REQUEST FOR A COURSE CHANGE
University of Central Oklahoma

Course Subject (Prefix), Number, and Title:

Existing: MPER 2111 University Choir

Proposed: MPER 2xx0 University Choir

Proposed Title: (full course title if longer than 30 characters)

Proposed change(s) to this course: Mark all that apply.

- X Credit Hour
- Level
- Title
- Description
- Prerequisite
- Enrollment
- Restriction

Other:

CIP Code: If changing, what is the new code? 50.0908

For more information regarding CIP codes contact your department chair or visit: http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/ir/program_inventory.asp.

Course description:

As it appears in the current catalog. (required)
University Choir provides an opportunity for musically talented UCO students to develop their vocal talents rehearsing and performing a wide variety of choral music. The group will perform a minimum of two on-campus performances during the semester.

Existing: No change

As it will appear in the next catalog or indicate no change. (Please use standard American English including full sentences.) Course descriptions only. Do not include prerequisites or enrollment restrictions, these should be added under questions 9-15.

Proposed: No change

School of Music
Department submitting the proposal

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Approved by:

Department Chairperson
9/28/2020

College Curriculum Committee Chair
Date
(please notify department chair when proposal is forwarded to dean.)

Academic Affairs Curriculum or Graduate Council
Date

Office of Academic Affairs
Date

Effective Term (assigned by AA)

Dr. Sandra D. Thompson
9/29/20

College Dean
(Please notify department chair when proposal is forwarded to AA.)
1. Does this course have an undergraduate / graduate counterpart?  
   ___ Yes  ___ No

2. Is this proposal part of a larger submission package including a program change?  
   ___ Yes  ___ No

3. Does this course affect a teacher preparation program? (All courses required for any teacher preparation program must have approval from the Council on Teacher Education (CTE) before approval from AACC or Graduate Council.)  
   ___ Yes  ___ No  If yes, send copy of proposal to the Education Curriculum Committee Chair, Dr. Darla Fent  
   CTE Approval (Stamp or initial) __________ __________ __________

4. Is this course currently listed in the University Core?  
   X Yes  ___ No  If you wish this course be listed in the University Core, submit University Core course proposal.

5. Is this course a prerequisite for any other course(s)?  
   ___ Yes  ___ No  If this change affects the prerequisite, complete course change proposal to delete or change prerequisite.

6. Is this course a requirement in any major or minor?  
   ___ Yes  ___ No  If this change impacts the requirement of any major or minor, complete program change proposal.

7. Does this course affect majors or minors outside the department?  
   ___ Yes  ___ No  If yes, provide name(s) of department chair(s) contacted, the dates, and the results of the discussion.
   n/a

8. List all majors or minors which include this changed course as a requirement or elective.
   (list major or minor by title not major code)
   BM-Vocal Performance, BME-Music Education, BA-Music, BM-Musical Theatre

9. Prerequisite courses:  
   Will the prerequisite courses change?  ___ Yes  ___ No  If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

   NOTE: Adding a “new course” as a prerequisite to an existing course will likely cause enrollment problems.
   As listed at the end of the course description in the current catalog. (Required)

   Existing:  
   Proposed:  
   Example 1: MATH 1213 and (MATH 2165 or MATH 2185) and CHEM 1213
   Example 2: (ACCT 2113 and 2213) and (MGMT 3013 or 3613)
   Example 3: 8 hours of biology including BIO 1404

10. Co-requisite(s): Prerequisite courses that may be taken in the same semester.  
    Will the co-requisite(s) change?  ___ Yes  ___ No  If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.
    As listed at the end of the course description in the current catalog. (Required)

    Existing:  
    Proposed:  

11. Concurrent enrollment: Courses that must be taken the same semester. Example: lab courses.  
    Will the concurrent enrollment change?  ___ Yes  ___ No  If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.
    As listed at the end of the course description in the current catalog. (Required)

    Existing:  
    Proposed:  

Academic Affairs Form  
July, 2019  
Functional Review  
(undergraduate proposals only)
12. Does this course currently have enrollment restrictions? 
   [ ] Yes  [X] No  
   If adding or changing enrollment restrictions answer questions 13-15. If not changing or add enrollment restrictions leave questions 13-15 blank.

13. Specify which major(s) may or may not take this course.
   Will the major(s) restriction change?  [ ] Yes  [X] No  
   If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

   Specifying a major, excludes all other majors from enrolling.

   Existing (as appears in current catalog)
   Check one:  [ ] May  [X] May not
   Major Code:  

   Proposed (if changing)
   Check one:  [ ] May  [X] May not
   Major Code:  

14. Which of the following student classification(s) may enroll in this course?
   Will the classification restriction change?  [ ] Yes  [X] No  
   If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

   [ ] Graduate  (2) 19 + hours
   [X] Graduate  (1) 0-18 hours
   Post
   Baccalaureate
   Senior
   Junior
   Sophomore
   Freshman

   Existing (as appears in current catalog)
   Check all that apply:
   [X] Graduate
   [X] Freshman

   Proposed (if changing)
   Check all that apply:
   [X] Graduate
   [X] Freshman

15. Specify other restrictions for this course, if any.
   Will other restrictions change?  [ ] Yes  [X] No  
   If yes, fill out below, if no leave blank.

   Existing (as appears in current catalog)
   Admission to Graduate Programs  
   Admission to Nursing Program  
   Admission to Teacher Education  
   Other:  

   Proposed (if changing)
   Admission to Graduate Programs  
   Admission to Nursing Program  
   Admission to Teacher Education  
   Other:  

16. Course objectives for this course: (Please refer to instructional objectives documents at: 
   https://spaces.uco.edu/display/aaccproposals/UCA-AACC-main-page/#UCOAACC-mainpage-faq-helpful-hints )
   If previously approved objectives will be used without any changes, check here [X] As they appear in the course syllabus.

   Existing:  
   Proposed:  

   As they will appear in the updated syllabus.

17. Please provide a concise, yet comprehensive, statement that explains the specific reasons for requesting the change(s). Include any documentation or assessment information available supporting this specific request.
   We request a switch from fixed credit to variable credit with students being able to take this class as a 0 credit or 1 credit course. This change will: 1) create more successful outcomes for music majors as requested for our specialized accreditation; 2) increase retention for non-music majors; 3) maintain current credit-hour production of this course; 4) reduce reliance on tuition waivers.
and 5) offer new recruiting options for prospective UCO students.

This switch from fixed credit to variable credit will create more successful outcomes and support the student learning outcomes for BME - Music Education, BM - Vocal Performance, BM - Musical Theatre, and BA - Music programs. All four programs list “performing with others in an ensemble setting” as an important outcome. In addition, multiple accreditation standards set forth by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) emphasize the importance of students performing with ensembles and encourage students to participate in them throughout their study.

The limitation of number of credits in a 4-year degree restrict the number of credits which a student in one of these programs may take in this course. Often students complete their ensemble credits by their sophomore or junior year, meaning that the seniors (usually the most experienced students) are not required to sing in an ensemble unless they receive tuition waiver money to offset this credit. Thus, there is no way to ensure that students sing in an ensemble every semester in which they attend UCO without paying tuition waiver money to incentivize it.

We also request this switch to support an additional student learning outcome for BME - Music Education. A major part of each of these degree programs involves learning and performing on musical instruments outside of their primary instrument. BME - Music Education students whose primary area of focus is instrumental often learn to sing as well, since many music educators must teach both instruments and voice. However, because of the credit limitation, these students will not have the opportunity to participate in an ensemble without paying for extra non-required credit hours which limits their overall achievement in this area. University Choir is a perfect option for these students to gain valuable experience in singing in an ensemble.

This switch will increase recruitment and retention for non-music majors by creating a link for those students to a UCO group of like-minded students. Students who major in programs other than music often sing in a choir for a semester or two and then stop taking the course after their core credits are satisfied. Since participation is limited to those who pay for credit, these students lose a valuable link to a community which acts as an aid in student retention and graduation as well as transformative learning experiences through participating in this creative activity.

Adding the option for students to take choir for 0-credit after they satisfy their university core credits will also allow UCO recruiters to appeal to those who sang in a choir in high school. Many universities with strong ensembles (especially in those schools who charge a flat fee rather than a per-credit fee in which taking choir for non-majors does not increase their tuition bill) use their ensembles (including bands, choirs, and orchestras) as recruiting tools for non-music major students. UCO currently does not have this option because most students will not pay for an ensemble course after their 2 credit university core requirement is fulfilled and so cannot make this course a part of their UCO identity like other universities might.

Example of other Oklahoma institutions which use their ensembles as recruiting tools include OU and OSU which have strong marching bands which attract students to the university just to participate in these ensembles.

Most importantly - it would **not reduce the net credit hour production of these courses** because majors would still be required to take this course for credit the same number of times to fulfill their degree programs and non-majors would still take the course to satisfy university core requirements. If anything, **tuition waiver awards would be reduced** because students would no longer need to be incentivized by tuition waiver awards to be a part of the ensemble after their credits are complete.
In summary, including a 0-credit option for this course would allow UCO to require majors in music degree programs to participate in ensembles every year they are enrolled without creating a hidden credit requirement. It would support the ensemble participation SLOs established for the degree programs as well as support NASM accreditation standards. It would reduce the amount of tuition waiver money needed to ensure that these students stay in ensembles beyond their required number of credits.

It would increase the level of achievement for Music Education students in SLOs related to performing on secondary instruments by allowing them to sing in an ensemble while also studying an instrument without taking more than their required number of credits in their degree.

It would vastly increase the participation in this ensemble by talented non-music majors and help increase retention in the university as a whole by engaging non-majors in the community aspect of musical ensembles — in essence bringing them into a supportive environment in which they can take pride and increasing their transformative learning experiences at UCO. It would also strengthen the recruiting of students.

Finally, adding a 0-credit option would not cost the university to make this change and credit hour production would stay the same since students in four majors need to take this course multiple times for credit (as well as those non-majors who take it for university core credit). It may save the university money by reducing the amount of tuition waivers needed to keep the most advanced students in the ensembles.

18. Clearly explain how the characteristics of this course meet or exceed those outlined in Course Level Characteristics. Complete this question only if requesting a course level change. (Copy and paste table from “Course Level Characteristics” document for the appropriate course level of proposed course. Document may be found on: https://spaces.uco.edu/display/aaccproposals/UCO+AACC-main+page#UCOAACC-mainpage-faq-helpful-hints.

n/a