

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

To: Emily Tai, Academic Senate Steering Committee

From: Philip A. Pecorino, Chairperson, Committee on Curriculum

Date: November 6, 2012

Subject: Monthly Report for NOVEMBER 2012

The Committee on Curriculum has acted to send the following recommendation to the Academic Senate.

1. **Change in Academic Department**
2. **New Courses**
3. **Changes in Courses**
4. **Experimental Courses**

1. CHANGE IN ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

From: DEPARTMENT of BASIC EDUCATIONAL SKILLS

To: DEPARTMENT of ACADEMIC LITERACY

RATIONALE

By renaming the department the “Department of Academic Literacy,” we are defining and communicating what we actually do, which is prepare students for college-level academics. In the 21st century, academic literacy encompasses reading, writing and critical thinking within varied academic genres, which employ multiple modalities such as audio-visual, oral, and research literacy. By integrating these competencies, we provide a comprehensive, holistic mastery of academic communication. The name “Department of Academic Literacy” conveys the concept that academic discourse is a form of communication in which everyone in the academy participates, regardless of linguistic background or initial level of competency. The new name communicates the substantial content of our coursework to our students, our colleagues, the administration of the College, the University, and the academic community at large.

In CUNY:

QCC: Department of Basic Educational Skills

Kingsborough CC: Developmental English (part of English Dept)

BMCC: Department of Developmental Skills

Hostos CC: Department of Language and Cognition (ESL only)

Laguardia CC: Department of Communications Skills

Bronx CC: Department of Developmental Reading and Study Skills

2. NEW COURSES

DEPARTMENT of BIOLOGY

BI-130 An introductory course that provides an understanding of the natural world and how this knowledge can be applied to everyday life. Basic concepts in biology are explained with emphasis on cellular basis of life, genetics, reproduction, evolution, and ecology. Instructions focus on problem solving and connecting concepts through open to inquiry exercises and by applying the scientific process. The course is reinforced with demonstration of experiments, virtual laboratory experience and scientific videos

Hours and Credits: 3 credits , 3 class hours

Prerequisites: Be-112 (or 205) & 122 (or 226) or satisfactory score on the CUNY/ACT assessment test.

Description: An introductory course that provides an understanding of the natural world and how this knowledge can be applied to everyday life. Basic concepts in biology are explained with emphasis on cellular basis of life, genetics, reproduction, evolution, and ecology. Hands-on laboratory experience reinforces concepts learnt in lecture and also includes dissection of selected vertebrates.

Rationale: This course will satisfy a three credit laboratory science requirement for non-science majors earning Associates in Arts (AA) and Associates in Science (AS) degrees conferred by the college as required by the Pathways Initiative.

DEPARTMENT of ENGLISH

EN-230 Introduction to Literary Studies 3 class hours, 1 recitation hour, 3 credits

Prerequisites: EN-101, EN-102

An inquiry into what it means to study literature, involving close reading and critical analysis of a variety of prose fiction, drama, and poetry, and informed by an introduction to some of the theoretical issues currently debated in literary studies and a consideration of how such issues have evolved historically. In addition to works of literature, students will read critical and theoretical works, some of which they will identify through their own research. This course combines a study of literature with continued training in clear and effective writing.

Rationale: This course is required to be offered by the CUNY BOT Policy related to Pathways initiatives. It is part of the program for English Majors. It replaces EN 213.

DEPARTMENT of FOREIGN LANGUAGES and LITERATURE

ARAB 101 Introduction to Arabic I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is designed to introduce the student to Modern Standard Arabic in a cultural context. Arabic alphabet, pronunciation, essential vocabulary, basic rules of grammar, and common expressions and greetings are presented. Students develop all four skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The main focus is on Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), though students are trained to speak using spoken Arabic.

Rationale: Course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A This course is being proposed as a new first-semester language course fulfilling Pathways learning objectives and the Common Core guidelines.

First- and second-semester language courses at Queensborough Community College have been 4 credits, 4 contact hours since at least 1985, and have successfully served generations of our students as an introduction to the formal study of language (including study of grammar and sentence construction), and the comparative study of culture and cultural practices.

For students taking remedial courses, the first-semester language course and second-semester language course are often the first credit-bearing courses for which they are allowed to register.

In view of the large proportion of under-prepared students we serve at the very beginning of their college career, the Foreign Languages Department proposes the new configuration 3 credits, 4 contact hours: 3 class hours plus 1 recitation hour as a way of maintaining the quality of our instruction while fitting within Common Core Guidelines (1-24-12).

The weekly recitation hour is justified by the need for students to receive additional intensive oral and written practice in the target language. Interactive oral and written activities will provide for the opportunity to practice the target language in pairs and groups.

The new configuration of 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour will ensure that the proficiency levels required by the Pathways learning outcomes can be achieved.

ARAB 102 Introduction to Arabic II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in ARAB 101 or placement by Foreign Language department

Description: This is the continuation of Introduction to Arabic I, focusing on Modern Standard Arabic. Students will continue studying the four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing using a communicative approach. They will also develop basic conversational and grammatical skills, and they will acquire additional insight into the cultural and social contexts of the Arabic-speaking world. Consistent emphasis is placed on authentic materials derived from the living cultural context.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

CHIN 101 Introduction to Chinese I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is an introduction to Mandarin Chinese. It is designed for students who have no previous background in Chinese Practice in the four language skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis on pronunciation and conversation. Both the pinyin Romanization system and characters will be introduced. This is the first semester of a two-semester course of beginning Chinese. Weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

CHIN 102 Introduction to Chinese II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in CHIN 101, or placement by Foreign Language department

Description: Continuation of *Introduction to Chinese I*. Further practice in the four language skills to help students develop simple, practical conversational skills in Mandarin. Weekly attendance in the language laboratory is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

CHIN 113 Introduction to Mandarin for Students of Chinese Heritage I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is designed for students of Chinese heritage who have some listening and speaking skills in Mandarin or other Chinese dialects. The focus is on reading, writing, and grammar, along with improvement of oral communication skills.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

CHIN 114 Introduction to Mandarin for Students of Chinese Heritage II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in CHIN 113 or placement by Foreign Language department **Description:** Continuation of Introduction to Mandarin for Students of Chinese Heritage 1. It aims to consolidate the foundation that students have built in CHIN 113, to expand their vocabulary, to introduce them to more complex grammatical structures, and to continue to strengthen their oral communication skills.
Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

FREN 101 Introduction to French I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is an introduction to the French language and the French-speaking world, incorporating a task-oriented approach to language learning. It is designed for students who have no previous background in French. It aims to develop the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

FREN 102 Introduction to French II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in FREN 101, or placement by Foreign Language department

Description: This course is a continuation of Elementary French I. It aims to increase and strengthen students' acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

GERM 101 Introduction to German I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is an introduction to the German language and the German-speaking world, incorporating a task-oriented approach to language learning. It is designed for students who have no previous background in German. It aims to develop the acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

GERM 102 Introduction to German II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: GERM101 or the equivalent with a grade of C or higher, or placement by the Department of Foreign Languages

Description: This course is a continuation of Introduction to German I. It aims to increase and strengthen students' acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

HEBR 101 Introduction to Hebrew I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is an introduction to the Hebrew language and Israel, incorporating a task-oriented approach to language learning. It is designed for students who have no previous background in Hebrew. It aims to develop the acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

HEBR 102 Introduction to Hebrew II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in HEBR 101, or placement by Foreign Language department

Description: This is the second semester course for elementary Hebrew. It focuses on the four essential language skills:

listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will continue studying the language through a communicative approach. They will also develop basic conversational and grammatical skills, and they will acquire additional insight into the cultural and social contexts of Hebrew.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

ITAL 101 Introduction to Italian I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is an introduction to the Italian language and Italy, incorporating a task-oriented approach to language learning. It is designed for students who have no previous background in Italian. It aims to develop the acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

ITAL 102 Introduction to Italian II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in ITAL101 or placement by Foreign Language department

Description: This course is a continuation of Elementary Italian I. It aims to increase and strengthen students' acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

SPAN 101 Introduction to Spanish I

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and to Hispanic culture, incorporating a task-oriented approach to language learning. It is designed for students who have no previous background in Spanish. It aims to develop the acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

SPAN 102 Introduction to Spanish II

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: A grade of C or higher in SPAN 101, or placement by Foreign Language department

Description: This course is a continuation of Introduction to Spanish I. It aims to increase and strengthen students' acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. One hour per week of individual practice online or in the language lab is required.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

SPAN 141 Introduction to Spanish for Medical Personnel

Hours and Credits: 3 credits, 3 class hours + 1 recitation hour

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: Course equivalent to SPAN101, or the first semester of the basic language requirement. This course is an introduction to Spanish language and to Hispanic culture. Elements of Spanish grammar and orthography with emphasis on the vocabulary, scientific terms, and idioms necessary to communicate with Spanish-speaking patients. The course is designed for students who do not have any previous knowledge of the language. Native speakers should not take this course.

Rationale: Same as for Arab 101 and the course will satisfy CUNY Common CORE category 2A

DEPARTMENT of LIBRARY

INTE 212 A Search for Popular Culture Icons from 1950s-Present Through Library Resources and Information Literacy

Hours and Credits: 3 credits 3 class hours

Pre-co requisites: EN 101

Description: Dual emphasis will be placed on the role of the individual in popular culture, and the significance of information literacy in analyzing this role. Students will develop critical thinking skills in order to locate, find, and evaluate information in a structured format to evolve into lifelong learning skills. Students will examine topics which include plagiarism, MLA citation, database navigation, and critical evaluation of web resources and other sources. Students will become proactive searchers by responding to results and revising or refining searches.

Rationale: The rationale is to meet flexible core requirements by combining the research and study of popular culture, and the provision of additional focus on information literacy.

DEPARTMENT of PHYSICS

PH-111 Space, Astronomy, and our Universe

Hours and Credits: 3 contact hours: 2.25 hours lecture, 0.75 hours lab

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: "Space, Astronomy, and our Universe" discusses topics related to space and astronomy, beginning with our planet and our Moon, and extending to stars, galaxies, and the Universe as a whole. This course will explore physical processes and laws that govern the motion and evolution of all objects in the Universe, including planets, stars and galaxies.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the life and physical science CUNY Common Core IC course requirement.

PH-123 Natural Hazards

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course examines natural hazards and their evidences including statistics, underlying scientific principles, current prediction skills, and planning solutions for risk assessment and management. Topics include the external energy flow from the Sun, Earth's energy flow causing wild fires, earthquakes, volcanoes, tornados, sunami, etc., gravity effect on landscape features such as snow, ice, flooding, etc, and possible impacts by asteroids and comets having major effects on life.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative.

PH-124 Global Warming

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: The scientific processes in climate change, climate modeling, and global warming are examined with the use of minimal mathematics in terms of the principles and evidences in science. Major topics include processes involved in the climate system, El Nino and year-to-year climate prediction, climate model and numerical examples, greenhouse effect and climate feedbacks, natural climate variations, and climate model scenarios for global warming and possible solutions

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-125 Energy and Environment

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: An examination of energy-related problems both ecological and social from a physical science perspective. Investigation is made of the historical origins of these problems, a description is given of the problems as they exist in various cultures today, and some policies of energy usage are examined, followed by a scenario of outcomes as a result of implementation of various policies. Emphasis is placed on the natural principles underlying the problems and evaluations of the problems in this light.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-126 Cause and Effect Analysis

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: Starting from the obvious and crucial difference between cause and effect in ordinary life, this course examines the science of cause and effect (causal relation) analysis. The causal relations in science are examined with the use of minimal mathematics. Emphasis is placed on the analytical aspect of the causality thinking in science. Modern causal relations such as Granger causality in economics, causative method in psychology, Russell's claim of causality being a relic of a bygone age in philosophy of science, encryption in computer science, causation in biology-epidemiology, etc. are examined.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-127 Scientific Measurement in Medicine and Health

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: Scientific measurement in medicine and health is examined in terms of the scientific principles and evidences. Examples are presented with the use of minimal mathematics. Topics include: the development of scientific principles in measurements and detection transducers, numerical examples in medicine and health, how science supports modern diagnostic tools such as X-ray density, MRI, etc in medicine and health, and the delicate balance of entropy between order and disorder in living systems.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-128 Science of Dance, Music and Aesthetics

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: The science of dance, music and aesthetics is examined in terms of the scientific principles and evidences. Scientific properties of dance/sound productions and patterns are examined with the minimal use of mathematics; and their associations with sensations are studied. Extension to the scientific foundation of aesthetics in the arts is examined in terms of the detections of sensory inputs such as vision, smell, etc. The mind interpretations in terms of balance, symmetry, golden ratio, etc. are studied.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-129 How Things Work

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: This course focuses on how things work as it applies to everyday situations. It introduces scientific properties in the context of everyday objects and current technology. Topics will include how our technology works (TV, radio, microwaves, refrigerators, cell phones, GPS), why things look, sound, and feel the way they do, the science of electricity, heat, food, motion, and lots more. Numerical estimation and unit conversion will be covered as well.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-130 Natural Science in Finance

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: The phenomena of fluctuations are examined in terms of the scientific principles and evidences. Scientific properties of fluctuation are examined conceptually with numerical examples. Scientific concepts such as random walk, scaling, correlation, etc are emphasized, and followed by applications to finance and economics.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

PH-131 Scientific Explorations of Science Fiction Literature

Hours and Credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Pre-co requisites: None

Description: Scientific Explorations of Science Fiction Literature examines the scientific basis of natural processes described in science fiction literature. Some science fiction literature involves valid scientific descriptions of nature. The descriptions of natural processes can be used to understand our natural world in a way that a textbook cannot. In addition, topics that relate to futuristic ideas can be used to discuss the ethics of scientific exploration. A notable example of scientific literature is Arthur C. Clarke's 2001: A Space Odyssey, which can be used to explain many concepts in astronomy and natural science, including planetary science, the life cycle of stars, gravity, the natural motion of objects, and visual effects, as well as interdisciplinary topics such as life support and artificial intelligence.

Rationale: The course will satisfy the Scientific World requirement in the CUNY Common Core 2E of the Pathway Initiative

3. Changes in Courses

DEPARTMENT of ART and PHOTOGRAPHY changes in pre-co requisites

From: AR-801 Art Administration 2 class hours, 1 recitation hour 2 credits

To: AR-801 Art Administration 2 class hours, 1 recitation hour 2 credits

Co-Prerequisite: 3 credits of Foreign Language

Rationale: Art in general and Art Administration in specific are international in scope. Catalogues, correspondence and research all regularly cross international linguistic boundaries. It is critical for a student in Art Administration to develop a foundation and facility with other languages. The addition of this co-prerequisite will guarantee that a student will have the elemental skill to understand and develop the cross-linguistic aspects of Art Administration as they are encountered in the class.

From: AR-803 Art Curating 3 class hours 3 credits

Prerequisite: AR-312; AR-801

To: AR-803 Art Curating 3 class hours 3 credits

Prerequisite: AR-312; AR-801 and

Co-Prerequisite 6 credits from AR-315, AR316, AR317, AR320, AR-326 or AR-328

Rationale: A strong foundation in art history essential for any art curating activity. The addition of the prerequisite of two art history courses will ensure that a student taking this class will have both the background and context to fully develop the knowledge and skills involved in art curating.

From: AR-804 Art Institutions and the Business of Arts 3 class hours 3 credits

Prerequisite: AR-801 and either AR-311 or AR-312

To: AR-804 Art Institutions and the Business of Arts 3 class hours 3 credits 3 class hours 3 credits

Prerequisite: AR-801 and either AR-311 or AR-312; and Co-Prerequisite SOC-125

Rationale: The addition of SOC-125 Sociology and the Arts will give critical context and understanding of the character of Art Institutions and their role in society. SOC-125 examines the social activities through which paintings, photographs, music, theatre, dance, literature and other arts are produced – from the perspective of the social sciences and related disciplines.

DEPARTMENT of BUSINESS

Change in Course Title and Description

From: **BU–301 Business Law I**, 3 class hours – 3 credits

To: **BU–301 Fundamentals of Business Law**, 3 class hours – 3 credits

From:

A brief survey of the American legal system; development and application of essential principles of law of business contracts, torts, and intellectual property; study of New York State laws and recent cases; ~~Uniform Commercial Code as it applies to business contracts.~~

To:

A brief survey of the American legal system; development and application of essential principles of law of business contracts, torts, and intellectual property; study of New York State laws and recent cases; relationship between differences in legal, ethical, and social responsibility of business.

Rationale:

The modification to this course is being made to conform to the requirements for placement in the Business Major portion of Pathways.

Change in Course Description

BU 512 – Introduction to Information Systems and Technologies, 3 class hours, 1 laboratory hour , 3 credits

From: An introduction to how today's businesses use ever-changing technology to operate, compete, and do business. Students will learn the differences between major types of hardware, software, and network solutions that meet business needs. Students will learn why familiarity with today's information systems has become indispensable for tomorrow's business leaders due to the rapid developments in information technology.

To: An introduction to how today's businesses use ever-changing technology to operate, compete, and do business. Students will learn the differences between major types of hardware, software, and network solutions that meet business needs. Students

will demonstrate competency in information technology and apply such technology. Students will learn why familiarity with today's information systems has become indispensable for tomorrow's business leaders due to the rapid developments in information technology.

Rationale:

The modification to this course is being made to conform to the requirements for placement in the Business Major portion of Pathways.

DEPARTMENT of MATHEMATICS and COMPUTER SCIENCE

MA-321 Mathematics in Contemporary Society

From: 3 class hours 1 laboratory hour 3 credits

To: 3 class hours 3 credits

Rationale: These changes are independent of Pathways and Common Core. The lab component will be integrated into the class work. The Department of Mathematics & Computer Science has deemed that three hours is sufficient to teach the content.

CS 100 Introduction to Computers and Programming

From: 2 Class Hours, 2 Lab Hours, 3 Credits

To: 3 Class Hours, 3 Credits

Rationale: The modification to this course is being made to conform to the requirements of Pathways. The course is intended to fulfill the requirements of the Common Core, Flexible Core, Category Scientific World

DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SCIENCES (2)

The changes in the following Social Science course prefixes were approved.

From: -- **To**

SS198, 199 to ANTH 199, CRIM 199, ECON 199, PLSC199, PSYC 199, PHIL 199, RELI199, UBST 199, EDUC 198 and SOC 199

Rationale: All courses in the department are having their prefix code changed using 4 letter prefixes common throughout CUNY. Other courses have been previously changed. These were omitted in previous listing.

The Committee unanimously approved the changes in the QCC-Hunter Dual Joint Program in Nursing. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the changes proposed for the Gallery and Museum Studies Program. Math 119 was unanimously approved as a STEM variant in support of the Math Departments request.

DEPARTMENT of SPEECH COMMUNICATION and THEATRE ARTS

From: **SP-211 Speech Communication** [4] class hours, 3 credits.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of Speech Placement Test or successful completion of SP 020, 005 and/or 006. Study of oral communication and its role in [contemporary society]. Emphasis on listening, interpersonal communication, small group decision making, and public speaking, informative and persuasive speaking

To: **SP-211 Speech Communication** 3 class hours, 3 credits

Prerequisite: **Exemption from Speech Testing or** satisfactory completion of Speech Placement Test or successful completion of SP 020, 005 and/or 006.

Study of oral communication and its role in U.S. society. Emphasis on listening, interpersonal communication, small group decision making, and public speaking, informative and persuasive speaking.

Rationale: Reducing the contact hours from four to three hours and capping course enrollment at 22 will better align this course with similar courses offered at other institutions, easing transferability. Change in prerequisite incorporates new CUNY FIRST screening. Change in course description more exactly relates course content.

4. EXPERIMENTAL COURSES

DEPARTMENT of BIOLOGY and GEOLOGY

Geology of Gems has been extended in its experimental period for one more semester, Spring 2013.

GEO-120 The Geology of Gemstones

Hours and Credits: 4 credits , 3 lecture hours, 3 laboratory hours.

Pre-co requisites: none

Description: Gemstones' origins and properties are explained and related to geological processes. The identification and characterization of gem minerals and synthetic gems by laboratory methods is emphasized. A trip to the American Museum of Natural History is a course requirement. Satisfies the laboratory science requirement for the A.A. degree.

Rationale:

Gemology is an allied field to geology. A related course, GE-105 has run since its introduction in 2005 at full capacity of two sections, 64 students per semester. The new course will fulfill a need for a laboratory science for nonscience majors in earth science. Because it is an introductory course a wide range of liberal arts students will be attracted. Informal student surveys suggest that at least 50% of past students would have preferred the course to have had a laboratory component. Another reason to have a laboratory course on gemology is that New York City is the gem capital of the USA and New York State's biggest export is gems and jewelry. Thus there is a great economic incentive and this course will supply information and training to students that may be interested in this industry. Part of the course requirement is to complete a research project on a gem material and give a group report; this will give students exposure to research, allowing them to collect data and draw hypotheses from the data using the scientific method. The materials for the course and the testing equipment used in the course are sufficient to support the Foundations level course of The Gemological Association of Great Britain.