Submitted by: Ian Finlayson
Date Prepared: 11/5/15

Department/Discipline(s) and Course Number(s): CPSC 305

Course Title: Computer Systems and Architecture

Type of change (check all applicable):
- Number* _____ Title_____ Credits_____ Description____ Prerequisites _X__ Deletion_____ Cross list**____

*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

**To cross list courses between departments/colleges, there should be two cover sheets submitted with the proposal – one by the chair of each department with signatures from the relevant College Curriculum Committee Chair.

Effective Date: FALL Semester, Year _____Fall 2016___________________________

Current Catalog Entry
- Prerequisites: CPSC 220 and 225 or CPSC 230. This course examines the basic operation of computing systems. It takes a bottom-up approach covering each major component of such systems including hardware, logic circuit design, CPU instruction sets, assemblers, and compilers. Students will gain experience programming in assembly language and C.

Proposed Catalog Entry
- Prerequisites: CPSC 125A, CPSC 225 and grade of C or better in CPSC 240. This course examines the basic operation of computing systems. It takes a bottom-up approach covering each major component of such systems including hardware, logic circuit design, CPU instruction sets, assemblers, and compilers. Students will gain experience programming in assembly language and C.

JUSTIFICATION (including impact on majors, minors, concentrations, and general education courses within the University curriculum; attach additional pages if required). Any change that impacts another Department must have a written statement (such as a copy of an email) from the Chair(s) agreeing to the change.

There are three changes being proposed here. The first is to raise the prerequisite from CPSC 220 to 240. This is being proposed for two reasons. First, the course is programming intensive, so students will be more prepared for 305 after having taken 240, which is the second programming course in our introductory sequence. Second, virtually no students are able to take 305 before 240 anyway due to scheduling constraints. Adding the prerequisite will both ensure that no students with only 220 “slip in” and not be as prepared as their classmates, and also give students a more realistic view of when they can take the course.

The second change being proposed is to include CPSC 125A, Introduction to Discrete Mathematics as a prerequisite. This prerequisite actually used to exist, but we neglected to include it when changing the program last year. The content in 305 relies on content in 125A, and nearly all students take 125A prior to 305 anyway.

The third change is to remove the option to take 340 instead of 225 and 240. This option was in place to simplify the transition of previous curriculum change, but is not needed any more. 340 requires both 225 and 240, so that option is redundant.

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)

There is no transition plan needed. All three courses of 240, 125 and 305 are required for majors and 125A and 240 are both offered every semester. Also, nearly all students take 125A and 240 prior to 305 anyway.

Approvals
Department Chair ___________________________ Date: _11/10/2015__________________________

Expedited Course Change Cover Sheet (October 2015)
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).