

General Education Committee
January 28, 2014
12:00 – 1:30 p.m., Mason Hall, D101

Attending: Janette Muir (Chair), Dominique Banville, Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Rick Diecchio, Kelly Dunne, Kim Eby, Becky Ericson, Doug Eyman, Marcy Glover, Mack Holt, Frank Allen Philpot, Peter Winant

Out: Stephanie Hazel, Peter Kleine, Roger Paden, Mark Uhen, Carol Urban,

Updates- General

- The Provost Office, and all other occupants of Mason Hall, will be moving to University Hall over the summer due to extensive renovations required on the building. Currently, the plan is for the Provost Office to not return.

Updates – Capstone Proposal

- Janette will address the Faculty Senate again in February. She was unable to give her full presentation in December, which has unintentionally led to confusion. In the interim both she and Rick have met with various faculty members and departments to address their concerns about the proposals. Consensus has been that once faculty has heard the full proposal, they have been supportive. There was concern that this was an unfunded mandate from central administration, which is not the case. Other issues raised were: there was procedural error in how the proposal was introduced; that this is an additional requirement – it is not – it is in fact a shifting of a requirement.

Discussion and Decisions – Capstone Proposal

- The committee agrees that we need faculty support for this transition, which has led to the decision to include an introductory paragraph explaining the background/history of the proposal and the justification.
- A member of the committee asked if we needed to table this discussion until a new Provost was identified; it is not necessary.
- Should we say synthesis or capstone, to make it easier? No, the current change is to get away from synthesis, so that would make it more confusing, not less. There was general discussion about whether or not there was a better name than capstone, but there is not.
- We need to finalize this by the end of the semester; this will not be implemented until the AY 15-16 catalog, with the first students taking courses in this category being in 2016.

Capstone Proposal – Revisions

This portion of the meeting focused on revising the proposal to include an explanation of the background, the timeline for implementation and examples of how units could have their students fulfill the requirement. Janette will post the final version from today's meeting on the org site and requests that recommendations-/revisions are sent to her by the end of the day.

HIST 357 – GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING - APPROVED

No discussion was necessary.

SPAN 466 – GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING – APPROVED

No discussion was necessary.

THR 332 – WESTERN CIVILIZATION – DENIED

The subcommittee did not recommend this course for approval. Upon review, the course is too narrowly focused to fulfill the Western Civilization requirement. The committee could not see how the changes in fashion over time are connected to changes in values nor how the proposals maps to psychological and social factors associated with these changes.

CLAS 370 – LITERATURE – DENIED

After reviewing the supplemental materials provided, the subcommittee is not recommending this course for approval. While the readings cover both history and literary analysis, the tests are focused solely on the history. If the author wishes to resubmit the proposal, there will need to be stronger emphasis in the tests on the literary aspects.

Discussion for Next Meeting(s)

- Update from February Faculty Senate meeting
- Review of outstanding courses
- Begin mapping of pathways
- IT – revisit this requirement; remove ethics component? Change focus to digital literacy?
- Global experience for all – what does that mean, how is it implemented?