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GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

March 20, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Old Main – Champ Hall

Present: Laura Gelfand, Caine College of the Arts
Shelley Lindauer, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
Harrison Kleiner, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Claudia Radel, S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources
Richard Mueller, College of Science
Robert Mueller, Regional Campus
Kacy Lundstrom, University Libraries
Melanie Nelson, USU Eastern
Susan Neel, American Institutions
Brock Dethier, Communications Intensive
Phebe Jensen, Humanities
David Brown, Quantitative Literacy/Intensive
Ed Reeve, Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost
Barbara Williams, Registrar's Office
John Mortensen, Student Affairs
Stephanie Hamblin, Exploratory Advising
Mykel Beorchia, University Advising
Kristine Miller, University Honors Program
Amber Summers-Graham, Secretary

Excused: Lee Rickords, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences (Chair)
Konrad Lee, Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
Dean Adams, College of Engineering
David Wall, Creative Arts
Ryan Dupont, Life and Physical Sciences
Ryan Bosworth, Social Sciences
Matt Sanders, Connections
Michael Scott Peters, USUSA President

Call to Order – Richard Mueller for Lee Rickords

Approval of Minutes – [January 16, 2018](#)

Minutes approved as distributed.

Course Approvals/Removals/Syllabi Approvals

ENGL 5320 (CI) **APPROVED**..... Brock Dethier

Motion to approve CI designation made by Brock Dethier. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.

Designation approved.

ENGL 5330 (CI) **APPROVED** Brock Dethier
Motion to approve CI designation made by Brock Dethier. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.
Designation approved

ENGL 5340 (CI) **APPROVED** Brock Dethier
Motion to approve CI designation made by Brock Dethier. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.
Designation approved

SPAN 3610 (CI) **APPROVED** Brock Dethier
Motion to approve CI designation made by Brock Dethier. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.
Designation approved

ENVS 4020 (CI) (DHA) **APPROVED** Brock Dethier/Phebe Jensen
Motion to approve CI designation made by Brock Dethier. Seconded by Laura Gelfand. Motion to approve DHA designation made by Phebe Jensen. Seconded by Shelley Lindauer.
Discussion – some members of the committee had concerns that this course did not engage students with an upper-division experience in humanities methodologies. The DHA committee felt satisfied by instructor competency in humanities and post-revision, they felt that there were sufficient primary and secondary humanities texts assigned, mostly in the field of philosophy. The course assignments require students to describe, analyze, and evaluate materials, all very humanistic skills. A motion to table the proposal for further discussion was made by Susan Neel. Seconded by Dave Brown. Three votes in favor of tabling the proposal. All others were opposed. Motion to table the proposal did not pass. Motion to approve DHA designation. Three votes opposing. All others in favor. Designation approved.

HIST 3845/RELS 3845 (DHA) **APPROVED** Phebe Jensen
Motion to approve DHA designation made by Phebe Jensen. Seconded by Shelley Lindauer.
Designation approved

HIST 3910 (DHA) **APPROVED** Phebe Jensen
Motion to approve DHA designation made by Phebe Jensen. Seconded by Shelley Lindauer.
Designation approved

TEAL 5080 (DHA) **APPROVED** David Wall
Motion to approve DHA designation made by Shelley Lindauer. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.
Designation approved

POLS 5000 (QI) **APPROVED** David Brown
Motion to approve QI designation made by David Brown. Seconded by Harrison Kleiner.
Designation approved

Business

Depth Courses and Categorization of Majors - John Mortensen

Currently, the catalog refers to depth course requirements in two ways, “Students are required to take at least two upper-division courses outside of their major” and “Each student must select at least one course from each of the two categories which do not include his or her major”. Many majors in the catalog do not have a categorization assigned (please see highlighted areas on the attached handout). Additionally, some majors are lumped together with a blanket categorization for the college that may not be applicable. This causes difficulties for students and advisors when they are determining which two upper-division designations a student should take. This problem needs to be remedied before the next semester begins. The committee

tabled this discussion until the April 2018 meeting to provide time to gather information about how these categorization assignments have been made in the past. Additionally, the committee would like to discuss how the line is drawn for student requirements between Life Science/Physical Science and Depth Humanities/Depth Arts. For example, a humanist might take an art course as a depth requirement and find the topic well outside of their wheelhouse. There was discussion about how this might satisfy the intentions of depth requirements. Dick Mueller will connect with Norm Jones about how categorization was determined initially. Amber Summers-Graham will look through Gen Ed policy and archives. The continued discussion will be included on the April agenda.

Discussion about departments submitting General Education proposals from outside of their General Education categorization.

The humanities subcommittee has talked a lot about this issue, as they seem to be the subcommittee that most frequently reviews breadth and depth proposals submitted by departments from outside of their categorization. There are two concerns with this practice. The first is a structural question – namely is the purpose of the depth requirement to get a student taking courses from outside of their major and if so, a non-humanities department or program offering a depth or breadth humanities course is frustrating that design. This part of the discussion can be tabled until after the committee addresses the categorization of majors in April. The second problem for the committee is a practical problem. A course syllabus itself does not tell the committee everything they need to know about a course. In the humanities, a syllabus might say “reflection of” or “critical analysis of”, etc. and that sounds similar to humanities methodology, but ultimately, the committee has to trust that the faculty member is a good judge of what those terms mean in a humanistic context. One of the benefits of the categorization of majors is that it helps the committee avoid having to inquire into instructor competency in each case. When the committee gets proposals coming from non-humanities programs, determining instructor competency becomes a muddy process. Last year, the General Education committee proposed and passed a policy to address this problem. The policy stated, “if a proposal comes from a department or program whose general education categorization is not humanities, the program will have to explain satisfactorily both its reason and its resources for offering a course outside of its category”. This policy proposal was rejected at the EPC level because the EPC committee read the proposal as being more absolute than it actually was. EPC felt that the language was not sufficiently accommodating for interdisciplinary programs. The General Education committee suggested that Claudia Radel and Charlie Huenemann connect again before the April 2018 meeting to revisit the language so that the committee can address it at their last meeting of the year. The humanities subcommittee would like to see a defined policy adopted across the board that would address all general education designations being sought by departments outside of their major categorizations and not just limited to those seeking a humanities designation.

Curriculog shutdown scheduled for March 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

There will not be any courses to approve at the April 2018 meeting.

Adjournment: 9:30 a.m.

Next meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on **Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

Depth Course Requirements (4 credits minimum completed in two or more courses)

Students are required to take *at least two* upper-division courses outside of their major.

Approved 3000-level or above courses must be taken from two of the following three categories: **Depth Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA)**, **Depth Life and Physical Sciences (DSC)**, and **Depth Social Sciences (DSS)**. Each student must select *at least one* course from each of the two categories which *do not* include his or her major (e.g., Sociology majors would select one or more 3000-level or above course(s) from the Depth Humanities and Creative Arts and one or more 3000-level or above course(s) from the Depth Life and Physical Sciences).

Categorization of Majors

The courses that must be taken to satisfy University Studies Depth requirements depend on the classification of the student's major. For example, Music is classified in the Creative Arts. Thus, a music major would not need to take a depth course in the Humanities and Creative Arts.

Following is the categorization of majors used for University Studies. These abbreviations are used: **CA—Creative Arts**, **HU—Humanities**, **LS—Life Sciences**, **PS—Physical Sciences**, and **SS—Social Sciences**.

College of Agriculture

Applied Economics, **SS**

Aviation Technology – Maintenance Management, **PS**

Aviation Technology – Professional Pilot: Fixed Wing Emphasis, **PS**

Aviation Technology – Professional Pilot: Rotorcraft Emphasis, **PS**

Business Education, ?????

Climate Science, ?????

Environmental & Natural Resource Economics, ?????

~~Environmental Soil/Water Science, **PS**~~

Family and Consumer Sciences Education **SS**

Landscape Architecture, **CA**

Outdoor Product Design and Development, ?????

Technology and Engineering Education, ?????

Technology Systems: Information and Computer Technology, ?????

Technology Systems: Product Development, ?????

Technology Systems: Robotics, Automation, and Controls, ?????

Technology Systems: Technical Management, ?????

All other majors, **LS**

Caine College of the Arts

All majors, **CA**

Jon M. Huntsman School of Business

All majors, **SS**

Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services

Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education, **SS**

Early Childhood Education, (category same as area of emphasis)

Elementary Education, (category same as area of emphasis)

~~Family and Consumer Sciences, **SS**~~

~~Family, Consumer, and Human Development, **SS**~~

Family Life Studies, ?????

Health Education and Promotion, **LS**

Human Development and Family Studies, SS

Human Movement Science, **LS**

~~Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences, (no undergraduate degree)~~

Nursing, LS

Parks and Recreation, **SS**

Psychology, **SS**

Secondary Education, **(category same as teaching major category)**

Social Studies Composite Teaching, **SS**

Special Education, **(may use any category)**

College of Engineering

All majors, **PS**

Humanities and Social Sciences

Agricultural Communication and Journalism, **LS**

American Studies, **HU**

Anthropology, **SS**

Asian Studies, **HU**

Communication Studies, HU

English, **HU**

French, **HU**

German, **HU**

History, **HU**

International Studies, **(category same as area of emphasis)**

Journalism, **SS**

Law and Constitutional Studies, **SS**

Liberal Arts, **HU**

Philosophy, **HU**

Political Science, **SS**

Religious Studies, **HU**

Social Work, **SS**

Sociology, **SS**

Spanish, **HU**

~~Speech, HU~~

S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources

Environmental Studies, **SS**

Geography, **SS**

Recreation Resource Management, **SS**

Management and Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems, **PS**

All other majors, **LS**

College of Science

Biology, **LS**

Public Health, ?????

All other majors, **PS**