UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: IS 350: Business Communications Systems

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COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the "current" column, and only the information changing in the "proposed" column)

change		current	proposed
☐	Course Number(s)	IS 350	
☐	Formal Title	Business Communication Systems	
☐	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Business Comm Systems	
☐	Recommended Course Preparation		
x	Prerequisite **NOTE:** Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	IS 300 and MATH 155 with a C or better. This course is available to BTA majors only.	IS 300 and (MATH 155 **or MATH 151**) with a C or better. This course is available to BTA majors **and IS minors** only.
☐	Credits	3	
☐	Repeatable?	☐ Yes x No	☐ Yes ☐ No
☐	Max. Total Credits	3	**Max. Total Credits:** This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
☐	Grading Method(s)	x Reg (A-F) ☐ Audit ☐ Pass-Fail	☐ Reg (A-F) ☐ Audit ☐ Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
A survey of business data communications for end users of computer networks. Students will gain a basic understanding of the features, operations and limitations of different types of communications and network systems. Topics covered include: fundamentals of data and signals, telecommunications systems, wired and wireless media, error control, local-area networks, wide-area networks, the Internet and network security. This course will provide the student the knowledge and ability to interact with the system professional administering these areas.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words**):** leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:
All other IS courses with a calculus prerequisite designate that prerequisite as "either MATH 155 or MATH 151". MATH 155 is sufficient for the IS and BTA majors, but many students come into our department with MATH 151 from a prior institution or major, so we accept both in all cases. For some unknown reason, this particular course was overlooked and does not have the optional MATH 151 prereq, so we would like to remedy that.

This course is a core course in the BTA major curriculum, and so was designated as limited to BTA majors (in part to discourage IS majors from taking it, as it overlaps a great deal with one of the required IS major courses). When we created the IS minor a few years ago, we added this course to the list of possible electives for the minor, but neglected to loosen the registration restriction to BTA majors only, necessitating a lot of special permissions.