Memorandum

August 14, 2017

To: Executive Committee
   Faculty Senate

From: Valerie Balester, Chair
       W and C Course Advisory Committee

RE: Request for course additions to the W/C Course graduation requirement

The W and C Course Advisory Committee voted to approve the following courses. The W and C Course Advisory Committee reviewed each course and agreed that all aspects of the courses were consistent with guidelines for the W or C Course status requirement. Therefore, these courses should be included in the “W Designated Course” or “C Designated Course” category to meet the writing/communication requirement for graduation.

Courses submitted for C certification:

PERF 303 Creating Performance

Courses submitted for W recertification:

ECMT 461 Economic Data Analysis
TO: Faculty Senate Executive Committee
FROM: Valerie Balester, Chair, W and C Course Advisory Committee
CC: Briana Doucet, Department of Performance Studies
    Donnalee Dox, Head, Department of Performance Studies
    Steven Oberhelman, AOC Dean, Liberal Arts
DATE: August 7, 2017
SUBJECT: REPORT ON CERTIFICATION OF C COURSE: PERF 303

We recommend that PERF 303 Creating Performance be certified as a Communication (C) course for four academic years (1/17 to 1/21). We have reviewed a representative syllabus and have determined that the course meets or exceeds the following criteria:

1. Percentage of final grade based on writing and speaking quality: 100%
2. Course content appropriate to the major
3. Total number of words: 6000
4. Total minutes of oral presentation: 21
5. Instructor to student ratio for one section: 1:20

In PERF 303, students keep a written rehearsal log (an essential skill), complete an essay on practical applications and also an analytical essay. They also perform in class twice, both times with public speaking integrated into their performance. The rehearsal log details problems encountered and solved and what the rehearsal accomplished. Final performances are done collaboratively and include peer review; peer review and faculty review is also done on the analytical essays. Models are used for instruction and lecture time is spent discussing writing and presentation skills. In addition, students keep a learning journal in which they reflect on their communication skills.
Course Description and Prerequisites

Prerequisites: Performance Studies major or minor, or approval of instructor.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Apply techniques learned in class to real-life situations: writing contracts and grants, preparing a tech rider, creating a portfolio, booking a venue, and event planning.
- Devise a critically informed and technically proficient performance for presentation to an audience.
- Apply techniques learned in class to creating performances in a variety of forms, such as music, theatre, dance, film/video, installations, digital imagery and sound, environmental performance, improvisation, solo performance, site-specific performance, scripting, and oral interpretation.
- Analyze techniques used in multiple forms of performance verbally and in writing.
- Develop skill in performing in familiar and unfamiliar performance forms.
- Write an essay relating performance practice to personal experience and/or professional goals.
- Demonstrate key aesthetic, philosophical, and analytical concepts of Performance Studies through embodied performance.

Instructor Information
Name:
Telephone number:
Email address:
Office hours:
Office location:
Meeting times and location:

Textbooks
Required:

Grading Policies
To pass this course, you must pass the writing and public speaking components.
10% Rehearsal log
30% 3 In-class performance tests (10% each)
10% Practical applications paper (2000-2500 words)
20% Final performance
30% Final analytical essay (2000-2500 words)

**Communication (C) Course Requirements**
Your presentation and written component must total at least:
- 5,000 words of writing and 15 minutes of presentation, or
- 1,250 words of writing and 52.2 minutes of presentation, or
- any combination in between such that:
  \[100 \times \text{minutes} + \text{words} \geq 6,500\] with words \(\geq 1,250\) and minutes \(\geq 15\)

Presentations may be collaborative, depending on the nature of the project, and as approved in advance by the instructor. Each student will be responsible for all written content counted toward the formula above, and each student will be responsible for composing or directing every minute of presentation counted toward the formula above. The student's role in the presentation will be accounted for in the written component.

**Grading Scale**
A = 90–100%
B = 80–89%
C = 70–79%
D = 60–69%
F = 0–59%

**Attendance and Make-up Policies**
- Your attention and active participation are expected in all scheduled class meetings.
- Late work will not be accepted without documentation of an excused absence.
- Refer to the Student Rules regarding Academics at [http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07](http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07) for guidelines in documenting excused absences and arranging to make up work.
- One unexcused absence will be permitted during the semester prior to week 12. Each subsequent unexcused absence will reduce your *final grade* by 10%. Unexcused absence in or after week 12 will reduce your final grade by 20%. Late work will not be accepted without a documented excuse.
- Bring any attendance concerns to the attention of your professor *as soon as you are aware of them*. Examples: anticipated absences, life events that interfere with your ability to fulfill class expectations.
- You will be able to make up missed assignments and late work will be accepted only with a documented excuse or University excused absence and only before week 12.

**Course Calendar**
Topics, Activities, Due Dates

**Week 1**
Introduction to performance practice, the course; form working groups for semester
Assignment: identify a current social or cultural issue and begin to think about how you might address it performatively *throughout the semester.*
2  Bicat, Ch. 1 and Intro
Carlson, Intro  The Director (pp.7-29)
What is Performance (pp. 1-8)
starting the creative process, learning to craft a performance
identify social or cultural issue(s) & form working groups

3  Bicat, Ch. 2
Carlson, Ch. 1  Set Design (pp.30-45)
The Performance of Culture (pp. 11-30)
creating a world for performance, site-specific performance,
preparing a tech rider

4  Bicat, Ch. 3
Carlson, Ch. 2  The Actor-Performer (pp. 46-62)
Performance in Society (pp. 31-55)
learning to move in space, create a character, starting your portfolio

5  Bicat, Ch. 4
Carlson, Ch. 3  Playwriting (pp. 63-74)
The Performance of Language (pp. 56-80)
starting with an idea, creating a narrative, character, getting
rights and writing contracts
Performance test 1

6  In-class performance work: creating performance with words, bodies and physical elements
(props, set pieces, text, bodies)

7  Bicat, Ch. 5
Carlson, Ch. 4  Music and Composition (pp. 75-87)
Performance in Historical Context (pp. 83-109)
creating sound with found objects

8  Bicat Ch. 6
Carlson, Ch. 7  Movement Direction (pp. 88-107)
Performance and Identity (pp. 157-178)
embodied performance, abstract movement, emotion

9  Bicat Ch. 7
Exercise  Designing and Making Costumes (pp. 108-122)
moving with weight, texture, freedom, constraints
Performance test 2

10  In-class performance work: creating performance with music, sound, light, costume
Analyzing the communication of meaning through design, music, movement

11  Bicat Ch. 8  Stage Management  (pp. 123-137)
organization and planning for performance, booking a venue,
event planning

12  Bicat Ch. 9  Production (pp. 138-149)
defining production needs, timelines for production, the producer’s role, grant writing

**Performance test 3**

13  In-class rehearsals and peer critique for final performance

Practical applications essay due

14  Carlson, Ch 8

Cultural Performance (pp. 179-204) Discussion of artistic goals, how performance answered a social/cultural/philosophical issue, and production problems and solutions

Peer review and critique of analytical essay drafts.

Finals week:

Final performances in LAAH Black Box Theatre during final examination time

Analytical essay due by the beginning of final examination time.

**Class Format**

10% Rehearsal log. Keep a log of every rehearsal (in and outside of class). Include the amount of prep time, time in rehearsal, problems encountered and solved, and what the rehearsal accomplished.

30% 3 In-class performance tests (10% each). A short (1-2 minute) devised performance or a written response to a question posed by the professor.

10% Practical applications paper (2000-2500). An essay identifying a career in Performance you are interested in pursuing and mapping your path achieving this career. OR Prepare a grant proposal for submission to a currently available grant, include an accompanying essay explaining why you choose the grant and how obtaining future grants will be applicable to your career goals.

30% Final performance. Your role in the final performance will be assessed based on the outcome of the performance.

30% Analytical essay (2000-2500 words). An essay analyzing the goals of the performance, including your research for the production and your specific contributions. How did your performance address a social/cultural/philosophical issue? What were your artistic goals? What production problems did you face and how did you solve them? What would you do differently if you could start the performance project from the beginning?

This class assumes your active participation. In class meetings we will engage the readings in discussion. You will apply techniques and strategies for creating performance throughout the semester. Failure to actively participate will likely result in substandard work and a consequently lower grade for individual and group projects.
Useful Resources for writing assistance:
   TAMU Writing Center http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/
   Evans Library http://library.tamu.edu/
   Your Performance Studies Librarian http://library.tamu.edu/directory/people/tmweaver

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit http://disability.tamu.edu.

Academic Integrity
“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.” For additional information please visit: http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu.

Plagiarism Statement
According to the Texas A&M University Definitions of Academic Misconduct, plagiarism is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results or words without giving appropriate credit (aggiehonor.tamu.edu). You should credit your use of anyone else's words, graphic images, or ideas using standard citation styles. If I should discover that you have failed to properly credit sources or have used a paper written by someone else, I will recommend that you receive an F in this course. The Aggie Honor System Office processes for adjudication and appeals can be found at aggiehonor.tamu.edu.
TO: Faculty Senate Executive Committee

FROM: Valerie Balester, Chair, W and C Course Advisory Committee

CC: Kurt Felpel, Department of Economics
    Timothy Gronberg, Head, Department of Economics
    Steven Oberhelman, AOC Dean, Liberal Arts

DATE: August 7, 2017

SUBJECT: REPORT ON RECERTIFICATION OF W COURSE: ECMT 461

We recommend that ECMT 461 Economic Data Analysis be certified as a writing (W) course for four academic years (9/17 to 9/21). We have reviewed a representative syllabus and have determined that the course meets or exceeds the following criteria:

1. Percentage of final grade based on writing quality:
2. Course content appropriate to the major
3. Total number of words: 2500
4. Instructor to student ratio for one section: 1:25

Since original certification, the course has not changed significantly. ECMT 461 requires students to write a proposal for a final research paper in which students apply game theory to everyday phenomenon and to develop and test a theoretical model of their own. A draft and an outline of that paper is reviewed by the instructor. Students also get formative feedback in one-to-one conferences and in class. In addition to this intensive instructor guidance, several classes include lecture and discussion on how to write a paper.
Term: Fall 2016

Instructor: Professor Dennis Jansen

Meeting times and location:
Lectures: Monday and Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:15 am, Allen 1002.
Recitation: You must also attend a scheduled recitation session according to your registration for the course. Recitations are on Friday. ECMT 461-904 11:00 – 11:50 am; ECMT 461-905 12:00 – 12:50 pm; ECMT 461-906 1:00 – 1:50 pm. All recitations in Allen 1004.

Course Description:

This is the required course in economic statistics and data analysis for economics majors. It introduces students to the basic concepts of statistical description, probability theory, and statistical inference as they apply to economic analysis. It introduces data management, data handling, and data analysis, all with a focus on economic statistics. In particular, the course will emphasize regression analysis, since economics students will be exposed to many regression-like analyses in their upper division economics courses.

Prerequisites: MATH 131 or 141

Student Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:
(1) demonstrate understanding of various economic research methods on tests and the course project
(2) demonstrate understanding of introductory probability and statistics on tests and the course project
(3) demonstrate knowledge of economic data sources on tests and the course project
(4) gather and manipulate data in a spreadsheet, including graphical presentations (e.g., in Excel)
(5) perform econometric analysis of economic data using an econometric software program (e.g., Stata)
(6) use econometric methods applied to economic data to bring evidence to bear on an economic topic of interest
(7) demonstrate an ability to write up the results of an econometric analysis in a professional manner

In addition, please note the following general statement on learning outcomes: Texas A&M University has identified student learning outcomes that describe our institutional commitment to your education goals. These include the ability to demonstrate critical thinking, effective communication, and social, cultural, and global competence. Please see http://provost.tamu.edu/essentials/pdfs/copy_of_UndergraduateLearningOutcomesFinal.pdf/view
Instructor Information:
Name: Dennis W. Jansen
Telephone number 979 845-7375
Email address dennisjansen@tamu.edu
Office hours Immediately Following Lectures, and Monday Tuesday Wednesday 11 AM – 12 Noon.
Office location ALLN 3073

Teaching Assistants:
   Mr. Joshua Witter: joshwitter@tamu.edu
   Ms. Su-Chin Hsu: schsu@tamu.edu

Your TAs will announce their regular office hours at your first recitation meeting.

Witter: Office TBD; Office Hours: TBA
Hsu: Office 3101; Office Hours: TBA

Textbook and/or Resource Material

Required Texts: This course requires (1) a textbook and (2) that you purchase access to ‘MyStatLab.’


There are several options for obtaining the textbook and access to ‘MyStatLab.’

Option 1: Buy the bundle. This includes a copy of the textbook and a subscription to ‘MyStatLab’.

Option 2: Buy a used copy of the textbook somewhere. Then buy an independent copy of ‘MyStatLab.’
Note that you can purchase access to “MyStatLab” at the bookstore or at Pearson’s website:
www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com


Important! Pearson MyStatLab Course ID is: jansen54611
Optional Texts:

Software: You are required to have access to and to use Excel, widely available on campus Open Access Labs.

Your E-mail Address: Every student must have a functioning TAMU e-mail address, and you must be reachable through that address. Your TAMU e-mail address must be the address that accompanies the official TAMU on-line class roll.

Course Policies:
Grading:
Homework Assignments 20%
Midterm Exam 20%
Research Paper 35%
Final Exam 25%

Grades will be distributed as follows: A: 90%-100%; B: 80%-89.99%; C: 70%-79.99%; D: 60%-69.99%; F: below 60%

Important! -- While the research paper carries only 35% of the total grade, you are required to obtain a passing grade on the research paper in order to receive a passing grade for the course, regardless of your score in the rest of the course. If you fail the paper, you will fail the course.

Please do not ask me about extra credit or extra work to improve your grade. None will be available. It is not fair to your fellow students for me to allow one student to have a special opportunity to have ‘extra credit.’

Homework Assignments:
• There will be problem sets assigned almost every week. These assignments are designed to help you learn the material and prepare for the exams. I’ll post the problem sets and their solutions on the course website. The problem sets will also help you learn to handle and manipulate data and to employ spreadsheets (e.g. Excel) to aid in data management and data analysis.
• The two lowest scoring problem sets will not be counted in computing your final homework grade. This is to allow you some flexibility throughout the semester.
• Because I will post solutions shortly after assignments are due, late homework will not be accepted for any reason. If you have a University-approved excuse an alternative make-up assignment or another arrangement can be provided, or you will simply count the missing assignment as one of your
two dropped grades. If you want a make-up assignment you must inform me or Ms. Hsu in a timely manner as described in TAMU Student Rule 7.

Exams:
• The exams will be primarily in short-answer format. Anything covered in lecture, recitation section, homework, or the readings is fair game. My lectures and the recitation sections will help you identify the material that I consider to be the most important, but you must do the readings and homework assignments in order to be fully prepared for the exams.
• Both exams will be closed book, but you will not need to memorize a bunch of formulas. For each exam, you will be allowed to bring to the exam a formula sheet that you create (8.5 x 11 inch paper, both sides) for your own private use.
• The midterm exam is scheduled for Wednesday October 19, in class.
• The comprehensive final exam is scheduled in the University Final Exam Schedule. Friday, December 9, 10 AM – 21 Noon.
• If you know in advance that you have a conflict with one of the exam times, please see me as soon as possible so that we can work out an alternative.
• No make-up exams will be given without a university-approved and documented excuse. Student Rule 7 governs attendance policy and excused absences. Non-excused absences will result in a zero for that portion of your grade.
• If you think there has been a mistake in the grading of your exam, please contact me no later than one week after the exam is returned. I reserve the right to re-grade the whole work, meaning that you may gain or lose points (since mistakes can happen in both directions).

Research Paper:
• The research paper is one of the major requirements of this writing-intensive course. The assignment is to formulate an interesting economic question, develop a research plan for bringing data to bear on this economic question, obtain and manage the dataset, and use econometric methods in conjunction with this data, informed by economic theory, to analyze and hopefully answer the original economic question.
• Each student will write (1) a proposal (500 words), (2) an initial version of the final paper (description of the economic issue to be studied, description of the data to be used, and description of the methodology to be adopted, 1,000 words), and (3) a final version of the paper incorporating the material in the first draft, after revisions, plus a description of the results of the study, an interpretation of the results, and a conclusions (8-10 pages, 2000 word minimum).
• You will submit hard copies (i.e. paper copies) of your paper in your recitation section. Your TA may also require an electronic copy. For the first two submissions, you have to prepare two paper copies -- one for the grader and one for peer review. All submissions must be typed. You will receive comments on your drafts (proposal and initial version of the paper) and are expected to revise the paper after taking into account the edits and comments provided to you.

Important dates re Research Paper:
• September 23: proposal due (minimum 500 words)
October 28: initial version of the paper due (1000 words)
December 2: final version of the paper due (2000 words)

Note! You will receive a grade on the final version of your research paper. However, any late submissions of any of the above deliverables for the Research Paper will incur a 3 percent reduction in your Research Paper grade for each calendar day late. This penalty applies to late submissions of the proposal, the initial version, and/or the final version of the paper. The cumulative late penalty will be applied to the grade on the final version of your research paper.

Additional details on possible sources for data, format of the proposal, and requirements for each draft will be described in class or recitation.

Help for Writing: There are many resources available to assist you in developing your writing skills. Class time will be devoted to writing instruction and peer review. Throughout the semester, you may consult with me or your Writing TAs if you need advice or assistance. You are strongly encouraged to meet with the TAs before and/or after the first two submissions.

Other resources:
- http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/
- http://www.economics.harvard.edu/files/WritingEconomics.pdf
- http://www.economicsnetwork.ac.uk/archive/lse_writing/

General Course Expectations:
- I will not enforce a formal attendance policy, but the best grades are historically earned by those who are active, engaged, and in class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to catch up with the material. Ask your fellow classmates for notes. If you cannot attend several classes, it is a good idea to email or talk to me and your section TA as soon as you can.
- Recitation sections: Your TAs will introduce reinforcement material in your recitation section, so attendance in section is just as important as attendance at lecture. Recitations will also cover writing tips and advice, as well as guidance on research methods and topics.
- As a courtesy to me and to your fellow students, you should arrive on time and turn off your cell phones. If you absolutely must leave a class early, let me know in advance to minimize distractions. Please do not read newspapers, Facebook, or other material unrelated to the subject matter of the day. Please do not sleep in class or litter.
  * To repeat, do not answer a cell phone call or talk on a cell phone in class. If there is an emergency leave the classroom before answering your phone.

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates
-- A course outline and schedule follow. Both are tentative at this point. If we deviate from the schedule, I will keep you informed as to where you ought to be.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Recitation</th>
<th>Homework Due this Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
<td>Writing project discussion; Discussion of economic research methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Lectures: Aug 29 and 31.  
Recitations Sept 2  
Describing Data 1 |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 2            | Ch. 2  | Ch. 2     | Writing well; examples and discussion 1. Discussion of Proposal that are due in two weeks. | Ch. 1                   |
| Lectures Sept 7 and 9  
Recitations Sept 9  
Describing Data 2 |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 3            | Ch. 3  | Ch. 3     | Review of Probability                                                      | Ch. 2                   |
| Lectures Sept 12 and 14  
Recitations Sept 16  
Probability |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 4            | Ch. 4  | Ch. 4     | Proposals Due Peer Review of Proposals                                     | Ch. 3                   |
| Lectures Sept 19 and 21  
Recitations Sept 23  
Discrete Prob. Distributions |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 5            | Ch. 4  | Ch. 5     | Review of Discrete Probability Distributions                               | Ch. 4                   |
| Lectures Sept 26 and 28  
Recitations Sept 30  
Continuous Distributions |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 6            | Ch. 5  | Ch. 5     | Review of Continuous Probability Distributions                            | Ch. 5                   |
| Lectures Oct 3 and 5  
Recitations Oct 7  
Sampling Distributions |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 7            | Ch. 6  | Ch. 6     | Review for Midterm Exam.                                                  | Ch. 6                   |
| Lectures Oct 10 and 12  
Recitations Oct 14  
Estimation: Single Population |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 8            | Ch. 6,7| MIDTERM EXAM | Writing well; examples and discussion 2.                                   | No homework this week.  |
| Lectures Oct 17  
Exam Oct 19  
Recitations Oct 21  
Estimation |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 9            | Ch. 7  | Ch. 7     | Go over midterm exam; answer key provided (Second Writing Assignment Due Today.) | Ch. 7  
Also: 2nd Writing Assignment Due in Recitation |                         |
| Lectures Oct 24 and 26  
Recitations Oct 28  
Estimation |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 10           | Ch. 8  | Ch. 8     | Peer review of 2nd writing assignment; Discussion of Final Writing Assignment | Ch. 8                   |
| Lectures Oct 31 & Nov2  
Recitations Nov 4  
Hypothesis Testing: Single Population |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 11           | Ch. 9  | Ch. 9     | Review of Ch 8 and 9                                                       | Ch. 9                   |
| Lectures Nov 7 and 9  
Recitations Nov 11  
Testing Hypotheses |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 12           | Ch. 10 | Ch. 10    | Review of Hypothesis Testing                                              | Ch 10                   |
| Lectures Nov 14 and 16  
Recitations Nov 18  
Simple Regression |         |           |                                                                           |                         |
| WEEK 13 | Lectures Nov 21  
| Recitations: None this week  
| Simple Regression, Analysis of Variance | Ch. 11 | Thanksgiving Break | Thanksgiving Break | None |
| WEEK 14 | Lectures Nov 28 and 30  
| Recitations Dec 2  
| Analysis of Variance | Ch. 11 | Ch. 11 | Review of Chapter 11  
| Final Version of Paper Due Today. | Ch. 11 | Also: Final Writing Assignment Due in Recitation |
| WEEK 15 | Recitations December 5  
| Lectures December 7 | Recitation on Monday!  
| (Redefined Day)  
| Review of Chapter 11 | Lecture Day  
| Last Class Day  
| Review for Final Exam | Recitation on Monday!  
| (Redefined Day)  
| No recitation on Friday. | None. |
| FINAL EXAM | Friday Dec 9 | Friday December 9, 10:00 am – 12 noon. |
ADA POLICY STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities ACT (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disabilities Services, currently located in the Disabilities Building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on West Campus or call 979 - 845-1637. For additional information visit http://disability.tamu.edu

Academic Integrity

Note that plagiarism is a type of academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated. Students caught plagiarizing will receive an F on their paper and will fail the course.

For additional information on the Aggie Honor Code and academic integrity, please visit: http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.”