

ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

3:00–5:00 p.m.

Present: Charlotte Armbruster, Eva Brumberger, Alison Essary-Chair, Lara Ferry, Cora Fox, Christina Hansen, Cory Hansen, Caroline Harrison, Sean Hawkeswood, Richard Herrera, Julie Holston, Wendy Hultsman, Lauren Leo, Phyllis Lucie, Bertha Manninen, Fran Matera, Mary McAvoy, Lisa McIntyre, Michael Mokwa, Stefan Stantchev, Michelle Zandieh

Excused: Ariel Anbar, Nilanjana Bhattacharjya, Juan Gil-Osle, Brian Skromme

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes—September 22, 2015

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements

The GSC was informed that Lauren Leo accepted a position at Ed Plus, and was leaving the Office of the Provost and the GSC.

Lauren's expertise will be sorely missed.

4. Old Business

Stefan Stantchev gave an overview of proposed revisions for Historical Awareness under Rationale and Objectives. GSC members agreed with proposed revisions, and Lauren Leo updated these revisions.

A motion to approve revisions was made, seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

5. New Business

6. Subcommittee Reports

A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry
From ASU:

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

CRJ 300 Oral and Written Communication for Criminology and Criminal Justice
FOR 410 Professional Practices in Forensic Science

Revise and Resubmit for L designation (new):

SLC 394 Classical Historians in Translation

Rationale: The course involves a great deal of writing, and all of it certainly reflects critical inquiry. The final research paper, which comprises 40% of the course, is a substantial writing assignment with opportunities for feedback. However, as criterion 1 notes, in-class essay exams, which comprise 30%, may not be used for [L] designation. Additionally, three separate essays assigned at three different times during the semester cannot be considered one substantial writing assignment; the committee has insufficient information to determine whether each of the essays could be considered substantial if they were completed outside of class and if feedback was provided on each before the next was due.

From MCCCDCD:

None

B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS)

From ASU:

None

From MCCCDCD:

None

C) Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU)

From ASU:

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

AIS 394 American Indian and Indigenous Film

SLC 394 Classical Historians in Translation

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

SWU 183 Introductory Ethics: A Social Issues Perspectives

From MCCCDCD:

None

D) Social and Behavioral Sciences

From ASU:

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

AMS/ETH/WST 449 Hate Speech, Manifestos, and Radical Writings
AMS/ETH/WST 469 Trash, Freaks and SCUM
ASB 222 Buried Cities Lost Tribes
CRJ 435 Crime and Forensic Mental Health

From MCCCCD:

None

E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG)

From ASU:

Approved for SG designation, effective Spring 2016 (new):

ASM 275 Forensic Anthropology (SG)

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

FOR 105 Physical Evidence and the Crime Scene (SQ)

FOR 106 Biology Behind the Crime Scene (SQ)

From MCCCCD:

None

F) Cultural Diversity in the United States

From ASU:

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

AIS 394 American Indian and Indigenous Film

Deny for C designation (new):

IAS 294 Games and Ethics

Rationale: At least 50% of the course should focus on the designation. While some of the course refers to material that relates to ethnicity and gender in terms that would satisfy the Cultural Diversity designation. The course description and objectives are in this case less important than the actual material covered in the course, as indicated in the syllabus. Where and how are specific communities referred to? Asking students to consider how ethnicity and gender contribute to a game's ethics in an assignment is productive, but it's not clear to our subcommittee how these assignments relate concretely to any specific groups and students' increased awareness of their contributions to culture in the United States.

From MCCCCD:

None

G) Global Awareness

From ASU:

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

HCD 303 Global Health Care Systems
SPA 210 Intensive Spanish II

Approved for G designation, effective Spring 2016 (new):

From MCCCCD:
STO 290 The Irish Storytelling Tradition

Revise and Resubmit for G designation, (new):
From ASU:

IAS 294 Games and Ethics

Rationale: This course is designed using 6 assignments rather than weeks/modules, and includes the appropriate course learning outcomes (CLO) for each assignment. All assignments have 2 of the outside US CLOs included (with #6 all 3). They have an average of 3 inside the US LCOs included. Objectives 4-6 focus on games outside of the US; #7-11 focus on inside the US; #1-3 are the foundations of gameplay/design and ethics. The course's main focus appears to within the US. The committee requests more information on how the course, taken as a whole, meets the criterion that "The course is a comparative cultural study in which most, i.e., more than half, of the material is devoted to non-U.S. areas."

From MCCCCD:

SBU 200 Society and Business

Rationale: The committee requests more information on how the highlighted parts of the syllabus, particularly regarding text chapters, satisfy the criterion that "the area or culture studied must be non-U.S. and the study must contribute to an understanding of the contemporary world." It appears that less than half of the chapters of the text focus on global awareness.

Deny for G designation, (new):
From ASU:

AIS 394 American Indian and Indigenous Film

Rationale: The content of this course is focused on the depiction of United States Indian and Indigenous people. As such, less than a majority of the content is global (Non-U.S) in nature.

Deny for G designation, (mandatory review):

ASB 222 Buried Cities Lost Tribes

Rationale: The majority of the course focus, according to the text used, covers archaeology especially of the North American colonial archaeology. An insufficient amount of content is of non-American archeology. This course also does not reflect contemporary global awareness.

CON 101 Construction and Culture: a Built Environment

Rationale: This course focuses primarily on the historical and cultural approach to understanding construction. It is unclear how the course addresses the first criterion for the Global designation: “Studies must be composed of subject matter that addresses or leads to an understanding of the *contemporary* world outside the U.S.” The course only features four weeks with topics potentially about the contemporary global environment and construction.

For criteria 1, using the text: Chapter 1 is the introduction/history of building from the caveman to the middle ages. Chapter 7 - profile of the builder with focus on the USA. Reviewing the chapters mentioned, it includes some historical explanations for today’s built environment and construction. In general though, besides the historical overview and the last 2 chapters, all the others are focused on the construction in the USA. We note the change in the preferred criteria from 2d. to 2a. but the content, as reflected in the text chapters, is the same, i.e., primarily historical and not contemporary.

H) **Historical Awareness**

From ASU:

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

ASB 222 Buried Cities Lost Tribes
SLC 394 Classical Historians in Translation

From MCCC:

None

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie