


ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 29, 2020
3:15–5:00 p.m.

Present: Tamiko Azuma, Denise Bates, David Corlett, Melissa Dengler, Sarah Florini, Annapurna Ganesh, Caroline Harrison – Chair, Aaron Hess, Phyllis Lucie, Bertha Manninen, Emily Mertz, Michael Mokwa, Daryl Morrell, Ileana Orlich, April Randall, Steve Semken, Marie Wallace, Michelle Zandieh, Anna Zischkau

Excused: Katherine Antonucci, Natalie Heywood, Michelle Mancenido, Kristen Parrish, Peter Schmidt, Brent Scholar, Matt Simonton

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes—September 24, 2020

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements –Caroline Harrison – Pilot program re: General Studies themes/Task Force

Caroline informed the GSC that there is a task force chaired by Eduardo Pagan, as it relates to the evaluation of general studies and course themes. Caroline and Simin Levinson are also part of this task force.

Caroline asked the GSC to consider information needed to evaluate general studies course themes, and reply via-email with suggestions as it relates to the General Studies Council, so that our interests are represented. Areas to consider are:

- How will general studies themes be vetted, and by whom?
- How will the process of vetting general studies themes work with CAPC and the GSC?
- How can general studies themes be made applicable to all programs, especially to those that allow little or no electives?
- What outcomes do we wish to see with these themes?
- Who will oversee those outcomes?

4. Old Business - none

5. New Business - none

6. Subcommittee Reports

A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry

From ASU:

Approved for L designation effective Fall 2021 (new):

CEL394 Justice and Virtue: Ancient Political Thought (new)

LST 470 Liberal Studies Seminar: TOPIC -Social Activism Through the Arts (new/revised)

LST 470 TOPIC - Creating Meaning through Design (new)

Deny for L designation (new):

LST 470 Liberal Studies Seminar Topic: Renaissance Florence

Rationale: This is being denied because it was an incomplete packet. The syllabus did not indicate where the requirements were met. We recommend that the rubric be reviewed because discussion questions cannot be used for the literacy requirement per Criterion 3. There may be other things to verify but the committee stopped the review because of the incomplete package.

LST 470 Liberal Studies Seminar Topic: Seeking Self and Identity

Rationale: This is being denied because it was an incomplete packet. The syllabus did not indicate where the requirements were met. We recommend that the memoir assignment be reviewed for clarity because it does not indicate how the students will be gathering and interpreting evidence. There may be other things to verify but the committee stopped the review because of the incomplete package.

From MCCCD:

no courses

B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS)

From ASU:

Revise and Resubmit (new):

LAP 231 Introductions to Digital Applications for Designers

Rationale: The criteria form is filled out for 1, 2, and 3 even though it clearly does not meet the second two criteria. It should only be submitted for one.

While the course covers a number of software applications as checked on the criteria list it is unclear whether they go into any in enough depth to satisfy the requirement that:

Courses that emphasize the use of a computer software package are acceptable only if students are required to understand, at an appropriate level, the theoretical principles embodied in the operation of the software and are required to construct, test, and implement procedures that use the software to accomplish tasks in the applicable problem domains.

They could be more explicit about which of these they are doing and showing the homework assignments or in class activities that do this. One of the drawbacks towards being convincing about

this is that the student learning outcomes are written primarily in ways that sound like "they will learn to use this software". Also, there are quite a few different software programs to learn in the one semester, which also makes it harder for students to dig in deeply on any one of them.

LAP 332 GIS Applications in Environmental Design

Rationale: Again, they have filled out the entire criteria checklist rather than just the section that is applicable to this course.

The supporting documentation for Criteria 1 isn't sufficient. The document has pictures of the textbook but what they should really submit are specific requirements for homework, labs, etc. to ensure that they are meeting the criteria.

From MCCCD:

no courses

C) Humanities, Arts & Design (HU)

From ASU:

Approved for HU designation effective Fall 2021 (new):

CEL 394 Justice and Virtue: Ancient Political Thought

CEL 475 Statesmanship & American Grand Strategy

FSH 435 Contemporary Fashion

LST 470 Liberal Studies Seminar- TOPIC - Renaissance Florence

LST 470 Liberal Studies Seminar- TOPIC - Seeking Self and Identity

THF 160 Introduction to Storytelling

THF 215 Design and Composition for Theatre and Film

Recommend to Revise & Resubmit for HU designation (new):

EDS 301 Sustainable Community and Design Practices

Rationale: We do not see much evidence of any critical analysis in the assignments; the course assignments seem more summary and description based. The syllabus, also, does not clearly reflect whether they do analysis within the context of the course. **Revise and resubmit with focus on demonstrating analysis in assignments and content.**

From MCCCD:

Revise & Resubmit:

HIS 251 History of England to 1700 (mandatory review)

Rationale: This clearly is a history course and not an HU course. The assignments are listed on the syllabus under Assignment Distribution, but there is no explanation as to their nature, so we can't assess whether the assignments employ critical analysis. **Revise and resubmit with assignment descriptions.**

D) **Social - Behavioral Sciences (SB)**

From ASU:

Approved for SB designation effective Spring 2021 (new):

CEL 394 Philosophy, Politics and Economics

From MCCCD:

no courses

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

From ASU:

no courses

From MCCCD:

no courses

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

From ASU:

Approved for C designation effective Fall 2021 (new):

VTS 302 Representations and Self-representations of Veterans in Media and the Arts

From MCCCD:

no courses

G) **Global Awareness (G)**

From ASU:

no courses

From MCCCD:

No courses

H) **Historical Awareness (H)**

From ASU:

Approved for H designation effective Fall 2021 (new):

VTS 301 Veterans, Society and Service: Experience of America's Modern Wars

From MCCCD:

no courses

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie