

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 0419F  
Date of Senate Approval 12/05/19

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 3 (IST):**                      **Change IST 200 for 2 credits, to IST 310 for 3 credits**

**Effective Date: Fall 2020**

**1. Delete:** On page 181, the entry for **IST 200:**

**200 Ideas to Action (2)**

Students learn how to turn their ideas into plans that can become reality. They will be introduced to entrepreneurship, do a critical analysis of problems and needs, and work in interdisciplinary teams to design ventures. Students will form teams based on their interests, and will receive mentoring from professional entrepreneurs and other community leaders as they create their proposals with a market analysis, impact statement and financials. Students will present their work on-campus and have the opportunity to take their plans to the next level by participating in off-campus events. Fall.

**Add:** On page 181, in place of deleted entry:

**310 Ideas to Action (3)**

Students learn how to turn their ideas into plans that can become reality. They will be introduced to the theory and practice of social entrepreneurship, conduct a critical analysis of problems and needs, and work in interdisciplinary teams to design ventures. Students will form teams based on their interests and will receive mentoring from entrepreneurs and other community leaders as they create their proposals with a market analysis, impact statement, and financials. Students will present their work on-campus and have the opportunity to take their plans to the next level by participating in off-campus events. Every year.

**Impact:** Ideas to Action has an interdisciplinary connection to two university programs, Arts Management & Entrepreneurship (concentration and minor) and the Certificate in Contemplative Inquiry.

Increasing the number of credits and changing the course number will have the most consequence for Arts Management & Entrepreneurship since Ideas to Action is a required course. The coordinator of this program, Laura Bond, has discussed the need for this change with AME students who have taken this course. As a result, she has given her strong support and will revise the AME curriculum to reflect this change.

This course is also an option in the Interdisciplinary Certificate in Contemplative Inquiry. Since certificates require at least 3 hours at the 300-400 level, the change to 300-level will help. In addition, since the Interdisciplinary Certificate in Contemplative Inquiry certificate requires the completion of a minimum of 4 courses and 12 semester hours, the change in hours will afford students greater flexibility to earn credits for their certificate.

The change to 3-credits will not have a negative impact on the current schedule of the primary instructor of this course. The 4/2 credit model in the Management & Accountancy Department will allow the flexibility to keep an appropriate course load each semester.

**Rationale:** Ideas to Action has been tested as a 2-credit course in three semesters (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018). Students have consistently stressed that the workload does not align with other 2-credit courses they have taken. The instructor recognizes that an increase in contact hours is needed in order to include more opportunities for students to test their ideas, both on campus and in the community. Therefore, the change to 300-level will better reflect the steady increase in class content, sophistication and requirements such as additional exercises to help with problem analysis and solution refinement, the addition of an e-portfolio to track work products, and additional meetings with community mentors to prepare for the competition at the end of the course. These are needed in order to adequately meet the following course goals:

**Students will ...**

- ... turn ideas into a vision with a plan (which can be executed following the course)
- ... improve written and oral presentation skills
- ... work effectively in, and contribute to, a team
- ... develop professional correspondence and interaction skills
- ... understand how to accept and give feedback in a professional manner to improve work products
- ... learn how to use contemplative practices to improve creativity
- ... sharpen critical thinking and problem-solving skills

Ideas to Action welcomes students from any department. If it is changed to a 300-level course, students searching for a 300-level elective will have one more option.