

ASU General Studies Council
MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2014

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Present: Charlotte Armbruster, Nilanjana Bhattacharjya, Patrick Bixby, Christine Buzinde, Fred Corey, Scott Danielson, Alison Essary, Lara Ferry, Cora Fox, Dallas Grantham, Chouki El Hamel – Chair, Cory Hansen, Richard Herrera, Julie Holston, Kate Lehman Lauren Leo, Phyllis Lucie, Kevin Mack, Tim McGuire, Lisa McIntyre, Michael Mokwa, Helene Ossipov, Julia Sarreal

Excused: Ariel Anbar, Eva Brumberger, Eileen Diaz McConnell, Sherri Feng, Susan Kells, Janice Pittsley, Brian Skromme

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes—November 26, 2013

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements

Chouki requested that each subcommittee submit a short statement regarding their criteria checklists (either the checklist is fine “as is,” or the checklists require amendments). Subcommittee chairs will submit the statement via e-mail to Chouki (please copy Phyllis Lucie and Lauren Leo) by the February 25th GSC meeting.

4. Old Business

The GSC will continue discussion regarding updating criteria checksheets, and the review of GSC Bylaws and Policies and Procedures in January.

5. New Business

none

6. Subcommittee Reports

A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry (Cory Hansen)

From ASU:

Approved for L designation effective Fall 2014 (new):

BIS 343 Social Processes in Organizations

HEB/ENG/JST/REL 316 Literary Readings of the Hebrew Bible

JUS 427 Identity and Justice

OGL 220 Behavioral Dynamics in Organizations

OGL 355 Leading Organizational Innovation and Change

Revise and Resubmit (mandatory review):

BIO 410 Techniques in Conservation Biology and Ecology

Rationale: There is no evidence that students get timely feedback from the instructor on each assignment in time to help them do better on subsequent assignments. Only one assignment appears to receive this sort of feedback. Intervention at earlier stages in the writing process is especially welcomed.

Revise and Resubmit (new):

HEB 313 Advanced Modern Hebrew

Rationale: The committee would like more information about the critical evaluation that would merit “L” designation. Although the course seems to meet the spirit of the “L” designation, there is not enough information in the syllabus to accurately assess the depth and quality of the written reports turned in for the units or the final project. Expectations for content, quantity, and quality need to be shared with a rubric and narrative description of each assignment.

HEB 314 Advanced Modern Hebrew

Rationale: The committee would like more information about the critical evaluation that would merit “L” designation. Although the course seems to meet the spirit of the “L” designation, there is not enough information in the syllabus to accurately assess the depth and quality of the written reports turned in for the units or the final project. Expectations for content, quantity, and quality need to be shared with a rubric and narrative description of each assignment.

OGL 200 Introduction to Organizational Leadership

Rationale: Although the course seems to meet the spirit of the L designation, there is not

enough information in the syllabus to accurately assess the depth and quality of the required papers. Expectations for content, quantity, and quality need to be shared with a rubric or other mode of explaining expectations for excellence to accurately determine if training in literacy and critical inquiry is sustained. Additionally, the course objectives could more strongly reflect a focus on literacy and critical inquiry.

REL 347 Religions of India

Rationale: Although the course seems to meet the spirit of the L designation, there is not enough information in the syllabus to accurately assess the depth and quality of the required papers. Expectations for content, quantity, and quality need to be shared with a rubric or other mode of explaining expectations for excellence to accurately determine if training in literacy and critical inquiry is sustained. Some of the writing assignments do not, as described, appear to meet the requirements for “L” designation (e.g. midterm exam, and 1½-2 page proposal comprised of an abstract and bibliography).

From MCCCD:

None

B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS) (Scott Danielson)

From ASU:

Approved for CS designation, effective Fall 2014 (new):

AME 111 Introduction to Digital Culture (CS)

FMP 255 Media Authorship (CS)

From MCCCD:

None

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

From ASU:

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

HEB/ENG/JST/REL 316 Literary Readings of the Hebrew Bible

JUS 382 Justice and Pop Culture

REL 347 Religions of India

Revise and Resubmit:

RDG 291 Children's Literature (Mandatory Review)

Rationale: It is not clear to the committee that this course provides a method of critical analysis of the texts, or examines the texts in a cultural, philosophical, religious, historical, aesthetic, or literary context. “Critical Handbook of Children’s Literature”

appears to provide the analysis and context, but it is referenced in the syllabus as an optional, not required, resource.

HEB/JST/REL 131 Biblical Hebrew I (new)

Rationale: The vast majority of readings, assignments, and lessons are devoted “to developing skill in use of a language.” For this course to qualify, it would have to do more to “emphasize cultural study and the study of literature.

From MCCCCD:

None

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

From ASU:

None

From MCCCCD:

None

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

From ASU:

Approved for SQ designation, effective Fall 2014 (new):

BIO 281 Conceptual Approaches to Biology for Majors I (SQ)

Approved for SQ designation, effective Spring 2015 (new):

SES 194 Energy in Everyday Life (SQ) (Revised)

From MCCCCD:

None

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

From ASU:

Approved for C designation, effective Fall 2014 (new):

SST 235 Disability, Justice and Advocacy

WST 313 Women and Sexuality

WST 440 Politics of Women's Health

From MCCCCD:

None

G) Global Awareness (G) (Richard Herrera)

From ASU:

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

HEB 313 Advanced Modern Hebrew

HEB 314 Advanced Modern Hebrew

REL 347 Religions of India

From MCCCDC:

None

H) Historical Awareness (H) (Julia Sarreal)

From ASU:

Approved to retain G designation (mandatory review):

BIO 318/HPS 331 History of Medicine (Mandatory Review)

From MCCCDC:

None

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie