OFFICIAL MINUTES BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL

**Second Meeting/Academic year 2024-2025 October 10, 2024**

**Meeting Format: Teams**

Voting Members Present: La France, B. (CLAS), Chubenko, O. (CLAS), McGowan, B. (ULIB), Perez, B. (CEDU), Mills, W. (CEET), Vahedian Khezerlou, A. (CBUS), Chen, J. (CHHS), Patel, K. (CHHS), Strid, J.E. (CEDU). Salehinia, I. (CEET), Linner, A. (CLAS), Boughton, D. (CVPA). Devroye, A. (CVPA), Sharp, S. (CLAS), Sanner, G. (Student Rep), Qin, N. (CBUS), Myles, M (CBUS – Advising), Conro (Student Representative).

Voting Members Absent: Thepboriruk, K. (CLAS). Ehsani, S. (CBUS), Uhrine, E. (Student Rep).

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present: Schmitz, C. (Office of Registrar), Lagunas, M. (Admission), Gawron, I. (Office of Vice Provost), Buhrow, A. (Office of Vice Provost). Boldman, R. (AVP for Student Affairs). Garvey, C. (Information Tech Associate). Buhrow, A. (Educational Services and Programs), Lopez, R. (Community College Initiative), Ishaq, F. (CIUE), Schatteman, A. (Vice Provost)

Guests: Bah, A. (Sociology), Heideman, L. (Sociology).

The Baccalaureate Council (BC) meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m. by Chair Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – La France motioned to approve the agenda. Sharp seconded.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Schatteman indicated the minutes were approved via email.
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   1. Sociology Presentation on the SOCI/CRIM Proposals

Bah and Heideman introduced the Sociology proposals and the overall philosophy of the changes. The main conclusions included: A larger change to the program, rather than smaller incremental changes, is most appropriate; general description about how criminology and sociology are related, but different fields; logistical improvements for having a separate major that is more easily searchable; raising awareness of the program by having it be a separate major and the benefits of that in discussions with parents/employers/etc.; the new certificates to help convey career paths and opportunities for students related to the wider program changes; stream lining the prerequisites/corequisites for a better student experience.

* 1. Overview of the [Committee for the Improvement of the Undergraduate Experience (CIUAE)](https://www.niu.edu/university-council/committees/ciuae.shtml), Standing Committee of the BC
     1. Ishaq updated the committee indicating: student representatives are needed; improving mental health/student well-being communication, and overall trying to determine which areas to focus on for this academic year.
  2. Open Classroom Weeks: **October 14-25** <https://www.niu.edu/citl/open-classroom-weeks/>
  3. [Enriching the Design of General Education](https://www.niu.edu/citl/programs/enriching-the-design-of-general-education.shtml) (EDGE) next brown bag session **October 23**, 12-1pm, in person, HSC Capitol Room **RSVP**
  4. Coalition for Transforming Higher Education Funding in IL, funding model listening session, **October 24**, 2-4pm, Barsema Alumni and Visitor Center, [RSVP required](https://transformhigheredil.org/events/the-time-is-now-equitably-funding-our-public-universities-northern-illinois-university/)
  5. Criteria for Consent Agenda

Schatteman and Gawron introduced the consent agenda criteria that primarily included: general explanation that the consent agenda supports the curriculum process and is a time-saver; that the consent agenda criteria was largely the same as the old expedited proposal process; the criteria centered on minor changes to programs and courses that would not change the overall intent of the course/program and are centered within a college; repeatability dynamics. The discussion included: Gawron, Schatteman, Devroye.

1. CONSENT AGENDA ***For inclusion in the 2025-2026 Catalog***

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

La France motioned to approve the consent agenda CLAS items. Sharp seconded. 15 voted in favor. 0 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

1. [**CRIM 385**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:206/form) **- Course Change**
2. [**CRIM 480**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:208/form) **- Course Change**
3. [**CRIM 487**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:209/form) **- Course Change**
4. [**CRIM 288**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:164/form) **- Course Change**
5. [**CRIM 289**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:165/form) **- Course Change**
6. [**CRIM 384**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:205/form) **- Course Change**
7. [**CRIM 388**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:207/form) **- Course Change**
8. [**CRIM 484**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:202/form) **- Course Change**
9. [**CRIM 488**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:210/form) **- Course Change**
10. [**CRIM 492**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:211/form) **- Course Change**
11. [**SOCI 301**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:167/form) **- Course Change**
12. [**SOCI 330**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:168/form) **- Course Change**
13. [**SOCI 335**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:169/form) **- Course Change**
14. [**SOCI 352**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:170/form) **- Course Change**
15. [**SOCI 353**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:171/form) **- Course Change**
16. [**SOCI 355**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:173/form) **- Course Change**
17. [**SOCI 356**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:174/form) **- Course Change**
18. [**SOCI 357**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:175/form) **- Course Change**
19. [**SOCI 361**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:176/form) **- Course Change**
20. [**SOCI 362**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:177/form) **- Course Change**
21. [**SOCI 363**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:178/form) **- Course Change**
22. [**SOCI 364**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:179/form) **- Course Change**
23. [**SOCI 375**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:180/form) **- Course Change**
24. [**SOCI 379**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:181/form) **- Course Change**
25. [**SOCI 380**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:182/form) **- Course Change**
26. [**SOCI 382**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:183/form) **- Course Change**
27. [**SOCI 386**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:184/form) **- Course Change**
28. [**SOCI 387**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:185/form) **- Course Change**
29. [**SOCI 395**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:188/form) **- Course Change**
30. [**SOCI 441**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:189/form) **- Course Change**
31. [**NNGO 392X**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:437/form) **- Course Change**
32. [**SOCI 392**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:187/form) **- Course Change**
33. [**SOCI 450**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:190/form) **- Course Change**
34. [**SOCI 451**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:191/form) **- Course Change**
35. [**SOCI 452**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:192/form) **- Course Change**
36. [**SOCI 457**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:193/form) **- Course Change**
37. [**SOCI 458**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:194/form) **- Course Change**
38. [**SOCI 459**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:195/form) **- Course Change**
39. [**SOCI 460**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:196/form) **- Course Change**
40. [**SOCI 463**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:197/form) **- Course Change**
41. [**SOCI 464**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:198/form) **- Course Change**
42. [**SOCI 465**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:199/form) **- Course Change**
43. [**SOCI 475**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:200/form) **- Course Change**
44. [**SOCI 482**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:201/form) **- Course Change**
45. [**SOCI 485**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:203/form) **- Course Change**
46. [**SOCI 490**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:231/form) **- Course Change**
47. [**SOCI 495**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:204/form) **- Course Change**

**College of Visual and Performing Arts**

La France motioned to approve the consent agenda CVPA items. Sharp seconded. 15 voted in favor. 0 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

1. [**MUSP 110**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:431/form) ***–* Course Change**
2. [**MUSP 111**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:439/form) **– Course Change**
3. [**MUSP 112**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:440/form) **– Course Change**
4. [**MUSP 114**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:442/form) **– Course Change**
5. [**MUSP 119**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:443/form) **– Course Change**
6. Discussion Agenda
   1. Dates listed after items are when the items were approved at the College
      1. College of Business –
      2. College of Education – *No Curricular Items*
      3. College of Engineering – *No Curricular Items*
      4. College of Health and Human Sciences – *No Curricular Items*
      5. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences –
         1. [***Criminology BA/BS***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:237/form) ***– New Program (Major/Emphasis)***

La France motioned to approve the Criminology Major proposal. Strid seconded. Sharp gave a brief presentation on the Sociology proposals and the changes being made with potential concerns/considerations with the primary concern being it potentially lacks rigor from the current Criminology emphasis due to less methodology coursework; internal department considerations on the conclusion of having quantitative methods courses. Other concerns from the discussion primarily focused on: lack of accreditation consideration; IBHE specifics on reorganizing within a department; certificate dynamics and the value-added if they are subsets of existing coursework; the faculty hire and general commitment to support the program; slippery-slope dynamics of if other programs have one methods course, is that going to adversely affect proposals. Discussion included: Schatteman, Sharp, Myles, Buhrow, Perez, Mills, Conro, Strid, Gawron. 9 voted in favor. 4 against. 4 abstained. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [***Sociology BA/BS***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:236/form) ***– Program Change (Major/Emphasis)***

La France motioned to approve. Strid seconded. Discussion included: Allowance of one CRIM course or CRIM credit hour limits; how the major will fair after Criminology is separated. Discussion included: Schatteman, Sharp, Patel, Strid. 8 voted in favor. 4 against. 3 abstained. The motion was approved.

* + - 1. [***Minor in Sociology***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:226/form) ***– Program Change (Major/Emphasis)***

It was briefly discussed to group the proposals for time saving. La France motioned to approve the Minor in Sociology and Criminology proposals. Strid seconded. Discussion included: double-dipping between programs; elective options between the programs. Discussion included: Schatteman, Myles, Gawron, Patel. 12 voted in favor. 3 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [***Minor in Criminology (18)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:228/form) ***– New Program (Minor)***

Approved – see above.

* + - 1. [***Sociology of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (12)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:232/form) ***– New Program (Cert)***

The new certificate proposals were grouped for time savings. La France motioned to approve the new certificate proposals. Strid seconded. Discussion topics included: credit hour minimum/maximum for certificates; standalone certificates and how undergrad and grad certificates are different; differences between minors and certificates; naming convention of the certificates and if the names are appropriate given these are sociology-specific programs; Curriculum System-specific questions. Discussion included: Schatteman, Patel, Gawron, Garvey, Sharp, Devroye, Sanner, La France. The motion was amended to recommend changing the names of the certificates to better reflect these are sociology-specific certificates. 13 voted in favor. 1 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [***Social Science and Research and Analysis (11)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:230/form) ***– New Program (Cert)***

Proposal approved with amendment(s) – see above.

* + - 1. [***Social Justice and Social Change (12)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:235/form) ***– New Program (Cert)***

Proposal approved with amendment(s) – see above

* + - 1. [***Criminology (15)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:227/form) ***– Program Change (Cert)***

La France motioned to approve. Perez seconded. Discussion topics included: comparing the certificates and how this one appears to have more options; standalone certificate concerns. Discussion included: Schatteman, Patel, Garvey. 13 voted in favor. 0 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 370**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:216/form) **– New Course**

The course proposals were grouped for time savings. Sharp motioned to approve the proposals. La France seconded. Discussion included: A potential clerical error. Discussion included: Schatteman, Strid, Gawron, Sharp, Perez. 13 voted in favor. 0 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 381**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:217/form) **– New Course**

Approved – see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 390**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:219/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 393**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:218/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 395**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:220/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 301**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:215/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 303**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:214/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 490**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:221/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**CRIM 495**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:222/form) **– New Course**

Approved – see above.

* + - 1. [**SOCI 391**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:225/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**SOCI 378**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:224/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**SOCI 358**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:223/form) **– New Course**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**SOCI 376**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:268/form) **– Course Change**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [**SOCI 377**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:269/form) **– Course Change**

Approved - see above.

* + - 1. [***Film and Television Studies (15)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:123/form) ***– Program Change (Certificate)***

La France motioned to approve. Devroye seconded. Discussion topics included: how the program is adding JOUR courses; Removing notes under courses in the program since they will be listed directly on the course-level now. Little discussion occurred on the topics. 15 voted in favor. 0 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [***Accelerated BA/BS and JD***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:250/form) ***in Philosophy and the College of Law– Program Change (Major/Emphasis)***

La France motioned to approve. Strid seconded. Discussion topics included: the removal of the capstone and how the proposal references another change to a program; how strong of a philosophy program NIU has and if removing a capstone could be an issue; process considerations if other programs are removing the capstone course; and Curriculum System-specific question. Discussion included: Strid, Schatteman, Gawron, Patel, Myles, Devroye. The overall conclusions involved how accelerated programs are unique and interact with other programs/program requirements differently. 14 voted in favor. 0 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

* + - 1. [***Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.)***](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:396/form) ***– Program Change (Major/Emphasis)***

La France motioned to approve. Strid seconded. Discussion topics included: dissuading freshmen from entering the B.G.S. program; Curriculum System-specific consideration. Discussion included: Myles, Schatteman, Gawron. 14 voted in favor. 1 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

* + 1. College of Visual and Performing Arts –
       1. [**Music (B*.*M.)**](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:456/form) **– Program Change**

Strid motioned to approve. La France seconded. Discussion topics included: the change swapping out a course for a different course. Little discussion occurred on this proposal. 14 voted in favor. 0 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

* + 1. Other – *No curricular items.*

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   1. [*COMS 426*](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:126/form)– Course Change

Gawron briefly explained what “Show Original” means in the Curriculum System. Little discussion occurred on the proposal. La France motioned to approve. Strid seconded. 14 voted in favor. 0 against. 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

* 1. Election of two additional BC members to GEC

Strid and Gawron briefly gave details of GEC process/considerations. Sharp shared his experience with the GEC committee. There were no volunteers.

1. NEW BUSINESS
   1. 120 Credit display of academic majors in catalog – program template discussion

This item was largely skipped due to time constraints.

* 1. Academic Recovery Policy – Proposal to move from academic catalog to policy library

Schatteman briefly explained that the request is to move the policy from the catalog to the policy library. Discussion topics included: having it in both places, just the catalog versus just the policy library; dynamics of both and why it may need to be in the catalog; policy librarian concerns who can manage this if it is in the policy library; student considerations; linking the policy in the catalog to the policy library; larger systemic change to the catalog in general; liability/legal issues; Discussion included: Schatteman, Strid, Myles, Gawron, Garvey, Sharp, Devroye.

1. ADJOURNMENT

Strid motioned to adjourn the meeting. Devroye seconded.