Submitted by: David Toth
Date Prepared: 12/4/12

Department/Discipline and Course Number: CPSC 230

Course Title: Computer Science II: Data Structures

Type of change (check all applicable):
Course Number* _____ Title_____ Credits_____ Description____ Prerequisites _X__Deletion_____
*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

Effective Date: FALL Semester, Year __ Fall 2013 _____________________________

Current Catalog Entry

230 – Computer Science II: Data Structures (4)
Prerequisite: Computer Science 220. Continued study of data modeling and incorporation of abstract data types including linked lists, stacks, queues, heaps, trees, and graphs. Study of advanced sorting and searching techniques. Provides experience in the use of algorithm analysis. Continued study of program design, coding, debugging, testing, and documentation in an object-oriented higher level language.

Proposed Catalog Entry

230 – Computer Science II: Data Structures (4)
Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in Computer Science 220. Continued study of data modeling and incorporation of abstract data types including linked lists, stacks, queues, heaps, trees, and graphs. Study of advanced sorting and searching techniques. Provides experience in the use of algorithm analysis. Continued study of program design, coding, debugging, testing, and documentation in an object-oriented higher level language.

JUSTIFICATION (including impact on majors, minors, concentrations, and general education courses within the University curriculum; attach additional pages if required)

This change is necessary to ensure that students continuing on in computer science have a strong enough background to be successful. We have seen students who "get by" with poor grades in CPSC 220 and then either fail this course or then earn a poor, but passing grade in this course and "get by" and move on to the next course, which does not serve those students well. They need to build a solid foundation in CPSC 220 or they will not be very successful in future courses and likely won't be successful in the major or minor if they continue on in it. While people have argued that such a student just needs to be told that they are not cutting it, we have seen students that will not believe that and continue on anyway, which does them more harm than good.

This change has no effect on general education courses. It impacts all three concentrations within the computer science major and the minor by requiring students to retake CPSC 220 if they do not earn a C in it, so it may cause a few students to need to retake CPSC 220. However, there are no other impacts.

TRANSITION PLAN (describe how will students who are in Catalogs where the course is required for a major be accommodated; attach additional pages if required)

Students who have passed CPSC 220 before this change goes into effect will be allowed to continue on to CPSC 230 even if they did not earn a C. Those students will have to get permission of the department to be able to register for CPSC 230 to override the pre-requisite in the Banner system.

Approvals

Department Chair ___ Jennifer Polack-Wahl ______________________ Date: ___1-10-13_________

College Curriculum Chair ___ Bradley A. Hansen ______________________ Date: ___1-17-13_________

Expedited Course Change Cover Sheet (July 2012)
Expedited course changes are posted for a 10-class day comment period. If no comments are raised during that time, the proposal becomes final. All expedited proposals approved in this way will be noted on the UCC web site.

If comments are raised, the proposal may be reviewed by the UCC and then approved or it may be returned to the CCC for additional deliberation (as required).