

ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 22, 2011

3:00–5:00 p.m.

Present: Craig Allen, Rebecca Barry, Debra Campbell, Gregory Castle, Ron Dorn, Barbara Fargotstein, Sherry Feng, Joe Foy, Chouki El Hamel-Chair, Tracey Hayes, Barbara Lafford, Kate Lehman, Phyllis Lucie, Lisa McIntyre, Jeff Ricker, Joe Rody, Julia Sarreal, April Summitt, Mike Tueller

Excused: Karen Bollermann, Alejandra Elenes, Antonio Garcia, Matthias Kawski, Karen Leong, Peter de Marneffe

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes—October 25, 2011

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Announcements

Dr. El Hamel informed the council that Lisa McIntyre, currently a member of the GSC, will also be addressing ATAO issues. Kathy Wigal, former ATAO Director is no longer a member of the GSC.

Dr. El Hamel announced that he will also be meeting with Vice Provost, Fred Corey to discuss the role of the GSC.

4. Old Business

None

5. New Business

The council reviewed the proposed new GSC cover sheet. Several changes were suggested and amendments will be made.

There was discussion regarding general studies course submission via ChangeMaker in fall 2012. The GSC is in agreement that this will be a positive move for course submission.

6. Subcommittee Reports

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

Approved for L designation, effective Spring 2012 (new):

HSC/PPE 310 Health Literacy

(Approved with clarification obtained after discussion with proposer)

Approved for L designation, effective Fall 2012 (new):

USL 216 Service Learning for Educators

B) **Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS) (Joe Rody)** **From ASU**

Deny (CS) designation:

EDT 184 Modeling, Inquiry & Analysis Using Technology Tools

Rationale: We cite the clause at the bottom of page two of the check sheet,

“Courses that emphasize the use of a computer software package or the learning of a computer programming language are acceptable, provided that 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.”

It appears to us that the software is used to perform simple tasks without much understanding. The course also seems to cover some of the topics listed under category 2 on the check sheet but no all, so couldn't be approved for CS designation under that category. The topics covered are approximately half of those covered in STP 226, which has CS designation, but it is hard to tell the depth of coverage.

C) **Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU) (Gregory Castle)** **From ASU**

Approved for HU designation, effective Spring 2012 (new):

SLC 494 Societies and Cultures in Modern Europe

SLC 494 Stalinism in European Literature and Film

Approved for HU designation, effective Fall 2012 (new):

ENG 429 Theatre and Politics in Modern Europe
RDG 291 Children's Literature

From MCCC

Approved for HU designation, Spring 2012 (new):

ASB 214 Magic, Witchcraft, and Healing: An Introduction to Comparative Religion
HIS 212 Historical Foundations of Religion

Deny for HU designation:

From ASU

SLV 394 Language and Identity

Rationale: We did not feel that there was sufficient material in this course that focuses on the themes and issues given in the criteria checklist. It touches very lightly on issues of national identity and the cultural problems of dialect and communication. But there is very very little on literature, philosophy, religion and other disciplines that are at the heart of the HUM designation. Because it is concerned with technical matters of linguistics, it might be better suited as an SB course. The proposer is welcome to resubmit, but we think the foundation of the course will always keep it from being a fully-fledged HUM course.

TEL 215 Introduction to Child and Adolescent Development

Rationale: We did not feel that there was sufficient material in this course that focuses on the themes and issues given in the criteria checklist.

D) Social and Behavioral Sciences (Rebecca Barry)

From ASU

Approved for SB designation effective Fall 2012 (new):

TEL 215 Introduction to Child and Adolescent Development

From MCCC

Approved for SB designation effective Spring 2012 (new):

ASB 226 Human Impacts on Ancient Environments

From MCCCCD
Revise & Resubmit:

ASB 214 Magic, Witchcraft & Healing: An Introduction to Comparative Religion.

Rationale: This course does bring in some anthropology but seem stronger in the humanities. This course does not emphasize social science methods.

E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG) (Ron Dorn)
From ASU

Approved for SG designation, effective retroactive Fall 2011(reactivation):

BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology

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

Approved for C designation, effective Fall 2012 (new):

USL 216 Service Learning for Educators

G) Global Awareness (Mike Tueller)
From ASU

Approved for G designation, retroactive effective Fall 2011 (new):

SLV 394 Language and Identity (resubmission)

Approved for G designation, effective Fall 2012 (new):

ENG 429 Theatre and Politics in Modern Europe

Approved for G designation, effective Spring 2012 (new):

SLC 494 Stalinism in European Literature and Film
SLC 494 Societies and Cultures in Modern Europe

Approved for G designation, effective Fall 2013 (new):

GCU 114 World Social Studies (resubmission)

From MCCC

Approve for G designation, effective Spring 2012 (new):

ASB 214 Magic, Witchcraft and Healing: An Introduction to Comparative Religion
REL 291 Religion and Sexuality
REL 290 Women and World Religions

From ASU:

Revise and Resubmit:

NUR 495 Public and Global Health in Nursing (resubmission)

Rationale: We disapproved this course in August, on the grounds that we did not see it addressing “the effect of nursing on world culture, or vice-versa.” The syllabus is not heavily revised, and many of the changes in it consist only of including the word “cultural” where it had not previously been. Nevertheless, the addition of “cultural competence” to unit VIII (p. 3 of the syllabus) and the addition of “cultural and societal influences” to learning objective number 6 (p. 2 of the syllabus) seem more than merely cosmetic. However, most of the uses of the word “culture” in the detailed explanation submitted seem to equate it only to “population”; it is not clear that global cultural understanding constitutes a significant objective of the course. It is possible that the committee and the submitter do not understand terms like “cultural” or “population-centered” in the same way; perhaps more information from the textbooks (at least the tables of contents; perhaps more) could help.

H) Historical Awareness (Jeffrey Ricker)

From MCCC

Approved for H designation, effective Spring 2012 (new):

HIS 212 Historical Development of Religion

Revise & Resubmit:

ASB 226 - Human Impacts on Ancient Environments

Rationale: The third column on page 3 of the criteria checklist is not filled out properly. We would like the initiator to indicate how each criterion is met by specifying the parts of the syllabus, textbook TOC, course competencies, etc., that meet the requirements.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie