JUSTIFICATION: (1) The ART and ARTA major programs require 12 SCH in upper-level media courses (like Painting, Printmaking, etc.). However, as the course descriptions for 4000-level classes currently stand, such courses can only be repeated once for credit. As a result, students are required to take one course at the upper level in a second medium, since the current program only allows three upper-levels per medium (e.g., Intermediate Painting, Advanced Painting, and a one-time repetition of the latter course). Two introductions to different media are required at the lower level (e.g., Painting I and Ceramics I), but if the student later decides as a junior or senior, for whatever reason, that they don’t want to take further courses in one of those two media, they are in a bit of a bind in terms of progress through the degree: they have to go back and take an intro course to a new medium first (e.g., Printmaking I), in order to fulfill the prerequisite for that final, fourth upper-level class in a medium other than their main one. Still other students (especially those interested in grad school in studio art) would simply prefer to take all four of their upper-level courses in one medium to deepen their skills and sophistication of expression in their favored medium.

We believe that breadth is addressed adequately at the lower levels of our curricula, where no less than six courses are required in what are called nationally the Art “Foundations” (Drawing, Design, Art History), and two are required in different intro-to-medium courses (as mentioned two sentences previous to this). At the upper level, though, we feel more flexibility is needed, especially with the 120-SCH degree limit, and the size of the Core Curriculum pre-set by the State, etc. Thus, we are proposing to modify the course descriptions for all 4000-level medium-specific courses to read that the course may be repeated twice for credit (instead of once). This fits with standard curricular practice in many art programs. For example, at Texas State (a pdf from their program can be supplied if requested), courses specific to Painting are currently titled “Painting I” through “Painting VII,” with I= Intro; VI and VII are undergrad-thesis-specific (since Texas State offers a BFA); V is the highest course one can take prior to the BFA thesis (and thus would correspond to the highest level of our BA-oriented program). Correspondingly, if our proposal is accepted, then a student would be not be prevented from taking a total of five courses specific to a given medium throughout their career, if they choose: Painting I, Intermediate Painting, Advanced Painting, and two more repetitions for credit of the Advanced course. The final four of those five listed courses would constitute the 12 SCH that are required
at the upper level to graduate in ART or ARTA.

(2) It should also be noted that this change would make progress through the Minor in Studio Art more efficient for some students, since four upper-level courses (12 SCH) in media are required for that Minor, but only one intro-to-medium course is required at the lower level—so, as currently constituted, there are “hidden prerequisites” if a student is to complete the upper-level component of the Minor because, as noted above, to complete four upper-level studio courses under the current course descriptions (with only one repetition of an Advanced class allowed), students must take at least two intro-to-medium courses at the lower level to fulfill later prerequisites in two upper-level media. With the proposed change, Minors would be able to complete the 12 SCH requirement at the upper level in one medium, if they choose, without taking an additional intro-to-medium course (i.e., to fulfill prerequisites in a second upper-level medium) at the lower level.

(3) Adding this flexibility will also cut down on the number of requests for Independent Study and/or Undergraduate Research courses.

Program:  Delete: ___ Add: ___ Change: ____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Minor:  Add: ___ Delete: ___ Change: ___ Attach new/changed minor. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

College Introductory Pages:  Add information: ___ Change information: ___ Attach new/changed information. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Other: Add information: ___ Change information: ___ Attach new/changed information. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Approvals:

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Chair
Department

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

Dean

04/2011

Fritz Gechter
Signature
Date

Bede L. Leyendecker
Signature
Date

James A Norris
Signature
Date

Kevin Lindberg
Signature
Date
ARTS 4301 Advanced Drawing. Three semester hours. Beyond rendering, this class will address the interaction of drawing, materials, and conceptualization. In-class critiques, out-of-class assignments, and independent self-motivated projects are the largest components of this course. This class meets five hours a week. May be repeated once–twice for credit. Prerequisites: ARTS 1316 and 1317. Course fee: $40.

ARTS 4303 Advanced Painting. Three semester hours. Beyond rendering, this class will address the interaction of painting, materials, and conceptualization. In-class critiques, out-of-class assignments and independent self-motivated projects are the largest components of this course. This class meets five hours a week. May be repeated once–twice for credit. Prerequisites: ARTS 2316 and ARTS 3308. Course fee: $40.

ARTS 4304 Advanced Sculpture. Three semester hours. A continuation of Intermediate Sculpture, this course will address the interaction of sculpture, materials, and conceptualization. In-class critiques, out-of-class assignments, and independent self-motivated projects are the most important components of the course. May be repeated once–twice for credit. Prerequisite: ARTS 3309. Course fee: $65.

ARTS 4324 Advanced Ceramics. Three semester hours. A continuation of ARTS 3324, this course will address the interaction of ceramics, materials, and conceptualization. In-class critiques, out-of-class assignments, and independent self-motivated projects are the most important components of this course. May be repeated once–twice for credit. Prerequisite: ARTS 3324. Course fee: $65.

ARTS 4331 Advanced Printmaking Three semester hours. Further investigation into advanced printmaking, with an increased emphasis on critical and conceptual analysis. This course will explore non-traditional media and unconventional printmaking practices. Students develop an independent body of work using the printmaking media of their choice. May be repeated once–twice for credit. Prerequisites: ARTS 3333 or consent of instructor. Course fee: $65.