

**ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

October 23, 2012

3:00–5:00 p.m.

Present: Craig Allen, Volker Benkert, Patrick Bixby, Debra Campbell, David Carlson, Ron Dorn, Alejandra Elenes, Barbara Fargotstein, Sherry Feng, Chouki El Hamel-Chair, Hilde Hoogenboom, Matthias Kawski, Barbara Lafford, Lauren Leo, Phyllis Lucie, Lisa McIntyre, Mark Montesano, Jeff Ricker, Julia Sarreal, Mike Tueller

Excused: Rebecca Barry, Antonio Garcia, Tracey Hayes, Kate Lehman, Peter de Marneffe, Joe Rody

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Approval of Minutes—September 25, 2012**

The minutes were approved as written.

**3. Announcements**

none

**4. Old Business**

Ongoing discussion regarding amendments to the GSC By-Laws, and Policies & Procedures.

Continue discussion re: what constitutes “substantive” writing assignments (for L designation).

The council is encouraged to discuss and finalize “generic” questions to facilitate the revising and resubmission of a course proposal at the next GSC meeting.

**5. New Business**

None

## 6. Subcommittee Reports

### A) **Literacy & Critical Inquiry (Barbara Fargotstein)** **From ASU**

#### **Approved for L designation, effective fall 2013 (new):**

SPA 429 Mexican Literature  
SPA 474 Mexican Culture  
NLM 430 Managing Nonprofit Organizations (resubmission)  
PRM 304 Areas and Facilities Management (resubmission)

#### **Revise & Resubmit: (new)**

MSE 489 & 490 Capstone Design I & II (courses taken concurrently)

Rationale: While the writing seems to be substantial, the syllabus identifies written “plans” included in 50% of the grade but there needs to be evidence that these plans require critical inquiry.

### B) **Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS) (Joe Rody)** none

### C) **Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU) (Kate Lehman)** **From ASU**

#### **Approved for HU designation, effective fall 2013 (new):**

SPA 427 Spanish American Literature  
SPA 429 Mexican Literature  
SPA 474 Mexican Culture

#### **From MCCC: (new)**

#### **Approved for HU designation, effective spring 2013 (new):**

MHL 145 American Jazz and Popular Music  
MHL 153 Rock Music and Culture  
MHL 241 Music History and Literature to 1750  
MHL 242 Music History and Literature 1750 to Present

**Revise & Resubmit: (new)**  
**From ASU**

JPN 115: Japanese Popular Culture

*Rationale:* The application argues that the course should qualify for the HU designation, but the syllabus falls short. Criteria 4a is a concern as religious thought is minimal in the course. Moreover, the allowance for the student to use his/her own cultural references in their papers (which is the primary indication of analysis) seems to me to detract from the Humanities components seminal to meeting the standards for the designation.

**Revise & Resubmit: (new)**  
**From MCCC**

HIS 203 African American History to 1865

*Rationale:* A case could be made for this course to receive HUM designation, but not in its current iteration. The author's explanation for criteria 1 fails to link the course to the criteria. It speaks of the historical elements of the course, but neglects to discuss the "...development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems, and/or aesthetic experience." This course fits the criteria for the H designation. For these reasons, I reject the application for a HU designation.

**D) Social and Behavioral Sciences (Rebecca Barry)**  
**From ASU**

**Approved for SB designation, effective fall 2013 (new):**

ECS 312 Social & Emotional Development of the Young Child

**E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG) (Ron Dorn)**  
**From MCCC**

**Approved for SG designation, effective spring 2013 (new):**

GLG 105 Introduction to Planetary Science

**F) Cultural Diversity in the United States (Alejandra Elenes)**  
**From ASU**

**Approved for C designation, effective fall 2013 (new):**

APA 350 Inequality and Diversity in Education

**G) Global Awareness (Mike Tueller)**  
**From ASU**

**Approved for G designation, effective spring 2013 (new):**

ITA 494 Italian for Reading Knowledge

**Approved for G designation, effective fall 2013 (new):**

JPN 115 Japanese Popular Culture  
SPA 429 Mexican Literature  
SPA 474 Mexican Culture

**H) Historical Awareness (Jeffrey Ricker)**  
**From ASU**

**Revise/Resubmit:(new)**

SPA 429 Mexican Literature

*Rationale:* The proposal could not be evaluated because the checklist was not filled out properly. Please complete the proposal by providing details in Columns 2 and 3 of the table on the last page of the checklist. In addition, please provide a brief summary (a couple of sentences) of each reading so that those unfamiliar with them can get a better sense of the time period and events they address.

SPA 474 Mexican Culture

*Rationale:* The proposal could not be evaluated because the checklist was not filled out properly. Please complete the proposal by providing details in Columns 2 and 3 of the table on the last page of the checklist. In addition, please provide a brief summary (a couple of sentences) of each reading so that those unfamiliar with them can get a better sense of the time period and events they address.

**From MCCCD:(new)**

**Deny**

MHL 153 Rock Music and Culture

*Rationale:* The assignments included address only relatively superficial aspects of history (the chapter questions) or focus on aesthetic experience and other HU-related topics. The headings of the textbook chapters provide few clues about the extent to which the requirements of the H criteria are met.

Thus, the proposal failed to demonstrate that the course is not "exclusively the history of ... a field of artistic or professional endeavor," which is an exclusionary criterion on the H Checklist. On the other hand, a number of course competencies suggest that the course may take a broader historical approach to the topic. If true, we recommend that the proposal be revised to show how the course content addresses those competencies and meets the H criteria (especially Criteria 3 & 4).

## **6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie