

TO: Maria Elena Solino, Chair
Undergraduate Committee

APPROVED OCT 03 2012
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FROM: Christina Gola
Academic Policy and Procedures Subcommittee

SUBJECT: UC 11798 12F: Proposal for changes to the admission requirements for FTIC, transfer, and reapplying students to the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

DATE: September 27, 2012

The Academic Policies and Procedures Subcommittee met on Wednesday, September 19th and 26th to consider a proposal to change the admission requirements to the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Participating in one or both discussions were committee members Christina Gola, Willie Munson, Richard Scamell, Lesley Sisk, Stephen Soutullo, and Larry Williams. Ian Evans from NSM attended as a guest.

Background

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics proposes to increase the admission requirements for First Time in College (FTIC) students, Transfer students, and Reapplying UH students. The proposed change hopes to recruit higher quality students to increase student success, retention, and graduation rates. The proposed admission standards have been determined in part by modeling standards after several other colleges, including Engineering, that have received UC approval in the past.

FTIC Admission

FTIC students will be admitted to the University of Houston College of Natural Science and Mathematics if they meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must have completed in high school the following courses of study:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Biology, Chemistry or Physics	2 or more
Algebra	2
Geometry	1
Pre-calculus	1
English	4

- Applicants must meet the following test score criteria:

<u>Rank In Class</u>	<u>SAT I Total</u>	<u>ACT Composite</u>
First Quarter	1100	24
Second Quarter	1150	25
Third or Fourth Quarter	1200	26
Unranked	1200	26

Transfer and Reapplying Admission

Students transferring or reapplying to the University of Houston (with credit for 15 or more semester credit hours) and specifying an NSM major must meet the requirements listed below:

- 2.50 GPA* or greater in all college-level coursework attempted
- 2.50 GPA* or greater in all college-level Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Mathematics, and Physics courses attempted
- 2.50 GPA* or greater in all courses from either Category I or II attempted

Category I

Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Geology, Geophysics, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Mathematical Biology, & Physics majors

- Must have successfully completed at least one of the following college-level math courses
 - MATH 1330, MATH 1431, and MATH 1432
- Must have successfully completed at least one of the following science courses for science majors
 - BIOL 1361, BIOL 1362, CHEM 1331, CHEM 1332, GEOL 1302, GEOL 1330, GEOL 1340, GEOL 1350, GEOL 1376, PHYS 1301, PHYS 1302, PHYS 1321, or PHYS 1322

Category II

Mathematics and Computer Science majors:

- Must have successfully completed at least two of the following college-level calculus or computer science courses
 - COSC 1410, MATH 1431, MATH 1432, and MATH 2433

Discussion

The subcommittee's discussion centered primarily on understanding the changes, especially the transfer and reapplying admission standards.

For FTIC students, the high school subject and credit requirement remains unchanged; the main change is related to the addition of the SAT and ACT scores.

For transfer and reapplying students, the main changes are both the increase grade point average and successful completion of specific courses as laid out in Categories I and II above.

For reapplying students, it appears that when the new requirements come into effect, a student who sits out more than 13 months must reapply for admission to UH and will be required to meet these new

* The grade point average is a blended grade point average that uses grades from all institutions attended (community colleges, four-year institutions, and the University of Houston).

standards; i.e. a student who leaves with a cumulative GPA between 2.0 and 2.49 and does not take any other course work elsewhere, would not qualify for admission, and would need to take courses at a junior college or other four year school to generate a blended GPA greater than 2.49.

Students on academic probation – a student on academic probation who sits out for more than 13 months will be required to meet the new standards, and can only do so by taking course work elsewhere in order to generate a blended GPA greater than 2.49.

Students on first academic suspension – are required to reapply after sitting out for one long semester. If they apply for readmission after sitting out, and before 13 months have elapsed, the college will readmit them under contract. If they sit out for more than 13 months they will be required to meet the new standards and can only do so by taking course work elsewhere in order to generate a blended GPA greater than 2.49.

Recommendation

The subcommittee unanimously recommends approval of UC 11798 12F, *for implementation in Fall 2013.*