In Spring 2020, many universities extended P/F to students in the face of the emergency move to online teaching in the pandemic, so graduate programs and accrediting agencies were forced to make exceptions. These exceptions are not extended to Summer or Fall 2020.
- Many other, better-understood options are available for students who are struggling academically. A clear communication reminding students and faculty of these options will be shared with the University community.

The SSC was asked to consider extending the deadline to put courses on P/F grading. In order to ensure that students have some grades for most or all courses before making this decision, and in consultation with the Registrar’s Office, the committee proposed later dates: 11.20 for fall 2020 and 4.9 for spring 2021.

The P/F grading option is not usually available to students with fewer than 26 credits or those on academic probation. In order to make this option open to all students, the SSC also recommends that these two restrictions be waived for AY 20/21.

Proposed modification of II.E.3.b

Grades not used to calculate the GPA (excerpt) Pass-Fail Option.

Existing Senate By-Law II.E.3.b:
A student who has earned at least 26 credits and is not on scholastic probation may elect a
maximum of 12 credits to be distributed over not more than three courses, to be recorded as ‘P’ for Pass or ‘F’ for Fall on his or her permanent record. Courses taken Pass-Fail may only be used as electives; they may not be used to satisfy general education, school/college, major or minor requirements. Students who are selecting a course for the Pass-Fail option must do so within the first two weeks of the semester. Students who are removing a course from the Pass-Fail option must do so within the first nine weeks of the semester. For courses taught outside of the fall and spring semesters, these deadlines will be adjusted in a pro-rated fashion by the Registrar. During the semester the student completes the course and is graded in the usual way by the instructor; and the instructor submits a letter grade (per 3a, above). This letter grade is translated into a ‘P’ (‘D-‘ or above) or remains an ‘F.’ In neither event will a course taken under the Pass-Fail option be included in the computation of the semester or cumulative grade point average, but a grade below ‘C’ makes the student ineligible for Dean’s List. The individual schools and colleges have the privilege of adopting the Pass-Fail option with or without supplementary restrictions. Students are referred to the detailed statements of the various schools in the University Catalog for such restrictions.

**Proposed Modification for AY 2020/2021 only:**
A student who has earned at least 26 credits and is not on scholastic probation may elect a maximum of 12 credits (not including Spring 2020) to be distributed over not more than three courses, to be recorded as ‘P’ for Pass or ‘F’ for Fall on his or her permanent record. Courses taken Pass-Fail may only be used as electives; they may not be used to satisfy general education, school/college, major or minor requirements. Students who are selecting adding a course to, or removing a course from for the Pass-Fail option must do so within the first two weeks of the semester by 11:59 pm on November 20, 2020 for the Fall 2020 semester and by 11:59 pm on April 9, 2021 for the spring semester. Students who are removing a course from the Pass-Fail option must do so within the first nine weeks of the semester. During the semester the student completes the course and is graded in the usual way by the instructor; and the instructor submits a letter grade (per 3a, above). This letter grade is translated into a ‘P’ (‘D-‘ or above) or remains an ‘F.’ In neither event will a course taken under the Pass-Fail option be included in the computation of the semester or cumulative grade point average, but a grade below ‘C’ makes the student ineligible for Dean’s List. The individual schools and colleges have the privilege of adopting the Pass-Fail option with or without supplementary restrictions. Students are referred to the detailed statements of the various schools in the University Catalog for such restrictions.