

COMMITTEE ON COURSES OF INSTRUCTION
Legislation to Establish a Committee on Courses of Instruction

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) and the Committee on Committees (COC) propose to establish a Committee on Courses of Instruction (CCI).

UCSC faculty place a strong emphasis on undergraduate teaching. Excellence in our undergraduate curriculum and its delivery is a long-standing value of this campus. With the plenary authority of the Senate, faculty have consistently conducted careful reviews of the courses and the program statements that represent the dynamic environment of our curriculum. By having a committee dedicated solely to conducting these reviews, we ensure our curriculum gets the attention warranted to implement this value. Up to now, this function has fallen to the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP). Establishment of a Committee on Courses of Instruction (CCI) will allow CEP the time necessary for considering the broad policy issues required by the rapidly changing environment of higher education. UCSC is the only campus in the UC system that does not have a committee on courses that is separate from their CEP. This new committee is a natural evolution of a maturing campus requiring a committee that specifically looks at the curriculum and another committee that is dedicated to the review and development of the broad policy issues.

The charge for CCI and the interrelated changes to CEP have been carefully formulated to preserve the plenary authorities of the Senate. The intention is to reduce routine work for CEP by allowing that committee more time for in-depth reviews and for updating and developing undergraduate policies. CEP and CCI will have issues that cross over between them, so having the CCI Chair as a member of CEP will ensure that policy issues arising from course and program review will be brought to the agenda of CEP. CCI will be able to handle much of the business and make sound decisions based on the policies established by CEP. From the Senate service perspective, CCI gives faculty an opportunity to work on the curriculum in a broad way without taking on the onerous weekly workload of CEP.

We are proposing a big change for how the UCSC Senate does its business, but we believe it is appropriate and timely.

13.xx Committee on Courses of Instruction

- 13.xx.1 There are six Senate members, one from each academic division and one from the School of Engineering. In addition, there is one undergraduate student representative, and the Associate Registrar, ex officio non-voting.
- 13.xx.2 Reviews, coordinates and takes final action on all matters relating to courses of instruction, including approval of new courses, modifications, withdrawal, conduct, content, credit valuation, classification of existing courses, prerequisites, the numbering and catalog description of courses. Reviews requests for exceptions to Division Regulations governing courses of instruction. The Committee shall, after consultation with the department(s) concerned, have the authority to delete from the catalog any

course that has not been offered for six consecutive years. Consults, and advises departments and individual members of the Division on courses of instruction.

13.xx.3 Approves General Education designations for courses based on CEP criteria. Is responsible for approving courses for fulfillment of the American History and Institutions requirement.

13.xx.4 Approves Graduate Student Instructors and Undergraduate Teaching Assistants for undergraduate courses based on CEP criteria.

13.xx.5 Reviews and acts on all petitions from students for exception to the Regulations of the Academic Senate including those found in the Santa Cruz Division. Considers grade appeals as allowed under Appendix C of the Santa Cruz Division Manual.

Respectfully submitted;
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