Registrar's Office Initiated Equivalencies
Physics Department

October 18, 2013

This process will establish guidelines to enter transfer course equivalencies by the Registrar's Office for approved lower division courses. These guidelines will be created by the CLAS department and approved by both the department head and the CLAS Dean's Office. The guidelines will lay out the criteria to determine what conditions a transfer course must meet to the CU Denver equivalent. These course equivalencies will be managed by the Registrar's Office and will apply to new incoming students.

The established guidelines will be given to the Registrar's Office. The courses meeting the conditions described within the listed guidelines will be given the appropriate transfer equivalencies without requiring additional departmental approval. These equivalencies will be done with the condition that the decisions made during this process are available for review by the CLAS department. Below is a set of general guidelines that all courses used in the Registrar's Office Initiated Equivalencies process will be subject to. Please see the attached pages following for specific guidelines for each course involved in the process.

Each course used in the Registrar's Office Initiated Equivalencies process must met the following criteria:

- Has the same or similar department pre-fix
- Has a similar course title
- Ranges from 2.7 hours (Quarter system) to 3.0 hours (Semester system)
- Taught at the lower division level
- Similar course content to CU Denver course (as determined by course description)
- Institution must be appropriately accredited
- Specific addition criteria as listed on subsequent pages

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CLAS Dean's Office
Date: 10-23-13

CLAS Physics Department Chair
Date: 10-23-13

Physics Department RO Initiated Equivalencies
PHYS 1052- General Astronomy I

Registrar’s Office Initiated Equivalency Guidelines

CU Denver Description:

The history of astronomy is studied from early civilizations to the present. The basic motions of the earth, moon, sun, and planets are discussed both qualitatively and quantitatively, using elementary principles of physics. Properties of our solar system are discussed in detail, including results from unmanned space probes. Note: An additional 30 hours of laboratory work (at times to be arranged), plus appropriate report preparation time, are required to complete laboratory component of the course.
Prereq: High school algebra or equivalent. Max hours: 4 Credits. GT: Course is approved by the Colorado Dept of Higher Education for statewide guaranteed transfer, GT-SC1

Specific guidelines to be met:

- Course must have a lab or a separate associated lab.
- Course should be algebra based. Prereq of high school Algebra or a test
PHYS 1100- Foundations of Physics

Registrar's Office Initiated Equivalency Guidelines

CU Denver Description:

One-semester non-lab survey course especially designed for non-science majors. Acquaints students with some of the major principles and methods of physics. Includes applications of physics to everyday life and some discussion of the historical development of physics. Prereq: A good working knowledge of elementary algebra. Max hours: 4 Credits. GT: Course is approved by the Colorado Dept of Higher Education for statewide guaranteed transfer, GT-SC2

Specific guidelines to be met:

- Course should not include a lab
- Course must require a knowledge of Algebra
PHYS 2010 – College Physics I & PHYS 2030 College Physics Lab I

Registrar’s Office Initiated Equivalency Guidelines

CU Denver Description:

PHYS 2010: (This course is an approved Colorado Statewide Guaranteed Transfer Course). Mechanics, heat and sound. Prereq: College algebra and trigonometry. Max hours: 4 Credits. GT: Course is approved by the Colorado Dept of Higher Education for statewide guaranteed transfer, GT-SC2.

PHYS 2030: Max hours: 1 Credits. GT: Course is approved by the Colorado Dept of Higher Education for statewide guaranteed transfer, GT-SC1.

Specific guidelines to be met:

- Course must be Algebra based
- Equivalency can be given for either the lecture, lab or both based on what is transferred in
- Credit is awarded based on earned credit from source institution
PHYS 2020 – College Physics II & PHYS 2040 College Physics Lab II

Registrar’s Office Initiated Equivalency Guidelines

CU Denver Description:


PHYS 2040: Prereq: PHYS 2030. Max hours: 1 Credit. GT: Course is approved by the Colorado Dept of Higher Education for statewide guaranteed transfer, GT-SC1.

Specific guidelines to be met:

- Course must be Algebra based
- Equivalency can be given for either the lecture, lab or both based on what is transferred in
- Credit is awarded based on earned credit from source institution
PHYS 2311- General Physics I: Calculus Based & PHYS 2321- General Physics Lab I

Registrar's Office Initiated Equivalency Guidelines

CU Denver Description:

PHYS 2311: Covers vector displacement, uniform and accelerated motion, force, momentum, energy, rotating systems, oscillations, and an introduction to thermodynamics. Emphasis is on basic principles. Prereq: MATH 1401. Max hours: 4 Credits.

PHYS 2321: Max hours: 1 Credit.

Specific guidelines to be met:

- Course must be Calculus based
- Equivalency can be given for either the lecture, lab or both based on what is transferred in
- Credit is awarded based on earned credit from source institution
PHYS 2331- General Physics II: Calculus Based & PHYS 2341- General Physics Lab II

Registrar’s Office Initiated Equivalency Guidelines

CU Denver Description:

PHYS 2331: Covers electrostatics, magnetic fields, electromagnetic waves (including light), and optics. Prereq: PHYS 2311 and MATH 2411. Max hours: 4 Credits.

PHYS 2341: Prereq: PHYS 2321. Max hours: 1 Credit.

Specific guidelines to be met:

- Course must be Calculus based
- Equivalency can be given for either the lecture, lab or both based on what is transferred in
- Credit is awarded based on earned credit from source institution