

ASU General Studies Council

MEETING MINUTES

April 23, 2013

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Present: Craig Allen, Volker Benkert, Patrick Bixby, Gregory Castle, Maria Chavira, Ronald Dorn, Chouki El Hamel-Chair, Hilde Hoogenboom, Kate Lehman, Lauren Leo, Phyllis Lucie, Mark Montesano, Jeffrey Ricker, Michael Tueller

Excused: Rebecca Barry, Debra Campbell, David Carlson, Peter de Marneffe, Alejandra Elenes, Barbara Fargotstein, Sherry Feng, Antonio Garcia, Barbara Lafford, Lisa McIntyre, Joe Rody, Julia Sarreal

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes—March 26, 2013

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements

The revised Policies and Procedures and Bylaws will be sent out to committee members for final review and approval. All feedback should be received by May 20, 2013. The revised documents will be posted online on June 1, 2013. General Studies Council membership reminder for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Chouki informed the council (confirmation e-mail), that Vice Provost Fred Corey agreed with council concerns regarding the new streamlining process for lower level L, HU and SB general studies designations.

This new streamlining will **not change** general studies criteria checksheets, or the role of the General Studies Council. Streamlining will assist students that are transferring courses to ASU, a clear pathway for lower level general studies courses.

Dr. El Hamel thanked departing and returning GSC members for their dedication and commitment to the GSC.

4. Old Business

- Literacy criteria requirements and GSC feedback will be reviewed this summer, and any changes made will be discussed at the August 27, 2013 GSC meeting.
- Discussion regarding GSC workshop - Dr. El Hamel would like committee members to do presentations within their own departments. Discussion will continue at the first fall GSC meeting in August.

5. New Business

Committee discussed amending the HU checklist as a goal for the 2013-2014 academic year. There seems to be an overlap with several criteria. The language is a bit vague and the terminology may be confusing to those whose background is not in the humanities. Also, it should be made clear that no religious studies courses (e.g., theology or doctrinal classes) be submitted for HU consideration. Courses need to predominantly cover culture.

Another goal for next year is to start working on the virtual training to help clarify the process of applying for General Studies designations. This would also be very useful for new faculty orientation. Ron Dorn, Mike Tueller and Chouki El Hamel volunteered to assist with this project. They would like to use great examples of the various designations to include in this training. Goal is to have this project completed by the end of the 2014-2015 academic year.

6. Subcommittee Reports

A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry (Barbara Fargotstein)

From ASU:

Approved for L designation, effective Fall 2013 (new):

IEE 486	Systems Design Capstone II (Revised)
PUP 434	Economic Development Planning (Revised)
THE 421	Shakespeare: Stage and Film (Revised)
THP 311	Creative Drama with Youth (Revised)
FMP 222	Education in Film
SOC 334*	Technology and Society (split decision re: what constituted 50% of the grade. Papers and exams did, in general, meet the expectation)

B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS) (Joe Rody)

From ASU:

Approved for MA designation, effective Fall 2013 (new):

MAT 171 Precalculus: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

C) Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU) (Gregory Castle)

From ASU:

Approved for HU designation, effective Spring 2014 (new):

MUS 362 Rap Music and Hip Hop Culture (approved – retroactive SUMMER 2013)

VTN 322 Advanced Vietnamese and Literatures II (Spring 2014)

From ASU:

NOTE: These courses were revised and re-submitted to the HU subcommittee after the April 23, 2013 GSC meeting. Based on the changes made, the subcommittee determined that the courses **satisfy** the **HU** criteria, effective Fall 2013 (new).

ARA 218 Art and Visual Learning (Revised)

ART 110 Drawing as Seeing and Thinking (Revised)

Deny

From ASU:

VTN 321 Advanced Vietnamese and Literatures I

Rationale: There is some analysis of folklore and proverbs, some films, but the emphasis is overwhelmingly on folk tales. So the scope is very narrow. Also, the course seems devoted primarily to “developing skill in the use of language” (idioms, etc.) -- and, therefore, it is ineligible for an HU designation. Note: Title is incorrectly listed on cover sheet.

D) Social and Behavioral Sciences (SB) (Rebecca Barry)

None

E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG) (Ron Dorn)

From ASU:

Approved for SG designation, effective Fall 2013 (new):

BIO 194 Discovery: Why Sex?

F) Cultural Diversity in the United States (C) (Alejandra Elenes)

None

G) Global Awareness (G) (Mike Tueller)

From ASU:

Approved for G designation, effective Spring 2014 (new):

CHI 101 First Year Chinese

CHI 102 First Year Chinese

CHI 401 Fourth Year Chinese

CHI 402 Fourth Year Chinese

CHI 407 Chinese for Academic and Professional Purposes I

CHI 408 Chinese for Academic and Professional Purposes II

HEB 101 Elementary Modern Hebrew

HEB 102 Elementary Modern Hebrew

HEB 394 Israeli Culture and Society

VTN 101 Elementary Vietnamese I

VTN 102 Elementary Vietnamese II

VTN 321 Advanced Vietnamese and Literatures I

VTN 322 Advanced Vietnamese and Literatures II

H) Historical Awareness (H) (Jeffry Ricker)

From ASU:

Deny

HEB 394 - Israeli Culture and Society

Rationale: Although the subject matter of the course looks fascinating, the content and assignments do not meet Criterion 1 ("history is a major focus of the course"). For example, two of the three essays deal primarily with issues involving political science

(the political structure of Israel) and culture (Israeli films). Only the essay on the development of kibbutzim includes elements dealing with history.

In order to be awarded the H designation, this course would need to be significantly revised so that the assignments, readings, and course outline emphasized history as described in the four checklist criteria.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie