

**ECU MLS Program
Curriculum Committee Agenda
April 5, 2022**

<https://ecu.webex.com/meet/soulenr19>

Attendees: Drs. Soulen, Bright, Hands

Housekeeping

1. Minutes for last MLS Curriculum Committee were approved.
2. Committee goals for AY 2021-22.

The MLS 2021-2022 Curriculum committee will:

- ☒ Revise the public library concentration to remove 6133/6135/6137 as required courses.
 - Revision has been approved.
- ☒ Develop Curriculum package(s) for adjusting prerequisites and co-requisites for several courses.
- ☒ Continue discussion of a seminar on health sciences librarianship.
 - The ECU ALA student chapter hosted a webinar on health sciences librarianship.
- ☒ Consider adding the archives course as a permanent course (elective).
 - Course has been approved as an elective
- **Tabled.** Consider for AY 2022-23 the possibility of redeveloping LIBS 7160 The Adult Reader.
 - Faculty who may wish to teach this course would need to access a syllabus and make considerable revisions.
- Plan next curriculum workshop to include 6048, 6991, 6992 (the remaining core courses).

Old Business

1. Status on package for removal of LIBS 6133/6135/or 6137 and request to add the archives course as a permanent course (Dr. Bright).
 - 1.1. This item has been completed
2. Discussion on planning for next curriculum workshop. Core courses to be reviewed include LIBS 6048, 6991 and 6992.

Discuss internship evaluation form—data collection—VI Employability
https://education.ecu.edu/idp/idp-library-science/idp_mls_students/ to make recommendation at curriculum workshop.

In lieu of students and alumni attending the curriculum workshop, the committee will implement a focus group process to collect feedback from students and recent alumni about the MLS program's curriculum. This change will be implemented for the May 2022

curriculum workshop. Previously, the program attempted to identify and invite students and alumni to participate in the annual spring curriculum workshops. This process offered limited input, as scheduling students, alumni, and MLS program faculty was difficult. Additionally, collecting information about courses through an open meeting process is a potentially flawed and limited data collection process. Structured focus groups, scheduled around the availability of the participants, will offer more valid and reliable data collection, and has the potential to garner increased engagement. These scheduled focus groups will also take place prior to the Curriculum Workshop; the information collected will be shared during the Curriculum Workshop. This should improve the scheduling of the workshop and maximize the use of faculty time as well.

2.1. Dr. Marson offered the following comments on the curriculum workshop:

Thoughts from Dr. Marson email 1/31/22

"I agree with your plan. Keep in mind that some syllabi do not provide the specifics of the assignments within a course. I've always found it helpful to see those as well. Also, in our previous workshops, we've had student participation.

This will be our third curriculum workshop, wrapping up the review of all the core courses. The faculty and committee should determine how to move forward with future workshops. Cycle through the core courses again? Review required courses in each concentration? I suggested the curriculum workshop review in 2020 based on procedures in place at UNC-G. Our program had not done a systematic review in some time. Personally, I like the idea of moving to the concentration courses which is similar to UNC-G's policy where their core courses are reviewed every 5 years. We don't have to mirror them exactly; however, it makes sense to examine other courses as well. We do have many more core courses than they.

Curriculum projections for the committee and faculty might include the possibility of new courses. Some of this will depend on projected need, funds for course development, faculty expertise to teach, and the feasibility of a course to make. With new faculty coming on board, they will have their own perspectives and input. Previous faculty have discussed a health sciences related course for several years. In the summer of 2020, I had two meetings with librarians from Laupus who were interested in developing such a course. At that time, there were no funds to pay for the development, so the timing was not good. Having a medical school at ECU is one advantage we have over UNC-G and NC Central (our biggest competitors). Having a curriculum alignment could be positive, but all the pieces would have to come together. The Health Sciences webinar that the student chapter is hosting is one way to incorporate health sciences into the mix, so that's a positive move!"

2.2. The committee discussed a possible structure for the workshop:

2.2.1. Rescheduled for ~~May 11th~~ Tuesday May 3, 2022 1:00-3:30 pm

- 2.2.2. Review syllabi and assignments for the three courses (6048, 6991, 6992)
- 2.2.3. Dr. Dotson has indicated that she prefers not to update us on her internship study.
- 2.3. Share insight from student/alumni focus group
 - 2.3.1. **Action item:** Dr. Bright will coordinate the focus groups for current students and alumni
- 2.4. Current syllabi and detailed assignment descriptions are in Teams MLS Curriculum Workshops/2022 folder:
<https://studentsecuedu66932.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/LibraryScienceFaculty/Shared%20Documents/General/MLS%20Curriculum%20Workshops/MLS%20Curriculum%20Workshop%202022?csf=1&web=1&e=9GJVF>
- 2.4.1. **Action item:** Dr. Soulen will remind faculty to review the materials in Teams.
- 2.5. Meetings for AY 2021-2022 (first Tuesdays): May 3 (will be the Curriculum Workshop) @ 1pm
- 2.6. Location: <https://ecu.webex.com/meet/soulenr19>

Tabled for future discussion

- 1. Decide on meeting format for AY 2022-2023 (Teams vs. WebEx)
- 2. Discussion on possibility of redeveloping LIBS 7160 The Adult Reader for AY 2022-23. Dr. Hands is interested in developing and teaching this course.
 - 2.1. **Question:** Who has access to the previous syllabus?