



End of Season IAI and Panel Updates: Spring 2021 Season

Overall Reminders for Institutions & Course Submitters:

- If a course is returned due to a prerequisite issue, please note that you will have to work with Krista to change what is listed in the system/database for the course before resubmitting as this information can only be changed by IAI Administrators.
- A representative instructor syllabus must be submitted for panel review; institutional master syllabi and/or departmental templates are not acceptable as they do not include all the information required by the IAI panels.
- If an instructor is using open access resources rather than a published textbook, be sure the syllabus or additional documentation includes working URLs, sample articles, etc.
- When submitting calculus courses to either the GECC Math or Math Major panel, the entire calculus sequence (I, II, & III) for the institution must be submitted to the panel at the same time.
- All courses submitted to the Psychology Major panel must have the required topic of research methods included and adequately covered within the course.

GECC Panels:

GECC Communications

The panel is in the process of making changes to their speech and writing descriptors via a series of special meetings. Changes are expected to be finalized at the fall '21 panel meeting and will be reflected in the panel's revised descriptors and course approval criteria. All changes will not be effective until the spring '22 season at the earliest.

GECC Humanities & Fine Arts

The panel will begin reviewing their descriptors via special meetings to determine what changes, if any, are needed. The possible creation of new descriptors, such as ASL as a foreign language, will also play a role in these special meetings.

GECC Life Sciences

The panel is in the process of making changes to its course approval criteria particularly with regards to science process skills. Proposed changes are expected to be finalized and in place before the fall '21 panel season. The descriptors which include coverage of evolution were also slightly revised, from stating that evolution must be "integrated throughout the course" to the following: Evolution is a foundational concept that should be included in every biological sciences course." Visit the following link for the panel's descriptors reflecting these changes: [Life Sciences Course Descriptions | iTransfer](#).

GECC Mathematics

See [Mathematics Course Descriptions | iTransfer](#) for revised descriptors M1 900-B Calculus for Business & Social Sciences (change re. partial derivatives and applications) and M1 903 Mathematics for Elementary Teaching I & II (removed the requirement of “using calculators and microcomputers in problem-solving”). Panel managers are also working on a migration plan & process for M1 900 College-level Calculus-approved courses called for ongoing review as this descriptor was retired in 2004. Affected institutions will be notified once a process has been implemented.

GECC Physical Sciences

See the panel’s revised course approval criteria at [GECC Physical Sciences Panel Related Documents | iTransfer](#) as minor changes/clarifications were made re. lab contact hours for 3 credit hour courses with a lab; a minimum of 22 lab hours is required for panel approval of such courses. The panel is also considering the creation of a new Weather & Climate descriptor; stay tuned for further updates on this in the future.

GECC Social & Behavioral Sciences

The panel has created a new Human Sexuality descriptor (S9 903) that is available for fall ’21 submissions; see [Social and Behavioral Sciences Course Descriptions | iTransfer](#) for the full descriptor. Institutions are asked to review the panel’s Geography descriptors prior to submitting courses as the panel has been receiving several courses submitted under the wrong code; there are several options and the institution should be able to determine the descriptor for which the course best matches.

Major Panels:

Agriculture

The panel continues to explore the option of creating separate identifiers for non-lab and lab courses. An update and further discussion will be undertaken in the fall meeting.

Art

The panel discussed made minor changes to their [course approval criteria](#). They will begin reviewing their descriptors this fall to determine if any changes are necessary. Institutions are reminded that the panel still requires 6 hours of studio work each week, either synchronous or asynchronous exercises, despite the lack of in-person meetings due to COVID.

Biology

The panel made minor changes to the [BIO 910 descriptor](#). The proposed Anatomy and Physiology descriptor remains under discussion as there are various concerns about the descriptor structure and intended students if this descriptor was added as an option for submissions.

Business

The panel revised the [BUS 902 Business Applications descriptor’s](#) by removing the requirement for coding to be included in the course. They also revised the [BUS 904 Managerial Accounting descriptor](#) by removing the requirement for coverage of “just-in-time”.

Chemistry There are no updates from the panel this season.

Computer Science

The panel will begin reviewing their descriptors in the fall to determine what changes, if any, are needed.

Criminal Justice

There are no updates from the panel this season.

Early Childhood Education

The panel made a small change to the [ECE 912 Child Growth & Development descriptor](#) by clarifying what time span must be covered within the course for panel approval, and noting that institutional Lifespan courses do not align with the panel's descriptor. The panel also discussed the recent teacher education legislation passed in the state.

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=101-0654>

Engineering

The Engineering panel continues to explore the development of a Technology Engineering discipline to the panel recommendations. It will be discussed further in the fall semester.

Mathematics

The panel reduced the prerequisite for the [MTH 911 Intro to Linear Algebra descriptor](#) to a minimum of Calculus I. After discussion, the panel decided that reducing the prerequisite to "Minimum Prerequisite: MTH 901 or M1900-1, Calculus I" would hopefully allow more institutions to offer the course. The panel may consider additional changes to the descriptor in the future.

Media & Communications Arts

The panel made significant changes to the [MC 923 descriptor](#), which is now called Introduction to Website Design & Development. They are also going to work on revisions to the broadcast writing and multimedia descriptors due to technological changes in the discipline at the fall '21 panel meeting.

Physics

The panel continues to discuss a possible change in their descriptor structure as proposed:

Physics Major Core Courses:

PHY 911 - Calculus-based Physics I - Mechanics (with lab) (4-5 semester credits) (3 semester credits)

PHY 912 - Calculus-based Physics II - Electricity and Magnetism (with lab) (4-5 semester credits) (3 semester credits)

PHY 915C: Introductory Thermal Physics, Quantum Physics and Other Topics (4-5 semester hours)

OR

PHY 915A: Introductory Thermal Physics (2 or more semester hours)

AND

PHY 915B: Introductory Quantum Physics (2 or more semester hours)

The process of phasing out PHY 913 and 914 will begin once the proposed structure is finalized and put into place. Institutions are asked to hold off until 2022 on submitting courses seeking approval under the PHY913 and 914 identifiers. Migration for the existing approved courses in the two identifiers will be handled through the ongoing review and through other institutional action processes. Timing on the end date of remaining courses in the PHY 913 and 914 identifiers will be determined as the process

moves forward in consultation with IAI leadership and the panel members. As this is a significant change, the process will take some time.

Political Science There are no updates from the panel this season.

Psychology

The panel continues to receive courses that either do not include the required topic of research methods or it appears to be inadequately covered / represented in the syllabus. Subsequently, the panel made changes to the [course approval criteria](#) in order to make the requirement for inclusion of research methods more obvious. They also added the following sentence to the end of both the [PSY 908 and PSY 905 descriptors](#): *Please note that required coverage of research methods should include topics specific to methods (e.g., design, correlation, experiment, case study, variables, etc.)*

Theater Arts

The panel revised the [TA 917](#) Play Analysis for Production descriptor.