

Core Curriculum Committee
February 14, 2014
10-11 am
Meeting Minutes
(draft)

Members present: Tom Dalton, Jennifer Gorsky, Cecily Heisser, Carole Huston (dean's office rep), Kathleen Kramer, Julia Medina, Atreyee Phukan (chair), Adam Siepielski, David Sullivan, Karma Lekshe Tsomo.

1. Minutes of December 13, 2013 meeting were approved.
2. Prof. Tsoma was introduced as the newest member of the committee. She is from Theology & Religious Studies and is replacing Prof. Michael Wagner of Philosophy in representing those subjects in that category of the core.
 1. Proposal: COMM 365W
Proposal was submitted to approve this course's designation as a W course. Members noted that the syllabus well organized included multiple drafts. The learning outcomes of syllabus and in the proposal, though, were not seen to include writing. It was explained that the intent of an outcome on constructing a cohesive argument based upon current research was intended to include written argument, not just oral argument.
Motion was made to approve the W designation pending changes to the outcomes to make them specific to writing. **Motion was approved.**
 2. As a point of information, it was noted that the attributes such as W and D in the catalog have been problematic for the case where those courses might sometimes be offered without the designation. For courses where the attribute is only sometimes present, the attribute should not appear in future catalogs.
 3. Proposal: SPAN 301 W
Proposal was submitted to approve this course's designation as a W course. The syllabus for this course was not provided in English, other than a section on plagiarism, and could not be read by majority of the committee. It was explained that this is an existing course, and the intent is to have an available W offering in SPAN, as there currently are none.

There was some discussion about the perception of some that non-English W courses had not been allowed in the past and whether, for some, there would be W expectations issues (such as fluency vs. research and language vs. literacy) with this approval. It was also noted that, while not true in the past, it was now standard for majors to offer their own W courses and there are majors in Spanish and French. It was recommend that this question of non-English W courses be sent to undergrad CAS curriculum committee and to

the corresponding committees in SBA and SoE. More than one member agreed that backing and clarity would be helpful.

The title of the course “Grammar and Composition” was seen by some to imply a lower-level course than the syllabus indicated, as an English-language course with that name would often be at a more basic level.

“Advanced Writing” was suggested as a more fitting title by one or two committee members.

Motion was made to approve this proposal subject to each unit’s undergraduate curriculum committee review and to recommend change of the course title to Advanced Writing. The proposer will also be asked to resubmit the syllabus in English. **Motion was approved with the notation that this approval could change once the undergraduate curriculum committees reviewed it.**

4. Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Kramer