

University of North Texas at Dallas

Academic Council Minutes

November 30, 2023, 3:00pm

Voting Members

Dr. Mario Casa de Calvo, *Interim Dean, School of Liberal Arts & Sciences*
Dr. Richard Chandler, *Faculty Senate Vice President*
Dr. Taj Cobbs, *Assistant Director, Academic Advising*
Krystal Deckard, *SGA Vice President*
Felecia Epps, J.D., *Dean, College of Law*
Dr. Jason Garrett, *Dean, School of Business*
Dr. Constance Lacy, *Dean, School of Human Services*
Dr. Christine Remley, *Dean, School of Education*
Brenda Robertson, *University Librarian*
Dr. Ali Shaqlaih, *Dean, Graduate School*

Non-Voting Members

Dr. Sara Baber, *Director of Distance Learning*
Dr. Kimberly Chandler, *Associate Vice President, Strategy and Effectiveness*
Luis Franco, *University Director of Undergraduate Admissions*
Garrick Hildebrand, *Director of Financial Aid*
Jamie Lee, *University Registrar*
Dr. Dawn Sales, *Assistant Provost*
Dr. Betty H. Stewart, *Provost and EVP for Academic Affairs*
Jill da Silva, *Staff Council Representative*

Other Invitees

Dr. Walt Borges, *Associate Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Ms. Elizabeth Casa de Calvo, *Lecturer, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Dr. Muhammed Yousufuddin, *Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts & Sciences*

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Introductions
- III. Old Business

With there being no Old Business to discuss, the Council moved on to New Business.

IV. New Business

- A. Approval of minutes – September 28, 2023

Dean Lacy made a motion to approve the September 2023 minutes. Dr. Chandler moved to second it. All in favor and none opposed. Motion passed with ten of ten voting. (closed)

- B. Endorsement Request of a Previously Approved Change of the MBA Program (*Dr. Ali Shaqlaih*) – See Appendix I

Dean Shaqlaih made a motion to endorse the approved change of the MBA Program. Dr. Lacy moved to second it. All in favor and none opposed. Motion passed with ten of ten voting. (closed)

- C. New Course Requests (*College of Law*)

Legal Profession

New Course Addition, effective Fall 2023

Department: College of Law

Number of credit hours: 2

Additional information: New ABA Standard 303 requires that students have substantial educational opportunities related to the development of a professional identity. In addition, the new Standard provides that the “law school shall provide education to law students on bias, cross-cultural competency, and racism” both at the start of law school and again before graduation. New interpretation 303-5 states, “professional identity focuses on what it means to be a lawyer and the special obligations lawyers have to their clients and society. The development of a professional identity should involve an intentional exploration of the values, guiding principles, and well-being practices considered foundational to successful legal practice.” This course will put us in compliance with this standard.

Advanced Legal Research

New Course Addition, effective Spring 2024

Department: College of Law

Number of credit hours: 2

Additional information: Advanced Legal Research is currently offered as a 1-credit course focused on federal legal resources or Texas legal resources. We propose that it be approved as a 2-credit course so that there is flexibility to expand the course to include greater application of traditional research skills and greater coverage of innovative new research tools, such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and alternative databases.

All proposed changes are marked as such:
New items are emboldened and underlined
Deleted items are marked with a strikethrough line
Justifications or clarifications are italicized.

Dean Epps made a motion to approve the new course requests. Dean Shaqlaih moved to second it. All in favor and none opposed. Motion passed with ten of ten voting. (closed)

D. New Course Requests (*School of Liberal Arts and Sciences*)

PSCI 3302 (Immigration Policy)

Effective: AY 2024-2025

Department: Political Science

Credit Hours: 3

Additional information: This course has been offered for several years as a Special Topics in American Government course and it has been one of our most popular electives for Political Science majors. Given our large number of students who are immigrants or have immigrant parents the course is especially relevant to their lives and the issues facing their families. This course provides the foundation for those interested in pursuing careers in immigration law or advocacy.

Course Description: This course covers the historical, political, economic, legal, and policy issues of immigration and asylum in the United States.

PSCI 3370 (Campaigns and Elections)

Effective: AY 2024-2025

Department: Political Science

Credit Hours: 3

Additional information: This is a course that we have offered for several years as Topics in American Government course. It makes a valuable contribution to our American Politics offerings by covering the technical aspects of running for office and managing campaigns. Students develop and practice skills, such as writing a campaign plan, that will use to pursue careers in electoral politics or in running for office themselves.

Course Description: This course serves as a comprehensive exploration into campaigns and elections in United States politics. Some questions that we will explore are who runs for office and why? What does it take to run for office and what are some strategies candidates use to get their messages out? We will also consider the role of the voter, political parties and interest groups, and we will explore the influence of money in politics.

Interim Dean Casa de Calvo made a motion to approve the new course requests. Dean Shaqlaih moved to second it. All in favor and none opposed. Motion passed with ten of ten voting. (closed)

E. Course Change Request (*School of Liberal Arts and Sciences*)

PSYC 3360 (Adolescent Psychology)

Change effective: AY 2023-24

Change: Prerequisites

Additional information: The Psychology Department is trying to give Education students access to important content for their discipline (i.e. PSYC 3360 Adolescent Psychology) without having to take an extra course (PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology) outside of their major. This

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is especially important for Education students, who do not have many extra electives in their degree plans.

Current Prerequisite: PSYC 1100

Proposed Prerequisite: PSYC 1100 or EDUC 3330

Dean Remley made a motion to table the course change request. Interim Dean Casa de Calvo moved to second it. All in favor and none opposed. Motion passed with ten of ten voting. (closed)

F. Program Change Requests (*School of Liberal Arts and Sciences*)

Sustainable Livestock and Poultry

Natural Resources Management Certificate

Urban Farming and Gardening

Change effective: AY 2024-2025

Change: Remove the programs from program offerings

Additional information: We are removing the three certificates and therefore no changes in the curriculum are submitted. The Urban Agriculture Certificates were part of the Innovative Pathways for STEM Success (IPSS) project funded by the Department of Education. The project included support for a full-time faculty member to offer courses towards certificates in Urban Agriculture. The project ended in 2022 and therefore we are no longer able to staff the course offerings required to support the certificates.

Interim Dean Casa de Calvo made a motion to approve the program change requests. Dean Shaqlaih moved to second it. All in favor and none opposed. Motion passed with ten of ten voting. (closed)

V. Adjourned at 3:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted December 13, 2023

Laila Mertz

Executive Assistant to Provost and EVP of Academic Affairs

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