

Undergraduate Collaborative Courses

Policy adopted by the Senate, May 9, 2000

Collaborative courses are developed collaboratively under two or more rubrics by two or more academic units responsible for course development (typically departments or interdisciplinary programs). The purpose of such courses shall be to encourage faculty creativity and cooperation and to enhance students' educational opportunities. Collaborative courses shall be listed among the courses of each unit that participates in the collaboration.

Approval for collaborative courses at the 100- through 500-level shall rest with the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. Approval for a collaborative course shall be considered only after the course itself, whether new or revised, has been approved for content in the normal process as presented on a New Course Proposal form. Approval as a collaborative course requires, in addition, that the collaborative process be described under which the course was developed, and that all units participating in the collaboration agree to the conditions of the collaboration. In addition, the units shall agree that, if the course is not team taught, the instructor shall be knowledgeable in all of the content areas.

Each unit participating in a collaborative course shall agree to any change in course title, number, prerequisites, description, unit value, content, or grading method. If any participant unit disagrees to a proposed change, then no change shall be made. If any unit withdraws from participation in a collaborative course, then the course itself shall be deleted, and each unit shall formally reapply by the new course proposal process to teach that material, even if the unit taught that material before the collaboration.

If a collaborative course is acceptable for General Education, the following General Education policies apply. A student shall not receive more than 12 units of GE credit from any one academic unit, including collaborative courses listed therein. A student shall not receive more than 7 units of GE credit in sections II, III, and IV combined from any one academic unit, including collaborative courses offered therein. Courses in a student's major unit or collaborative courses listed therein may not be used in Section IV (Explorations of Human Experience).

In evaluating collaborative course proposals, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee shall consider the following factors:

- A. A collaborative course shall have the same title, number, prerequisites, description, unit value, and grading method in its description as listed in every participating unit.
- B. Experimental topics courses, General Studies 250 and 350, and variable title and variable unit courses shall not be considered as collaborative courses.
- C. Catalog and course schedule listings shall indicate that the course is a collaborative course listed in more than one unit. Materials presented to students, such as syllabi and course descriptions, shall also indicate that the course is a collaborative course listed in more than one unit.
- D. The participating units shall collaborate on and maintain responsibility for course content.
- E. The participating units shall agree to the special conditions on collaborative courses described above. If the course is offered for General Education credit, the participating units shall agree to the special conditions on collaborative General Education courses described above.
- F. The participating units shall agree that students may take the course under any of its listings to fulfill any one unit's requirements.