Texas Tech University
Academic Council

Meeting of August 19, 2025
1:30 PM, TLPDC, Room 153 and via Teams

Attendance

Present: Cindy Akers (Chair), Karen Alexander, Carolyn Arnold, Nurcan Bac, Andrea Bilkey, Janessa Blanchard, Stefanie Borst, Ashlee Brown, Bobbie Brown, Dee Dee Brown-Campbell, Ryan Cassidy, Mayukh Dass, Debbie Davis, Erin Engelhardt, Karen Esquibel, Kristi Gaines, Faith Geistweidt, Jarod Gonzalez, Heather Greenhalgh-Spencer, Lindsay Hallowell, Kaelene Hansen, Jennifer Hughes, Amy Koerber, Rodney Lackey, Mitzi Lauderdale, Mellinee Lesley, Ryan Litsey, Brenda Martinez, Pat McConnel, Jon McNaughtan, Kuhn Park, Paul Ruiz, Pradip Sahu, Kymberli Saldaña, Brian Shannon, Jill Stangl (for Matt Gregory), Clay Taylor, and Dino Villegas.

Guests: Jared Brown and Rachel Jackson.

Action Items:
  1. None.

Akers called the meeting to order by announcing that Karen Alexander has been appointed as the new Assistant Vice Provost for Program Development and Core Curriculum. Akers then reminded Council members that the new voting process will be in use starting with the September Academic Council meeting. Each voting member will pick up a sheet to use for voting and will return it at the end of the meeting.

Akers then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Gaines moved to approve, Gonzalez seconded, and the minutes were approved.

For the next item of business, Akers invited Jackson to update the Council on the changes that have been made to the new academic approval process documents. Jackson provided an update and clarification to the materials that were presented previously. Jackson and Akers explained that the new process will take over after the December Academic Council meeting, and they urged associate deans to work with their faculty to submit any necessary proposals throughout the fall semester to have a chance to be published in the 2026-27 catalog. All proposals submitted after January 1, 2026, will be held over for the 2027-28 catalog. Faculty can anticipate the whole process to take about 18 months from submission in Curriculog to publication in the catalog.

Next, Hallowell presented the summary of course proposals, starting with the voting items numbered 1-41. Villegas asked about item 9, HONS 4363 Ethical Leadership, and the potential confusion or overlap with MGT 4373 Leadership Ethics. Villegas pointed out that Honors students take BA courses. As there was not an Honors representative present, Akers asked if Villegas would like to request the course to be tabled. Villegas confirmed that. McNaughtan seconded, and the course was tabled. After minimal discussion, Akers called for a motion to approve items 1-41 with item 9 being tabled. Durband moved, Davis seconded, and the motion carried. Hallowell then highlighted the informational items, which were largely prerequisite and restriction changes from Psychological Sciences.

Next, Hallowell presented the summary of program proposals. The voting items were numbered 1-15. The Council heard a description for each voting item, and a list of all voting items can be

found at the end of the minutes. Hearing no discussion, Akers called for a motion to approve the program proposals. McNaughtan moved, Villegas seconded, and the motion carried. Hallowell then pointed out the informational items, which were curricular changes with effective dates of Fall 2026.

For the next item of business, Akers explained that Alexander has been working on a document of best practices for using Special Topics and Special Programs courses for new content that departments are interested in offering. Alexander described how departments can use Special Topics and Special Problems courses when new courses may not be approved and published as quickly as departments would like to offer the new content. Alexander said that Special Topics courses should not be offered under the same topic multiple times. Rather, the recommendation is to offer the course a single time covering a particular topic and then to proceed with creating a new course for that topic after the first offering or simultaneously with the first offering.

If departments do not already have a Special Topics course in the inventory, Alexander recommended creating one this fall while the current approval process is still in place so those courses can be utilized during the new approval process. A list of all currently approved Special Topics courses will be sent out with the minutes.

Akers added that Special Topics courses can have extended titles that will show on students' transcripts. Martinez mentioned that Special Topics courses are not automatically captured in grade replacement, so special requests must be made for the Registrar's Office to manually process those.

Akers called for items of other business or announcements. Hearing none, Akers called for a motion to adjourn. Several Council members moved, and Akers adjourned the meeting.

Voting Items: Courses

Add New Course

No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Description	Hours/Activity Type	Modality	Effective Term
1	GR	BTEC 5101	Bioethics and Responsible Conduct of Research in Biotechnology	Covers bioethics, research integrity, and regulations in biotechnology, focusing on ethical decision-making, responsible conduct, and compliance with scientific and industry standards.	1:1:0:0 Lecture	F2F	**Spring 2026**
2	GR	BTEC 5314	Single-Cell Genomics and Data Analysis	Covers single-cell RNA sequencing principles and hands-on data analysis to provide students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills for research and biotechnology applications.	3:2:0:1 Lecture, Discussion	F2F	**Spring 2026**
3	GR	BTEC 5315	Transcriptomics: Principles and Applications	Introduces students to transcriptomic profiling, focusing on RNA-sequencing, from sample preparation to data analysis and interpretation.	3:2:0:1 Lecture, Non-credit lab	F2F	**Spring 2026**
4	GR	BTEC 5318	Environmental DNA (eDNA): Principles and Applications	Covers eDNA principles, methods, and applications in biodiversity monitoring, conservation biology, and environmental science through lectures, hands-on labs, and data analysis.	3:2:0:1 Lecture, Non-credit lab	F2F	**Spring 2026**
5	GR	BTEC 5319	Metagenomics: Principles and Applications	Covers metagenomics and metabarcoding techniques, focusing on biodiversity, community ecology, and DNA-based identification using next-generation sequencing (NGS).	3:2:0:1 Lecture, Non-credit lab	F2F	**Spring 2026**
6	AS	CLAS 3370	Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean World	Offers a foundational understanding of the religions and rituals of the ancient world, their cultural contexts, the spaces in which they occurred, and the people who participated in them. May be repeated once for credit.	3:3:0:0 Seminar	F2F	**Spring 2026**
7	AS	CLAS 3375	Magic in the Ancient Mediterranean World	Examines the ancient artifacts and human behaviors which have come to be called "magic," giving special attention to the social and cultural situations that created a demand for such "arcane" solutions. May be repeated once for credit.	3:3:0:0 Seminar	F2F	**Spring 2026**
8	EN	ECE 5334	Advanced Design Lab	For electrical or computer engineering graduate students only or by departmental consent. A laboratory course to design, simulate, develop, and implement advanced project labs.	3:0:V:3 Lab, Discussion	F2F	Spring 2026
9	HR	HONS 4363 [tabled 8.19.25]	Ethical Leadership	Provides rigorous personal and professional leadership and ethics development, while investigating the characteristics, philosophical commitments, mental disciplines, and practices that can make excellent leaders virtuous and virtuous leaders excellent.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F	Spring 2026
10	LW	LAW 7415	Immigration Law Clinic I	Clinic students are responsible for preparing and managing immigration cases at many different stages of proceedings. The clinic is designed to provide the student as much exposure to court proceedings while also providing opportunity to practice their skills in mock and moot exercises aimed at developing core abilities like interviewing, counseling, and courtroom skills.	4:4:0:0 Clinic	F2F	**Spring 2026**
11	LW	LAW 7416	Immigration Law Clinic II	Prerequisite: LAW 7415. A continuation of Immigration Law Clinic I.	4:4:0:0 Clinic	F2F	Spring 2026
12	GR	LPMD 6101	Graduate Seminar in Land-Use Planning, Management, and Design	Students will present their research, interact with other researchers, and provide and receive feedback on their presentations and related projects.	1:1:0:0 Seminar	F2F, Hybrid, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
13	GR	LPMD 6331	Special Topics in Land-Use Planning, Management, and Design	Topic depends on student's interests and needs as indicated by an appended title for each section. Repeatable once but with a different appended title.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, Hybrid, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
14	VP	MUCP 5310	Music Since 1989	Prerequisite: Graduate standing or instructor consent. Selected survey of modern music after 1989 with an emphasis on analysis and compositional style, technique, and musical language, with their associated aesthetic background.	3:3:0:0 Independent Study	F2F	**Spring 2026**
15	GR	SENT 6300	Special Topics in Social Entrepreneurship	A specialized exploration of various topics within social entrepreneurship, focusing on innovative approaches to addressing social, economic, and environmental challenges through entrepreneurial practices.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
16	GR	SENT 6301	Foundations of Social Entrepreneurship	Introduces fundamentals of social entrepreneurship. Students will learn to conduct a needs assessment specific to the social entrepreneurship sector, develop innovative business ideas, and create a comprehensive business plan.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
17	GR	SENT 6302	Advanced Engineering Design	Focuses on learning and applying engineering design methods in the context of solving entrepreneurial problems with social impact using a design science approach. [ME 5351]	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
18	GR	SENT 6303	Positive Leadership Practices	Introduces students to positive leadership practices as a critical tool for sustainable social entrepreneurship. Students will discuss the role of positive leadership in leadership decisions, employee development, change management, and organizational culture.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
19	GR	SENT 6304	Engineering the Future: Technology Trends and Application	Explores a broad spectrum of emerging technologies shaping the future of industry and commerce. Students will gain a practical understanding of how these technologies create value in the modern economy and influence both society and industry. [ECE 5332, CS 5331]	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
20	GR	SENT 6350	Social Entrepreneurship Capstone	Prerequisite: SENT 6301. Supports students as they iterate on their business plan from SENT 6301, reflect on knowledge and skills gained from the elective courses, and move their business plans into step-by-step processes and execution.	3:3:0:0 Practicum	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**
21	GR	SENT 7000	Independent Study in Social Entrepreneurship	Offers students the opportunity to engage in self-directed research or project development within the field of social entrepreneurship under the guidance of a faculty mentor.	V1-6 Independent Study	F2F, 100% Online	**Spring 2026**

| 22 | GR | SVM 6107 | Advanced Research Seminar | Prerequisite: SVM 6103. Weekly seminars on topics related to students' research will be presented by graduate students. Only students who have made progress in their research and/or are in their 3rd year will be allowed to take this course. | 1:1:0:0

Seminar | F2F | **Spring 2026** |

Change Course Title

No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Effective Term
23	ED	EDBL 5306	**Proposed:** Seminar in Current Issues in Bilingual Education and ESL in PreK-12 Contexts **Current:** Seminar in Bilingual Education and ESL in PreK-12 Contexts	**Spring 2026**
24	ED	EDBL 5337	**Proposed:** Teaching Strategies for ESL and Content-Area Teachers of Emergent Bilinguals **Current:** Strategies and Special Programs for Teachers of Emergent Bilinguals	**Spring 2026**
25	ED	EDBL 5340	**Proposed:** Academic Writing Development for PreK-12 Bilingual and ESL Contexts **Current:** Academic Writing Development for PreK-12 Second Language Learning Contexts	**Spring 2026**

Change Course Number

No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Effective Term
26	AS	**Proposed:** HIST 5375 **Current:** HIST 5305	Historiography of European History	**Spring 2026**
27	AS	**Proposed:** HIST 5376 **Current:** HIST 6307	Historiography of the World	**Spring 2026**

Delete Course

No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Effective Term
28	AG	PSS 5231	Applied Geostatistics	Fall 2025
29	AG	PSS 5232	International Agriculture	Fall 2025
30	AG	PSS 5303	Host Plant Resistance	Fall 2025
31	AG	PSS 5312	Vineyard Management	Fall 2025
32	AG	PSS 5319	Advanced Interiorscaping	Fall 2025
33	AG	PSS 5416	Advanced Winemaking	Fall 2025
34	AG	PSS 6327	Advanced Forage Science	Fall 2025
35	AS	ZOOL 6321	Advanced Herpetology	Fall 2025

Multiple Changes

No.	College	Change Type	Prefix & No.	Title	Description	Credit/Contact Hours / CIP Code / Activity Type / eLearning/ Tandem / Cross-Listing	Effective Term
36	VM	Description, Credit/Contact Hours/Activity Type	DVM 6310	Clinical and Professional Skills 3	**Proposed:** Building on Clinical and Professional Skills 2, students will continue to expand their clinical skills in clinical examination of relevant body systems, diagnostic procedures (including pathology, clinical pathology, and microbiology), surgical technique, practical clinical interventions, case management, and disease prevention. Students will be introduced to more complexities related to client communication, conflict management, medical mistakes, and financial literacy. Students will demonstrate continued development in communication, advanced history taking, working with veterinary health care team, making plans, explaining diagnostic options and tools, leadership, and professional skills related to the increasing complexities of the profession. **Current:** Building on Clinical and Professional Skills 1 and 2, students will continue to expand their clinical skills in clinical examination of relevant body systems, diagnostic procedures, surgical technique, case management, and disease prevention. Students will demonstrate continued development in communication skills including advanced history taking and introduction to explaining and planning.	Change credit/contact hours to 3:1:0:2 Change activity type to independent study	**Spring 2026**
37	AS	Number, Title	**Proposed:** HIST 5377 **Current:** HIST 6311	**Proposed:** Historiography of American History to 1877 **Current:** Readings in American History to 1877			**Spring 2026**
38	AS	Number, Title	**Proposed:** HIST 5378 **Current:** HIST 6312	**Proposed:** Historiography of American History Since 1877 **Current:** Readings in American History Since 1877			**Spring 2026**

No.	College	Change	Course	Title	Description	Change Requested	Effective Term
39	GR	CIP Code, Modality	LPMD 7000			Change modality to F2F, Hybrid, and 100% Online Change CIP Code to 03.0101.0005	**Spring 2026**
40	GR	CIP Code, Modality	LPMD 8000			Change modality to F2F, Hybrid, and 100% Online Change CIP Code to 03.0101.0005	**Spring 2026**
41	EN	Title, Description	PETR 5318	**Proposed:** Hydrocarbon and CO2 Process Engineering **Current:** Gas Production Engineering	**Proposed:** Design and understanding of surface facilities for processing and disposition or sale of Carbon (for storage), oil, gas, and water. Introduction to design of pipelines and facilities for carbon storage. Field trips required. **Current:** Design of processing, transportation, distribution, and flow measurement systems; gas storage reservoirs, flow in porous media, tubing, and pipelines; phase behavior of gas condensates; and coal bed methane.		**Spring 2026**

Voting Items: Programs

Add New Program

No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Modality/Campus	Hours	Effective Term
1	GR	Interdisciplinary Graduate Opportunities	Graduate Concentration	Bioinformatics, Graduate Concentration	F2F, 100% Online	12	Fall 2025
2	EN	Petroleum Engineering	Graduate Minor	Carbon Capture Storage, Graduate Minor	F2F, 100% Online	9	Fall 2025
3	GR	Interdisciplinary Graduate Opportunities	Graduate Concentration	Social Entrepreneurship, Graduate Certificate	100% Online	9	Fall 2025

Title Change

No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Change Requested	Effective Term
4	GR	Interdisciplinary Graduate Opportunities	Master of Science	**Proposed:** Interdisciplinary Sciences, M.S. **Current:** Interdisciplinary Studies, M.S.	Change Title	**Fall 2026**

Program Deletion

No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Effective Term
5	ED	Educational Psychology, Leadership, and Counseling	Graduate Certificate	Institutional Research and Institutional Effectiveness (IRIE), Graduate Certificate	**Fall 2025**
6	ED	Special Education	Graduate Certificate	Sensory Impairment & Autism Spectrum Disorders, Graduate Certificate	**Fall 2025**

Modality Change

No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Change Requested	Effective Term
7	EN	Industrial, Manufacturing, and Systems Engineering	Doctor of Philosophy	Systems and Engineering Management, Ph.D.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
8	ED	Educational Psychology, Leadership, and Counseling	Master of Education	Educational Psychology, M.Ed.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
9	MC	Media and Communication Graduate Programs	Master of Arts	Strategic Communication & Innovation, M.A.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
10	EN	Industrial, Manufacturing, and Systems Engineering	Master of Science	Manufacturing Engineering, M.S.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
11	ED	Special Education	Master of Education	Special Education, M.Ed.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
12	EN	Industrial, Manufacturing, and Systems Engineering	Master of Science	Industrial Engineering, M.S.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
13	EN	Mechanical Engineering	Master of Science	Mechanical Engineering, M.S.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025
14	ED	Special Education	Doctor of Philosophy	Special Education, Ph.D.	Add 100% Online modality	Fall 2025

Multiple Changes

No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Change Requested	Effective Term
15	HS	Interdisciplinary Human Sciences	Undergraduate Minor	**Proposed:** Health and Human Sciences, Undergraduate Minor **Current:** Human Sciences, Undergraduate Minor	Change program title. Change required curriculum.	**Fall 2026**