

**ASU GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

3:00–5:00 p.m.

Ira A. Fulton Foundation Center – 2nd floor- room 2490

Present: Craig Allen, Debra Campbell, Renee Cesaro, John Chance, Barbara Fargotstein, Cecelia Fiery, Bernard Kobes, Matthew Isom-Chair, Phyllis Lucie, Peter de Marneffe, Tom Martin, Doug Spencer, Mike Tueller, Jeff Ricker, Kathy Wigal

Excused: Rebecca Barry, Ron Dorn, Alejandra Elenes, Antonio Garcia, Chouki El Hamel, Matthias Kawski, Kristin LaCroix, Barbara Lafford, Eduardo Pagan, Helene Ossipov, Ron Roedel, Joe Rody

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes—February 23, 2010**

The minutes were approved as written.

**3. Announcements**

None

**4. Old Business**

None

**5. New Business**

**6. Subcommittee Reports**

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

From ASU

Approved for L designation, retroactive Spring 2010 (new):

HON 274 The Human Event: Social Science Focus

**Approved to retain L designation (mandatory review):**

JUS 405 Economic Justice  
JUS 465 Death Penalty in the US  
JUS 474 Legislation and Morality  
REL 374 Witchcraft and Heresy in Europe  
SOC 416 Marriage Problems in Contemporary Society  
SOC 420 Sociology of Religion  
WST 477 Women and Violence

**Hold for Clarification :**

JUS 469 Political Deviance and the Law (mandatory review)

Need clarification regarding what is contained in the required essays that constitute substantial writing.

From MCCCCD

**Approved to retain L designation (mandatory review):**

IFS 101 Information Skills in the Digital Age

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

From ASU

**Approved for CS designation, effective retroactive Fall 2009 (new):**

CIS 236 Honors Introduction to Information Systems

**Approved to retain CS designation (mandatory review):**

GPH 371 Introduction to Cartography and Georepresentation  
GPH 373 Geographic Information Science I  
GPH 471 Geographics: Interactive and Animated Cartography  
GPH 473 Geographic Information Science II

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

Deferred courses until the April 27, 2010 GSC meeting

**D) Social and Behavioral Sciences (John Chance)**

From ASU

**Approved** for **SB** designation effective Spring 2010 (new):

HON 274 The Human Event: Social Science Focus  
SGS 303 Global Trends

**Approved** to retain **SB** designation (mandatory review):

HST 432 East Europe/The Balkans—20<sup>th</sup> Century  
HST 436 The Soviet Experiment  
HST 456 The Vietnam War  
NTR 348 Cultural Aspects of Food (revised)  
REL 240 Introduction to Southeast Asia  
WST 477 Women and Violence

From MCCCCD

**Approved** to retain **SB** designation (mandatory review):

HIS 110 World History to 1500  
HIS 273 U.S. Experience in Vietnam, 1945-1975  
HIS 277 The Modern Middle East

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

No Report

**F) Cultural Diversity in the United States (Barbara Lafford)**

No Report

**G) Global Awareness (Debra Campbell)**

From ASU

**Approve** for **G** designation, effective Spring 2011 (new):

HON 366 International France  
LPH 310 History of Landscape Architecture MHL 140 Music as Culture  
MHL 140 Music as Culture

**Approved** to retain **G** designation (mandatory review):

SOC 352 Social Change

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

ALA 240 Building Construction

Rationale: This does not seem to meet the criteria. While we are intrigued by the course's attempt to address culture as an important element of sustainability, this course does not devote a significant portion of its time and energy to culture. In specific, it is clearly not area studies (2a), as it does not take an area as its subject at all. Neither is it cultural relationships (2d): engineering solutions to global problems are not the same as culture; they are still engineering. Certainly it does not devote more than half its material to non-US culture.

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

CHM 107 Chemistry and Society

Rationale: A course with a title like "Chemistry and Society" might be expected to address how different societies make a cultural space for chemistry, or how chemical issues affect those societies' cultures. However, it seems that this course is only preliminary to such a study: it introduces chemical issues that affect the world, in scientific terms, rather than showing their effects in cultural terms.

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

From ASU

Approved for the H designation, effective Spring 2010 (new):

HON 274 The Human Event: Social Science Focus

**Approved to retain the H designation (mandatory review):**

HST 300 Historical Inquiry

HST 385 History of Chinese Medicine

REL 374 Witchcraft & Heresy

**Revise & Resubmit (new):**

HON 366 International France

Rationale: Although it is obvious that historical issues are addressed in this course, the entries on pages 2 and 3 of the criterion checklist provided virtually no information about how the course content meets the four criteria. One entry referred to the five "activities" assigned in the course, but it was not clear from their descriptions that any of them meet Criteria 2-4. The syllabus also did not provide a clear justification for awarding the H designation. The content of the assigned readings was not described, but most of the readings appear to be fictional narratives.

In revising the proposal, the initiator should follow the instructions provided in the criteria checklist and fully document how each criterion is met in the course.

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

DCE 300 Moving Histories

Rationale: The criterion checklist included no entries (on either page 2 or page 3) and, hence, no attempt was made to demonstrate that the H criteria might be met by the course content. Nevertheless, based on an examination of the syllabus and the tables of content of the two required texts, it seems apparent that the course is "exclusively the history of ... a field of artistic or professional endeavor" (i.e., that the course content meets the second exclusionary criterion at the bottom of the criterion checklist, page 2).

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie