

**ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

3:00–5:00 p.m.

Present: Ariel Anbar, Alexandra Aragon, Charlotte Armbruster, Tamiko Azuma, Eva Brumberger, Alison Essary-Chair, Lara Ferry, Cora Fox, Cory Hansen, Caroline Harrison, Sean Hawkeswood, Richard Herrera, Julie Holston, Wendy Hultsman, Beth Landish, Phyllis Lucie, Michael Mokwa, Helene Ossipov, Janice Pittsley, Brian Skromme, Stefan Stantchev

Excused: Nilanjana Bhattacharjya, Bertha Manninen, Fran Matera, Lisa McIntyre

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Approval of Minutes—November 24, 2015**

The minutes were approved as amended.

**3. Announcements**

**4. Old Business**

The GSC requested that an invitation should be extended to Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Fred Corey, to attend a future GSC meeting to discuss the new proposed general studies designation, the Creative Process (CP).

**5. New Business**

**6. Subcommittee Reports**

**A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry**

**From ASU:**

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

APA 330/WST 331 Asian Pacific American Genders & Sexualities

**Deny for L designation (new):**

MED 300 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Health

*Rationale:* The course does not meet criteria 1-3 for L designation. The course requires more in-depth writing assignments that require critical inquiry. A two-page assignment is not considered sustained in-depth engagement with the material. Brief reflections cannot be considered substantial writing/speaking assignments requiring critical inquiry; likewise, a discussion board PowerPoint response is not considered a substantial writing assignment. Adding a length requirement would help the committee determine whether this is an appropriate activity, particularly since it constitutes 45% of the grade. Similarly, quantifying how each individual in the group prepares the final presentation would clarify expectations. For example, will each student speak a specific number of minutes?

**From MCCCD:**

none

**B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS)**

**From ASU:**

none

**From MCCCD:**

none

**C) Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU)**

**From ASU:**

none

**From MCCCD:**

none

**D) Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**From ASU:**

**Conditional approval pending receipt of completed checksheet:**

AFR/ASB 466 Peoples and Cultures of Africa (mandatory review)

The proposal for this course is incomplete (checksheet needs to be completed fully). But, there is sufficient documentation to demonstrate strong socio-behavioral foundations and content throughout the course. As such, we recommend conditional approval subject to the submission of a complete proposal. (note: checksheet received)

**From MCCCD:**

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

SOC 157 Sociology of Families and Relationships

**E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG)**

**From ASU:**

**Revise and Resubmit for SQ (new)**

PHY 194 The Science of Musical Instruments

Rationale: More information is needed about the content of the labs or even the titles of some of the labs. We cannot evaluate if this course meets the SQ requirement.

**From MCCCDC:**

none

**F) Cultural Diversity in the United States**

**From ASU:**

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

AIS 440 Cultural Professionalism

**From MCCCDC:**

none

**G) Global Awareness**

**From ASU:**

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

NUR 495 Public and Global Health in Nursing

**Deny for G designation (mandatory review):**

AFR/ASB 366 African Archaeology: Precolonial Urban Culture

*Rationale:* This course focuses on Africa before 1850 with respect to archeological perspectives, history, and society. According to the weekly schedule/topics, there is no approach to compare these archeological/historical/social findings with the contemporary situation in Africa. Accordingly, it does not meet the criterion that the “area or culture must be non-U.S. and the study must contribute to an understanding of the contemporary world.”

**From MCCCDC:**

none

**H) Historical Awareness**

**From ASU:**

**Deny for H designation (new):**

MED 300 Historical and Contemporary Issues in Health

*Rationale:* Although the course provides a brief historical context for the field of medicine in weeks two and three, the majority of the course appears to focus on fairly contemporary developments in medicine. Only two of the four learning outcomes speak to history, and both of those indicate that history is included in the course to provide perspective on the current issues in the field. There are no assignments that test historical understanding or demand historical analysis, indicating a lack of systematic historical analysis in the core of the syllabus.

**From MCCCD:**

none

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie