



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 28, 2019

3:15–5:00 p.m.

Present: Patience Akpan, Katherine Antonucci, Charlotte Armbruster, Tamiko Azuma, Jason Bruner, Martha Cocchiarella, Caroline Harrison, GSC-Chair, Julia Himberg, Julie Holston, Phyllis Lucie, Manisha Master, Darryl Morrell, Michael Mokwa, Helene Ossipov, Kristen Parrish, Peter Schmidt, Megan Gorvin Short, Michelle Zandieh

Excused: Jessica Early, Mickey Mancenido, Bertha Manninen, Steve Semken, Matt Simonton, Mark Tebeau, Perla Vargas

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes—January 31, 2019

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements

none

4. Old Business

none

5. New Business

At the March 28th meeting, the GSC would like to discuss concerns regarding the inclusion of information on criteria checksheets, as it relates to linking course material with the course syllabus learning outcomes and objectives. How do students engage with course material? What is the purpose and point of assignments?

An e-mail will be sent to council members prior to the meeting, requesting information that can be disseminated and discussed.

6. Subcommittee Reports

A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry

From ASU:

Approved for L designation, effective Fall 2019 (new):

CEL 394 Lincoln: Rhetoric, Thought, Statesmanship

From MCCCDC:

no courses

B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS)

From ASU:

no courses

From MCCCDC:

no courses

C) Humanities, Arts & Design (HU)

From ASU:

Approved for HU designation, effective Fall 2019 (new):

CEL 235 Debating American Constitutionalism (new)

CEL 394 Lincoln: Rhetoric, Thought, Statesmanship (new)

Revise and Resubmit for HU designation (new):

JPN 394 Japanese Civilization: From the Ice Age to Last Thursday (new)

SLC 123 Gods and Monsters: Comparative Mythology

Rationale: Both of these courses suffer from the same problem. The criteria for the HU designation require the course “Concerns the interpretation, analysis, or creation of written, aural, or visual texts; and/or the historical development of textual traditions” or “concerns the analysis of literature and the development of literary traditions.” In both of these classes, it is not clear what the role of the student is. The readings cover analysis, but it is not clear, in either class, that the student engages in that activity. The JPN 394 class requires a research paper, but there is no indication of what the student is to do: summarize? Interpret? Analyze? The SLC 123 course has two exams that are discrete-point answers and a final that is an essay which “is meant to demonstrate

knowledge of the breadth of material” covered in the class. Again, there is no indication of what students will do.

The subcommittee suggests revise and resubmit and asks that evidence of interpretation/analysis be clarified.

From MCCCDC:

Approved to retain HU designation (mandatory review) :

HIS 203 African-American History to 1865 (mandatory review)

MHL 241 Music History and Literature to 1750 (revised/mandatory review)

MHL 242 Music History and Literature 1750 to Present (revised/mandatory review)

D) Social - Behavioral Sciences (SB)

From ASU:

no courses

From MCCCDC:

no courses

E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG)

From ASU:

no courses

From MCCCDC:

no courses

F) Cultural Diversity in the United States (C)

From ASU:

Revise and Resubmit for C designation (new):

COM 363 Latinxs and the Media (new)

Rationale: While the readings and student learning outcomes are in accordance with the Cultural Diversity designation, the submitted syllabus lacks detail and does not clearly show how students will be learning and engaging with these concepts. Much of the syllabus focuses on course policies and technical guidelines, while there is limited information about the course schedule, topics, and assignments. The course schedule only includes the titles of each module. The syllabus should be revised to include a detailed timetable and more specific information on content, including readings and

assignments for each module.

From MCCCCD:

Approved to retain C designation (mandatory review) :

ENH 260 Literature of the Southwest (mandatory review)

G) Global Awareness (G)

From ASU:

Approved for G designation, effective Fall 2019 (new):

JPN 394 Japanese Civilization: From the Ice Age to Last Thursday (new)

SLC 123 Gods and Monsters: Comparative Mythology (new)

From MCCCCD:

no courses

H) Historical Awareness (H)

From ASU:

Deny for H designation (new):

CEL 494 The American Constitution I

Rationale: This course as currently designed does not meet the criteria for the H designation. The course objectives do not indicate that history is a focus of the course. The assignments reflect this lack of emphasis on history, as students do not appear to be assessed on any historical knowledge, nor are they asked to engage in “systematic historical analysis of the broader historical context of past events and persons, of cause and effect, and of change over time” as the H designation stipulates. The directions for the two reflection papers discourage students from utilizing any materials outside the assigned primary sources, which the committee feels is counterproductive to providing the students with the multiple perspectives necessary to historically contextualize the political ideas being examined in the course. Furthermore, the proposal indicates that only some of the assignment prompts are applicable to the H criteria, and students have a choice of prompts. Thus, even if the assignments employed methods of historical analysis, there would be no assurance that all students would choose prompts conducive to demonstrating this kind of historical awareness.

From MCCCD:
no courses

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie