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Undergraduate Curriculum Council Minutes

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### 2012 November 28 - Undergraduate Curriculum Council Minutes

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## **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Meeting**

**November 28, 2012**

**Warf Pickel Room 503**

**Members in Attendance:** Angela Lewis, Jill LeRoy-Frazier, Kathy Campbell, Mike Stoots, Todd Emma, Suzanne Smith, Ellen Drummond, Laura Dower, Carrie Oliveira, Eileen Cress, T.J. Jones, Shawna Lichtenwalner, Jason Davis

**Visitors:** Mark Giroux, Jeff Knisley, Scott Koterbay, Alan Holmes, Mark Baumgartner, Jesse Graves

Meeting was called to order at 2:00.

There were a number of editorial changes necessary for the minutes from November 14, 2012. A motion to accept the minutes, with editorial changes was made by Carrie Oliveira and seconded by Eileen Cress. Motion passed unanimously.

Report from the chair: we are still waiting for the return of the proposal from Biology. The Storytelling proposals have been sent back for further revision.

### **PHYS 4117/5117: Thermal and Statistical Physics**

Recommended changes:

Under Learning Outcomes delete the second point.

Under Attendance Policy make some comment about attendance being expected.

A motion was made by Jill LeRoy-Frazier to accept the proposal pending minor changes, with the proposal to be returned to the chair for final approval. T.J. Jones seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### **Substantial Course Modification for MATH 2090: Mathematical Computing**

Jason Davis suggested that the rationale was a bit long, but that the end of the rationale sums things up well. The committee as a whole decided that the rationale was okay.

**NOTE:** this proposal needs to go to the Teacher Ed. Council

Eileen Cress felt strongly that the Learning Outcomes described a clear overlap with material taught by Computer Sciences, and that consequently the originator of this proposal needs to consult with the chair of Computer Sciences to make sure that this course does not simply duplicate courses already taught at ETSU.

Angela Lewis put forth the idea that as this was an already approved course that was now being modified, that the committee need only concern itself with the Learning Outcomes that were designated as new to the course, as the other Learning Outcomes had already been approved when the course was initially developed and approved.

Todd Emma asked whether there was an opportunity here to make the University better by investigating the potential duplication of material already taught.

On a different note, T.J. Jones asked if increasing the number of credit hours associated with this course would affect the total number of hours required for the major. It does not affect that total.

Todd Emma moved that this proposal be tabled pending review by the Teacher Ed. Council and a conversation with the Computer Science department chair about whether the proposed course duplicates material already offered. Carrie Oliveria seconded. There were twelve votes in favor, one vote opposed. Motion passed.

#### **TBR Proposal: Establish a New Minor in Art History**

Jill Le-Roy Frazier pointed out that a minor needs 9 credit hours at the 2000/3000 level.

It happens that, at the moment, ARTH 2030: Non-Western is taught entirely by adjuncts and that there is no faculty member qualified to teach this course.

The proposed effective date needs to be changed to Fall 2013; at the moment it lists May 2013 in Appendix A

A motion was made by Jill Le-Roy Frazier that the proposal be accepted pending changes and a confirmation from Marsh that the number of 2000/3000 level courses is acceptable. Ellen Drummond seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **TBR Proposal: Creative Writing Minor**

T.J. Jones inquired as to whether or not, given the number of 3000 and 4000 level courses, there were hidden prerequisites in the minor. It was determined that the proposal does not contain hidden prerequisites.

Eileen Cress suggested that the impact on fiscal resources needs to be defined for item #8.

The committee then turned to a consideration of individual courses.

#### **Substantial Course Modification ENGL 3141: Creative Writing I**

Suzanne Smith asked whether or not the course was repeatable. The course is repeatable because the content of the course is based on writing produced by the students, so the content effectually changes every time the course is taught. That being the case, the phrase “when content changes” needs to be deleted from “Course Repeatable for Credit”.

Todd Emma suggested a change to the proposed catalog description that specifies that the content of the course changes each semester because it is a project based class.

Suzanne Smith was not sure that the second bullet point under Learning Objectives was necessary.

The section on Attendance was the subject of much discussion because of the apparent disconnect between the first and second paragraphs. It was determined that the best way to fix this is to change the word “requires” in paragraph one of this section to “expects.” This change is to be applied to the Attendance section of all the Creative Writing proposals.

Under Course Goals: add the phrase “of their own work” to “develop a portfolio”

Suzanne Smith moved that we accept the proposal with editorial changes, to be returned to the Chair for final approval. Jason Davis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **ENGL 3142: Creative Writing I: Fiction**

Minimum Credit should read 3; Max Credit should read NA

Under Course Description it was finally decided that it is okay to list the prerequisites at the beginning of the Catalog Description rather than at the end.

The phrase “when content changes” needs to be removed from the Catalog Description.

Syllabus:

Remove the last bullet from the Course Goals.

Under Major Assignments and Grade Assignment do not combine percentages as that system makes understanding the grade distribution too confusing. Change this in all of the proposals.

Attendance: change “requires” to “expects”

Todd Emma move that the committee accept the proposal pending revisions, to be returned to the Chair for final approval. Kathy Campbell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **ENGL 4930: Creative Writing Capstone**

Discussion about the appropriateness of using the description Capstone was vigorous. Todd Emma will ask Marsh to refresh the committee’s memory concerning the use of the descriptor.

It was determined that there were no problems with the list of prerequisites.

Rationale: Todd Emma enquired as to how this course improves the curriculum.

Mark Baumgartner explained that it provides a consolidated senior experience.

An enquiry was then made as to how long it would take to finish the minor if the Capstone was only offered every other year.

Mark Baumgartner explained that students could simultaneously take 4000 level courses pertaining to the minor.

Angela Lewis asked about what would happen if the course enrollment was not high enough for the class to make; would it mean that students would get caught and not be able to graduate.

Mark Baumgartner was reasonably sure that this would not be an issue.

Under the syllabus the same edits pertaining to the Grade Distribution and the Attendance policy need to be made.

Carrie Oliveria moved to approve the course pending edits, with the proposal to be returned to the Chair for final approval. Kathy Campbell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Suzanne Smith then made a motion to approve the TBR proposal pending edits to the courses and the TBR proposal itself, with all related materials to be returned to the Chair for final approval. Carrie Oliveria seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathy Campbell announced that there would be therapy pets in the library from 11-1 the Thursday of dead week. The committee as a whole thought this was a great idea.

It was determined that the Committee would meet during finals week, on December 12<sup>th</sup>, as there is business to conduct.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Stoots and seconded by Shawna Lichtenwalner. Motion passed unanimously and with great relief.