

Department/Program Navigate Course Appeals Process

Spring 2015

Navigate courses provide UCCS students with a common educational experience at the upper division level that broadly expands their perspective beyond their major discipline. An objective is to engage students actively in applying and integrating knowledge, which is drawn from a range of disciplines and includes advanced-level critical thinking.

The purpose of Navigate courses is to promote curricular and intellectual connections between the Compass Curriculum and students' academic majors. This provides opportunities to integrate learning beyond disciplinary areas of study and distinguishes the Navigate courses from Capstone Experience within the academic majors.

Department or Program Appeals

In some cases departments would like courses to be designated so that their majors would receive credit within their course subject index (prefix, e.g. MAE). A Department or Program may appeal to the Compass Curriculum to make an exception on either of the following:

1. Departments can demonstrate significant impediments or road-blocks to their students taking a Navigate course outside their major.
2. Courses in which the course material is taught by a faculty member from a department outside of the disciplinary area of the material. For example, an engineering ethics course taught outside of the Department of Philosophy, but often taken by majors in the department.

A department/program's successful appeal will allow students to earn Navigate credit for a Navigate course taken in their major subject designation. An example of this would be for students who are electrical and computer science majors to be allowed to count a Navigate flagged ECE course for Navigate credit.

All course appeals will be reviewed by the Compass Curriculum Director and the Navigate Advisory Committee, with a recommendation from the Navigate Advisory Committee playing a decisive role in the appeal decision. The Compass Curriculum Director will make the final determination of the appeal.

For the appeal to be approved, the course must have been approved as a Navigate course by the Compass Curriculum and, in addition, clearly demonstrate the criteria below:

- Courses **must** be distinct from core requirements in a student's primary discipline of study. The use of course subject prefix is an easy identifier to determine if a course is or is not in a student's disciplinary area of study based on their major.
 - Courses must be open to most majors on campus.
 - Courses must have minimal course prerequisites.
 - Courses must demonstrate **significant** cross-disciplinary content into areas that clearly stretch *beyond* their home major disciplines.
 - Courses must demonstrate **significant** "knowledge in action" based requirements (more than one).
 - When courses are approved, departments and faculty will be willing to explore team teaching possibilities from other departments and colleges – on the request of the Compass Curriculum committee.
 - In cases where the appeal is made under the condition that a Compass requirement poses a significant impediment to timely graduation, the department must demonstrate that students in the degree program or college can not complete their degree within CCHE required credit hours with the Navigate offerings in the curriculum.

Send appeals to David J. Weiss, Faculty Director of the Compass Curriculum, at dweiss@uccs.edu .

More questions?

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