



November 7, 2012

To: Jose Wudka, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Ziv Ran, Chair
Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction

Re: Proposed new Regulation R8 and R8.1 – Honors Courses

Please find the Proposed new Regulation R8 and R8.1 – Honors Courses approved by R&J 11/02/2012.

**Committee on Courses Report
to the Riverside Division
February 19, 2013**

To be received and placed on file:

Proposed Riverside Division Regulation on Fulfillment of Prerequisites and Course Overlap for Honors Courses and Corresponding Non-Honors Courses

PRESENT

PROPOSED

R8. Prerequisite Equivalence and Overlap Equivalence for Honors and Corresponding Non-Honors Courses

R8.1. For purposes of fulfilling prerequisites for other courses and for issues of overlap with other courses, Honors courses and corresponding non-Honors courses are equivalent.

JUSTIFICATION:

During the 2011-12 academic year, the Committee on Courses and the Registrar's Office worked together to identify steps or situations where the course approval process might be streamlined or accelerated. Attention was focused on concurrent approval procedures because some savings of effort seemed possible there. Concurrent approval situations arise when creation of a new course or a change in an existing course generates a need for changes in other courses. One common example is when the new or changed course is a prerequisite to other courses. Another common example is when the new or changed course requires a credit statement, i.e., the new or changed course overlaps some other existing course to the extent that credit cannot be allowed for both the new or changed course and the other existing course. In either of these situations, current procedures require that course proposals for change in the other affected courses be submitted concurrently with the course proposal for the new or changed course. The requirement for concurrent approval can magnify a small job, perhaps a relatively simple change in one course, into a big job, due to the other courses that must be changed along with this course.

The Committee on Courses and the Registrar's Office focused in particular on the workload arising from concurrent approval requirements that typically arise with proposals for new Honors courses. Creation of an Honors version of an existing course often leads to many concurrent approval requirements because if the regular course serves as a prerequisite to some other courses, then programs will generally want the Honors version of the course to also serve as prerequisite to those other courses. Furthermore, students are generally not allowed to receive credit for taking both a non-Honors course and the Honors version of the same course. Programs or departments sometimes become discouraged about proposing Honors courses because of the workload involved with generating proposals for the required concurrent changes in other courses.

Several potential alternative approaches for reducing the concurrent approval workload connected with proposal of new Honors courses were developed and sent out for review by, and comment from, several Senate committees and the University Honors Program. By March,

2012, the Committee on Educational Policy, the CNAS Executive Committee, the CHASS Executive Committee, the BCOE Executive Committee, the GSOE Executive Committee, the SoBA Executive Committee, the Biomedical Sciences Executive Committee and University Honors had all responded in favor of the approach of creating a blanket Senate policy that declares Honors courses and the corresponding non-Honors courses to be equivalent with regard to fulfilling prerequisites and course overlap. This policy would allow departments or programs to simply update the Section Registration Controls in the Student Information System and would eliminate the need for concurrent course change proposals altogether. While favoring this approach, the Committee on Educational Policy, the CNAS Executive Committee and the CHASS Executive Committee all suggested that systems should be developed for notifying departments or programs about the need to update their Section Registration Controls in SIS and for updating CRAMS and the General Catalog on these matters for new Honors courses.

Submitted and approved by the Committee on Courses:

October 15, 2012

The Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction finds the wording to be consistent with the code of the Academic Senate:

November 2, 2012

University Honors Program:

CHASS Executive Committee:

CNAS Executive Committee:

BCOE Executive Committee:

SoBA Executive Committee:

SOM Executive Committee:

Committee on Educational Policy:

Received by the Executive Council: