CUL 258.4 Course Outline as of Fall 2025

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: CUL 258.4 Title: INTRO TO FRONT HOUSE OPS

Full Title: Introduction to Front House Operations

Last Reviewed: 2/3/2020

Units		Course Hours per Week	ľ	Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	1.00	Lecture Scheduled	1.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	17.50
Minimum	1.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	1.00		Contact Total	17.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 35.00 Total Student Learning Hours: 52.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: CUL 256.3

Catalog Description:

Provides an introduction to the management of front house operations in a variety of environments, including hotels, restaurants, wineries, and catering businesses. Introduces principles of revenue, profit and cost controls; employee recruiting and training; menu planning and food production; and sales and marketing.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL 100 OR EMLS 100 (formerly ESL 100) or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:

Description: Provides an introduction to the management of front house operations in a variety of environments, including hotels, restaurants, wineries, and catering businesses. Introduces principles of revenue, profit and cost controls; employee recruiting and training; menu planning and food production; and sales and marketing. (Grade Only) Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 OR EMLS 100 (formerly ESL 100) or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit:

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree: Area Effective: Inactive: CSU GE: Transfer Area Effective: Inactive:

IGETC: Transfer Area Effective: Inactive:

CSU Transfer: Effective: Inactive:

UC Transfer: Effective: Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of theme and concepts, food and beverage revenue, costs, controls, and pricing.
- 2. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of customer service, employee recruiting, training, sales and marketing.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

- 1. Summarize the types of income and expense found in a food service operation's budget.
- 2. Describe factors affecting the costs of food and beverages.
- 3. Describe the responsibilities of the management personnel of an independent restaurant, hotel, and catering operation.
- 4. Describe the key employee positions of an independent restaurant, hotel, and catering operation and describe how each is recruited and trained.
- 5. Describe how a food service operation's menu reflects its concept and customer demographics.
- 6. Analyze the menu creation process of an independent restaurant, hotel, and catering operation.
- 7. Discuss marketing and advertising options for increasing a restaurant's visibility and sales.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Revenue, Expense and Profit
 - A. Projecting sales and the factors that affect sales
 - B. Budget: income and expense items
 - C. Determining prior cost as a percentage of sales
 - D. Factors that affect cost of food and labor
- II. Manager's Duties and Responsibilities
 - A. Employee recruiting and training

- B. Supervision and leadership
- C. Customer relations
- D. Interface with owner or superior
- III. Key Culinary and Service Employee Positions
 - A. Duties
 - B. Responsibilities
 - C. Recruiting, training and employee retention
- IV. Menu Planning and Food Production
 - A. Planning a menu according to demographics and market demand
 - B. Menu creation process
 - 1. Product availability
 - 2. Food preparation
 - 3. Storage
 - 4. Labor quality and availability
 - C. Concepts and theme
- V. Sales and Marketing Strategies
 - A. Creating sales in-house
 - B. Advertising and marketing the business

Assignment:

- 1. Field trips to food and beverage businesses (4 6), which occur during regular class hours
- 2. Browse and research the websites of the businesses scheduled for field trips prior to the visit (ungraded)
- 3. Maintain a field notebook of field trip visits (ungraded)
- 4. Write a 2-3 page synopsis of each of the businesses visited on field trips, addressing the topics of focus
- 5. Final exam

Field trip synopses

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-

computational problem solving skills.

None

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill

performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations

Problem solving

0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Writing 30 - 50%

Final ex	am				
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Exams 30 - 50%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation

Other Category 10 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials: Instructor prepared materials