

UC 10812 10S

APPROVED APR 21 2010

TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Council

FROM: Richard Scamell
Degree Programs Committee: Programs

SUBJECT: UC 10787 10S: Proposal for Modification of the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management Degree Plan

DATE: April 14, 2010

The Committee met on Wednesday, April 7 and Wednesday, April 14 to consider a proposed modification from Department of Engineering Technology to the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management degree plan. Participating in the discussions were committee members Betty Barr, Miranda Bennett, Roger Blakeney, Debbie Hermann, Iain Morrison, and Richard Scamell. Jeanette Morales, Neil Eldin, and Katherine Frazier attended one or more of the meetings as guests.

UC 10482 09F – Modifications to Bachelor of Science in Construction Management Degree Plan

The Undergraduate Council, at its November 18, 2009 meeting, approved the modifications proposed by Department of Engineering Technology to the Construction Management degree plan in UC 10482 09F. These modifications (a) addressed accreditation requirements of the American Council for Construction Education, (b) proposed the development of a Process and Industrial Track, (c) deleted labs deemed no longer necessary and (d) updated a number of course prerequisites. The number of semester hours in the degree plan before and after the modifications remained at 120. The 27 semester credit hour proposed Process and Industrial Track joined the 27 semester credit hour Commercial Construction Track as the two tracks in the Construction Management major.

The modifications proposed and approved last fall were based on an October 2009 preliminary accreditation visit. Upon completion of the formal accreditation visit on March 3, 2010, the accreditation team requested the addition of a speech course to the degree plan in order to meet the accreditation requirements of the American Council for Construction Education. Thus the purpose of UC 10787 10S is for the Undergraduate Council to approve the addition of COMM 1332: Fundamentals of Public Speaking to the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management degree plan as part of the Major Requirements.

In an effort to maintain a 120 semester hour degree plan, UC 10787 10S proposed two additional modifications: (a) that TMTH 3360: Applied Technical Statistics be eliminated as a requirement for the degree and (b) that students be required to have credit for College Algebra through the Math Placement exam, the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or completion of MATH 1310: College Algebra. Initially the Committee did not approve these modifications since removing TMTH 3360 from the degree plan meant that students in the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management degree program would fall short of satisfying the requirement that any Bachelor of Science degree offered at the University of Houston must include at least 12 semester hours in the quantitative or formal sciences (i.e., mathematics, computer science, formal logic, statistics or other disciplines in which quantitative or formal analytical reasoning plays a major part). However, upon further review, the Committee learned that the Undergraduate Council had previously approved other Bachelor of Science degree programs offered in the College of Technology with a similar quantitative or formal sciences requirement: (a) the Mechanical Engineering Technology degree program (11 semester hours plus the requirement that students have credit for College Algebra through the Math Placement exam, CLEP or completion of the course), and (b) the Biotechnology degree program (9 semester hours plus the requirement that students have credit for College Algebra through the Math Placement exam, CLEP or completion of the course).

Recommendation

In light of the precedent stated above, the Committee supports (a) the addition of COMM 1332: Fundamentals of Public Speaking to the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management degree program, (b) the elimination of TMTH 3360: Applied Technical Statistics be eliminated as a requirement for the degree and (c) the inclusion of the requirement that students have credit for College Algebra through the Math Placement exam, CLEP or completion of the course as satisfying the requirement that any Bachelor of Science degree offered at the University of Houston must include at least 12 semester hours in the quantitative or formal sciences. Implementation of (c) would mean that the 120 semester credit hour Bachelor of Science in Construction Management degree program would meet the at least 12 semester hours in the quantitative or formal sciences requirement by taking MATH 1313: Finite Mathematics with Applications, MATH 1330: Precalculus, MATH 1431: Calculus I, and having credit for College Algebra through the Math Placement exam, CLEP or completion of MATH 1310: College Algebra.