

1 **John Jay College of Criminal Justice**
2 City University of New York
3 Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee

4
5 Minutes of December 13, 2024
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7 The Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee held a remote meeting on
8 December 13, 2024, via Zoom. Interim Dean Andrew Sidman called the meeting to order.
9

10 **Present:** Anjalina Budhram, Alexa Capeloto, Roosbelinda Cardenas, Jocelyn Castillo, Angelique
11 Corthals, Nina Rose Fischer, Sergio Gallegos, Penny Geyer, Sengkathirkumaran Kalamohan,
12 Kathy Killoran, Ma'at Lewis, Cristina Lozano Argüelles, Shavonne McKiever, Kelly McWilliams,
13 Tracie Meyer, Fatma Najar, Dor Nave, Judy-Lynne Peters, Amada Santiago, Andrew Sidman,
14 Marisa Tramontano, Gregory Umbach, Roberto Visani.
15

16 **Absent:** Crystal Endsley, Thomas Herndon, Daniel Matos, Gohar Petrossian, Shreya Subramani,
17 Robert Till.
18

19 **Non-Voting Members and Guests:** Maggie Arismendi, Alexander Bolesta, Yaritma Cabral,
20 Melissa Dolan, Wynne Ferdinand, Veronica Michel, Stacy Nardin, Chrissy Pacheco, Raymond
21 Patton, Patrizia Pelgrift, Dyanna Pooley, Kate Szur.
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23 **I. Dean's Announcements—Interim Dean Andrew Sidman**
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25 There were no announcements.
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27 **II. Approval of the minutes of November 15, 2024**
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29 There was no discussion.
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31 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of November 15, 2024. The**
32 **minutes were approved unanimously with 22 votes in favor.**
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34 **III. Old Business**
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36 None.
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1 **IV. New Business**

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3 **A. General Education / Courses Subcommittee**

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5 **i. Course Revisions**

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7 1. HON 202 Leadership and the Common Good

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9 Professor Raymond Patton explained that this course on leadership is missing some
10 components that would help it fit neatly into the rest of the honors curriculum, which itself
11 seeks to present to honors students a unified experience based on justice issues and academic
12 research. This revision incorporates a research element into the theme of leadership.

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14 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the revision to HON 202. The motion was**
15 **approved unanimously with 22 votes in favor.**

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17 2. HON 301 The Idea of the Common Good Across Disciplines

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19 This course has, over the years, been where students naturally end up starting their capstone
20 projects, and so Professor Patton has submitted this revision to explicitly frame the course as
21 being part one of a two-part capstone sequence. Dean Killoran noted that the short title has
22 been changed as well to include the word “research” so that student transcripts will convey the
23 fact that this is a research-methods course.

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25 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the revision to HON 301. The motion was**
26 **approved unanimously with 22 votes in favor.**

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28 3. SOC 232 Social Stratification

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30 Professor Marisa Tramontano introduced this revision, which updates the course title and
31 description to better align with the Seven Principles as well as harmonizes them with the key
32 learning outcomes of the Sociology Major. The updated description also signals that, as a
33 required course in the major, an intersectional approach will be taken when talking about the
34 subject matter. The learning outcomes are also being updated to be more measurable.

35

36 Professor Alexa Capeloto asked about the learning outcomes, specifically what it means for
37 students to demonstrate “understanding”, and whether including a syllabus and the

1 assignments it contains would help to highlight what aspects of the course lead to
2 understanding. Professor Tramontano responded that the department as directed by chair
3 Carla Barrett tries to keep this terminology consistent, where 100-level courses “introduce”
4 material, 200-level courses “reinforce” material, and 300-level courses aim for “mastery”; as
5 such, “understanding” signals the philosophy of “reinforcement” that is characteristic of a 200-
6 level course.

7
8 As for a sample syllabus, Professor Tramontano said that some faculty are already teaching the
9 course with these updates in mind, and so they would be able to share the course materials
10 with anyone interested.

11
12 Additionally, Interim Dean Sidman offered congratulations for the major revisions to sociology
13 and criminology that passed College Council recently, and noted that this course revision is in
14 line with the major revisions that have already moved through the approval process.

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16 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the revision to SOC 232. The motion was**
17 **approved unanimously with 22 votes in favor.**

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19 **B. Program Review / Programs Subcommittee**

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21 **i. Program Revisions**

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23 **1. Revision of the Middle East Studies Minor**

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25 Dean Kathy Killoran introduced this revision, which aims to grow the minor by allowing for
26 more flexibility. It achieves this, both by making a special topics course repeatable for elective
27 credit provided topics are different, and also by allowing for 9 credits of foreign language
28 courses to count instead of 6, enabling students to apply the highest-level Arabic course toward
29 the minor. Professor Cristina Lozano Argüelles added that the option for more language credit
30 is an important change, as language is a big part of culture and identity.

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32 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the revision to the Minor in Middle East**
33 **Studies. The motion was approved unanimously with 22 votes in favor.**

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35 **V. Other Business**

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1 Interim Dean Sidman thanked everyone for their work this semester and wished all in
2 attendance happy holidays.

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4 The meeting concluded at 10:06 AM.

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6 Submitted by,

7 Alexander Bolesta, scribe