

**QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
ACADEMIC SENATE REPORT**

FROM: Frank Cotty, Chair, Committee on Curriculum
TO: E. Tai, Secretary, Academic Senate Steering Committee
CC: P. Pecorino, Dean K. Steele, College Archives (C. Williams)
DATE: January 22, 2006
SUBJECT: **Monthly Report for January, 2006**

The Curriculum Committee recommends the following for adoption by the Academic Senate:

NEW COURSE

ECET:

ET-481 Personal Computer Technology, Architecture and Troubleshooting

1 Lecture hour, 3 Laboratory hours, 2 credits

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: ET-501, or ET504 or Permission of the Department

Course description: Essential concepts in PC architecture, application and history are demonstrated via this hands-on course in modern PC computing technology. This course covers hardware and software concepts and prepares the student for the CompTIA A+ Certification exam. Topics include standard hardware components such as microprocessors, memory, motherboards, power supplies, storage devices and PC enclosures. Software topics include Anti-Virus, Anti-Spyware, and other tools and applications to configure a secure environment. Completion of this course requires the successful construction and configuration of a personal computer.

Rationale: ET-480 is currently a 1-credit, 3-hour laboratory class which is designed to provide an applied understanding of modern PC technologies. ET-484 is a 3 credit, 2 lecture hours, 2 laboratory hours course which functions as a focused review course to be taken after ET-480 as additional preparation for the A+ Certification. Combining these two courses into one course (1 lecture hour, 3 laboratory hours, 2 credits) will better serve students who wish to obtain A+ Certification.

The original ET-480, Upgrading and Repairing PCs, course was designed in 1985. It was a component-level repair course. Since that time the course has been revised to reflect changes in the computer repair industry. In 1999 ET-484, A+ Certification was created to prepare students to obtain A+ Certification. In 2003 CompTIA updated the A+ Certification to match the growth of technology in the PC industry. The required knowledge for the new A+ Certification exam has grown significantly. This further necessitates a revision of our PC repair program. In addition there exists a practical need to explore technology beyond the A+ Certification.

Enrollment for the ET-484, A+ Certification course has always been a problem due to prerequisites while the demand for ET-480 has always been high. It has become apparent that some students can find just enough time within their degree program to take only one of the two courses. This has created some confusion for the student in regard to which course should be

selected, especially when there is a serious interest in pursuing the A+ Certification. Additionally, while ET-484 benefits the dedicated student, the application of technologies found in ET-480 breeds more interest to a variety of students due to its hands-on approach. A single, concentrated course would be a more efficient method of preparing a student for A+ Certification. The challenge is then to combine the best elements of the two classes into a new comprehensive course which will fit into the elective requirements of the curriculum and the scheduling constraints of the student. The proposed solution revises course content into a four hour, two credit course comprised of one hour of lecture and three hours of laboratory. The three hour laboratory will allow the student to apply concepts discussed in lecture while practice A+ Exam questions and sample A+ Examinations will be administered via Blackboard as weekly assignments.

Fulfills elective credits in the following programs:

A.A.S.Computer Engineering Technology

A.A.S.Electronic Engineering Technology

A.A.S.New Media Technology

New Media Technology Certificate does not have ET 480 or 484 as electives. ET-481 should be added to the list of Electives from which students select 9 credits of courses

COURSES TO BE DELETED/REPLACED BY ET-481 Personal Computer Technology, Architecture and Troubleshooting 1 Lecture hour, 3hr Laboratory hours, 2credits

ET-480, Upgrading and Repairing PCs 1 credit, 3 laboratory hours

ET-484, A+ Certification 3 credit, 2 lecture hours, 2-lab
ET-484, A+ Certification 3 credit, 2 lecture hours, 2-laboratory hours