

ASU General Studies Council

MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 2015

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Present: Alexandra Aragon, Charlotte Armbruster, Nilanjana Bhattacharjya, Eva Brumberger, Alison Essary, Cora Fox, Chouki El Hamel – Chair, Sean Hawkeswood, Richard Herrera, Paul Hirt, Julie Holston, Stephen Krause, Lauren Leo, Phyllis Lucie, Bertha Manninen, Lisa McIntyre, Michael Mokwa, Helene Ossipov, Janice Pittsley, Julia Sarreal, Brian Skromme, Michelle Zandieh

Excused: Ariel Anbar, Lara Ferry, Cory Hansen, Eileen Diaz McConnell, Tim McGuire

Guests: Duane Roen, Jennifer Setlow

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes—March 31, 2015

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements

Dr. El Hamel thanked the GSC for their continued commitment to the students of ASU.

4. Old Business

-Discuss Creative Process proposal (posted on Blackboard site).

Dean Roen addressed the GSC regarding the proposed Creative Process General Studies designation. Dr. Roen discussed how this new General Studies designation would incorporate: project-based learning; problem-based learning; solution-based learning; creative expression; design thinking; and innovation challenges.

The new Creative Process designation covers a wide spectrum across the university and is not just humanities based. Higher education is approaching learning in a new way and ASU wants students to think creatively in all disciplines.

It was encouraged that the Creative Process should be considered as an additional General Studies designation and not included under Humanities, Arts and Design by the General Studies Council.

After a lengthy discussion, there was a motion to approve moving forward with a proposal for the consideration and approval of this newly proposed General Studies designation.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

-Review draft of FAQs for GSC website (posted on Blackboard site)

Council members requested minor changes, and after a discussion, a motion was made to approve the FAQ's.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

-Review changes to Historical Awareness (H) rationale and criteria checklist (posted on Blackboard site)

After a brief discussion and minor changes, a motion was made to approve the revised Historical Awareness (H) rationale and criteria checklist.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

5. New Business

None

6. Subcommittee Reports

A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry (Eva Brumberger)

Approved for L designation effective fall 2016 (new):

From ASU:

HST 441 Latin America and the World Economy

From MCCC:

None

Approved to retain L designation: (mandatory review)

From ASU:

CSE 486 Computer Science Capstone Project II
EEE 488 Senior Design Laboratory I (Revised)
EEE 489 Senior Design Laboratory II (Revised)
ENG 359 Indigenous American Literature
ENG 478 Studies in Modernism
HST 361/ REL 374 Witchcraft and Heresy in Europe
NTR 351 Nutrition and Health Communications
SPA 420 Applied Spanish Linguistics
TWC 301 Fundamentals of Writing for Digital Media

From MCCCDC:

None

Revise and Resubmit to retain L designation: (mandatory review)

From ASU:

JST 210/ REL 210 Introduction to Judaism

Rationale: The quantity of writing in the course meets the criteria for L designation, as does the level of critical inquiry. However, all of the writing is part of the two essay exams. The course structure does not lend itself to providing feedback to students that will help them develop more effective writing and critical inquiry abilities. This could be addressed by distributing the writing across the semester rather than consolidating it into a midterm and final exam.

From MCCCDC:

None

B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS) (Brian Skromme)

From ASU:

None

From MCCCDC:

None

C) Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU) (Cora Fox)

Approved for HU designation, effective Fall 2015 (new):

From ASU:

HEB 394 Israeli Wars in Israeli Movies

From MCCCDC:

None

Approved for HU designation, effective Fall 2016 (new):

From ASU:

BIO 318/HPS 311 History of Medicine
GRK/SLC 221 Survey of Ancient Greek Literature
REL 287 Topics in Film, Media and Religion

From MCCCDC:

None

Revise and Resubmit for HU designation (new):

From ASU:

ASU 194 Introduction to American Culture

Rationale: Although based on the syllabus this course does appear to involve humanistic inquiry, the instructor has not provided adequate evidence that the humanities content is central and substantial enough to make this an HU course. Further information on the content of weeks devoted to cultural studies might clarify this, as well as some evidence of the kinds of readings that will be analyzed. Most importantly, a description of the final project (worth 25%), might highlight the humanistic methods that the students will develop in the course.

From MCCCDC:

None

D) Social - Behavioral Sciences (SB) (Michael Mokwa)

Approved for SB designation effective fall 2015 (new):

From ASU:

ASB 490 Earliest Cities
ASU 194 Introduction to American Culture

Approved to retain SB designation (mandatory review):

From ASU:

HST 107 Asian Civilizations

HST 302 Studies in History

SWU 250 Stress Management Tools

From MCCCDC:

None

Revise and Resubmit to retain SB designation (mandatory review):

From ASU:

HST 316 20th Century U.S. Foreign Relations

Rationale: The proposal for course is positioned to meet SB criteria. However, the syllabus that is used to develop the proposal is from 2008. If the proposal can be redeveloped using an up-to-date syllabus, we would approve it.

From MCCCDC:

None

E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG) (Alison Essary)

Approved to retain SQ designation (mandatory review):

From ASU:

PHS/MSE 208 Patterns in Nature (Revised)

From MCCCDC:

None

F) Cultural Diversity in the United States (C) (Nilanjana Bhattacharjya)

Approved for C designation, effective Fall 2015 (new):

From ASU:

AIS 394 Entrepreneurship for American Indian Sustainability (Revised)

From MCCCDC:

None

Approved for C designation, effective Fall 2016 (new):

From ASU:

AIS 320 American Indian Philosophies and World Views (Revised)
SPA 315 Spanish Conversation and Composition for Bilinguals
SPA 316 Spanish Conversation and Composition for Bilinguals

From MCCCDC:

None

Revise and Resubmit for C designation (new):

From ASU:

ASU 194 Introduction to American Culture

Rationale: With the course topics outlined, there are only about three or four weeks mentioned that explicitly engage issues of diverse communities, and the rest of the course material is not substantiated in the proposal. It mentions that guest speakers will cover other topics and is not specific. Samples of the weekly reports and writing assignments referenced in the proposal might help us determine the depth to which students are “exploring cultural experiences and contributions” as the proposal indicates.

From MCCCDC:

None

G) Global Awareness (G) (Richard Herrera)

Approved for G designation fall 2015 (new):

From ASU:

HEB 394 Israeli Wars in Israeli Movies

From MCCCDC:

None

Approved for G designation fall 2016 (new):

From ASU:

FRE 110 Intensive French I
FRE 210 Intensive French II
HST 441 Latin America and the World Economy
REL 287 Topics in Film, Media and Religion

From MCCC:

None

Approved to retain G designation (mandatory review):

From ASU:

GLG 110 Dangerous World
HST 302 Studies in History
REL 366 Islam in the Modern World
SOC 352 Social Change

From MCCC:

None

Deny for G designation (new):

From ASU:

SPA 315 Spanish Conversation and Composition for Bilinguals

Rationale: The target audience for this course is heritage speakers, so does not clearly, as is usually the case, meet the criterion of that the course be taught in another language. There is a minimal focus on the cultural aspects required for the Global Awareness designation.

From MCCC:

None

H) Historical Awareness (H) (Julia Sarreal)

Approved for H designation fall 2015 (new):

From ASU:

ASB 490 The Earliest Cities

From MCCC:

None

Approved for H designation fall 2016 (new):

HST 441 Latin America & the World

From MCCC:

None

Approved to retain H designation (mandatory review):

From ASU:

REL 372 Formation of the Christian Tradition (Revised)

From MCCCDC:

None

Deny for H designation (new):

From ASU:

SPA 315 Spanish Conversation and Composition for Bilinguals

Rationale: We doubt that the course can be revised to fit the H requirements. The course has many objectives. Only the tenth and last objective addresses history. In addition, the tenth objective also addresses literature and culture. This is a language course. None of the class activities entail history. Similarly, none of the class assignments seem to entail history. We do not believe that the course can adequately incorporate history to the degree that it satisfies the H requirements.

From MCCCDC:

None

A motion was made and seconded to **approve** all subcommittee reports.

7 . Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie