

General Education Committee
October 11, 2012
10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Mason Hall, D5

Attending: Janette Muir (Chair), Dominique Banville, Rick Diecchio, Kim Eby, Becky Ericson, Doug Eyman, Marcy Glover, Stephanie Hazel, Frank Allen Philpot, Hugh Sockett, Peter Winant

Out: Kelly Dunne, Mack Holt, Cliff Sutton, Mark Uhen, Carol Urban

Introductions & Checking In - around the table

Discussion of New Course Proposals

1) Social and Behavioral Science/History/Global Understanding subcommittee – Hugh Sockett reporting

SOCI 308 – GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING – RETURN FOR REVISION

The subcommittee does not recommend this course for approval. The subcommittee has two areas of concern: 1) they do not believe that either the proposal or the syllabus adequately show how the learning outcomes are met -- they need evidence on how the journal meets the learning outcomes; 2) they are not comfortable with a 300-level course that has only multiple choice tests and the only evidence of writing is in the journal. Additionally, the third paragraph of the proposal lists that the course is approved for general education (Marcy contacted the unit regarding this matter. The language was only added to the proposal to show how the syllabus would be presented to students upon approval.)

There was discussion as to whether or not the committee should/has the authority, to require that writing be demonstrated in all general education courses in order to be approved. After general discussion the matter was dropped.

SOCI 355 – SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL STUDIES – APPROVED

There was concern that there was no final exam in this course, but discussion amongst the committee revealed that many faculty do not give final exams due to the structure of their course without loss of value.

2) Information Technology/Math/Natural Science subcommittee – Rick Diecchio reporting

NUTR 295 – NATURAL SCIENCE, NON-LAB – TABLED

There was intensive discussion regarding this course and whether or not an applied science (did not see evidence of scientific thought or theory) could count for this category. The course was tabled until Carol Urban, a member of the subcommittee and faculty member from the submitting school could discuss the course.

CLIM 102 – NATURAL SCIENCE, LAB – TABLED

Although there were no serious objections to this course, it was tabled until Carol Urban could be present.

Assessment Update – Stephanie Hazel

Assessment has been completed for IT, Synthesis and Global Understanding. Janette and Karen Gentemann will meet with department chairs to discuss the overall results for each applicable category.

The next meeting will focus on larger general education issues and outstanding course/outcome review.