

University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes
Meeting Subtitles: “Tabling, It’s Completely Self-Evident that You’re Doing Wrong”
or “A Civilized Debate on Grading Scales”
1:00pm Monday, 23 March, 2015
Senate Conference Room

I. **Opening business**

- A. Meeting called to order at 1:02pm
- B. Welcome
- C. Regrets: Jaci Van Heest (sabbatical), Pamela Bedore (sabbatical), Shayla Nunnally, Dean Hanink, Maria Ana O’Donoghue
- D. Minutes of 23 February meeting were eApproved
- E. We will next meet 20 April
- F. Guests Veronica Makowsky and Carol Polifroni spoke on Civility in the curriculum:
 - V. Makowsky and C. Polifroni began by giving a brief introduction to the issue of how we engage in civil debate and address conflicts on campus. They noted that the current strategies seem to actually be suppressing constructive conversations. Civil discourse does not mean a lack of free speech, yet that seems to be the erroneous understanding of it at this point.
 - They noted that they specifically want to frame this issue within the General Education requirements under something related to civic discourse.
 - C. Polifroni noted that it is time to look at the overall purpose of the Gen Ed requirements and assess where we are succeeding, where we are not, and get the idea of civil discourse into the curriculum. The goal would be for students to understand that while you may not always agree with what someone says, there is a civil way to disagree.
 - C. Polifroni noted that she spoke with GEOC Chair Mike Young about this but did not address the full GEOC.
 - GEOC is currently finishing up their assessment of GEOC’s many parts, but it has not yet done an assessment of general education as a whole, so that is the next goal.
 - E. Schultz suggested that it was time for the content areas, except maybe CA1 which already made revisions, to go back and revise their guidelines.
 - E. Schultz noted that one concern of the GEOC is whether civility is an assessable piece of the curriculum. V. Makowsky said that in general there is an assessment problem with Gen Ed. The university as a whole is not currently able to prove the assessment of any general education outcomes.

- The committee discussed the potential need for a speaking competency and suggested that Principles of Public Speaking should be, if not mandatory, at least part of the gen ed curriculum.
- D. Lavoie gave the student perspective using an example from a class he had in which the discussion thinned out when a certain topic was addressed. He noted that students didn't know how to express themselves without fear of offending people.
- On the other hand, student presentation skills have increased, although oftentimes these are supported by the "prop" of technology.
- S. Martinez noted that the success of the project will depend on its packaging. He noted that we don't want to containerize it, and he suggested that sending it through GEOC makes it seem like yet another requirement, like a kind of compliance training.
- K. Piantek echoed this thought by saying that GEOC members had expressed in meetings the concern that the inclusion of civility in gen ed would take on the feel of compliance training, and they wondered if they would even be qualified to teach it based on this idea.
- V. Makowsky and C. Polifroni thanked the committee for their time and feedback and noted that their next step would be to draft a charge to SEC.

II. Report of the Chair/Representative (probably will be skipped)

- A. University Senate (E. Schultz) – Nothing to report.
- B. Senate Executive (E. Schultz) – Nothing to report.
- C. GEOC (E. Schultz or K. Piantek) – Nothing to report.
- D. UICC (E. Schultz or K. Piantek) – Nothing to report.
- E. Curriculum Advisory ("workflow") group (M. Darre) – M. Darre noted that the system has hit some glitches. When Mike Oatley tried to combine the add, revise and delete forms, numerous display logic issues emerged. The delete form will be separated from the add and revise forms. The PDF output is also still longer than would be ideal. Unfortunately, we are working within IBM form-maker restrictions. Nevertheless, we hope to be on target for an expanded roll-out next Fall. The group plans to meet again next month.

III. Other committee reports (probably will be skipped)

- A. Growth and Development Committee (D. Mercier) – Nothing to report. D. Mercier has accepted another position outside of UConn.
- B. Diversity (S. Nunnally) – Nothing to report.

C. Standing Honors Board (D. Hanink) – K. Piantek provided a brief report since she took minutes for the committee at their last meeting. The committee approved the Honors Core course about sports as performance that the Senate C&C saw last semester. Budget issues and Fall enrollment were discussed.

D. Scholastic Standards (E. Schultz) – Nothing to report.

IV. Old Business

A. New 1000- and 2000-level courses:

1. DRAM 1215 Theatre Production: Makeup and Wardrobe for the Actor and DRAM 1216 Theatre Production: Lighting and Sound

These courses had been previously approved by the committee but their proposals were withheld from the Senate, as the department engaged in consideration of the enrollment restrictions. The department decided on "Instructor consent required" only language for the enrollment restrictions, which is consistent with the course proposals as approved by the committee. Therefore these course proposals should appear on the committee report to the Senate.

2. Motion to add (M. Cantino, M. Darre) DRAM 1217 Theatre Production: Costumes and Makeup

Proposed Catalog Copy

DRAM 1217 Theatre Production: Costumes and Makeup

Three credits. Two 2-hour lectures and running crew (lab) assignment. Instructor consent required.

Introduction to the technology, tools, and materials used in costumes and makeup for the theatre.

Discussion

- M. Darre asked about some of the items under the rationale section. Will certain courses be deleted? (e.g. 1206) Most likely yes.

Motion to add DRAM 1217 passed unanimously.

3. Motion to add (D. Lavoie, M. Darre) DRAM 1218 Theatre Production: Stagecraft

Proposed Catalog Copy

Discussion

- No discussion.

Motion to add DRAM 1218 passed unanimously.

B. Revised 1000- and 2000-level courses:

1. **ON HOLD:** EKIN 1160 Courses in Lifetime Sports Program (title, description & designation)

Note: Discussion of this course was suspended pending clarification of what revisions are being made. No updates currently received.

2. **WITHHELD:** HEJS 1104 Modern Jewish Thought (Level and description change)

NOTE: HEJS was withheld from the Senate due lack of approval from the CLAS C&C

V. **New Business**

A. Revised 1000- and 2000-level courses (all of the following revisions have been reviewed and approved by the General Education Oversight Committee; see documents comprising background on the revisions [GSCI-1000 GEOC APPROVAL Appendix.pdf, GSCI-1000 changes.pdf, GSCI-1000 Lab Revision2.pdf] in addition to CARs for each course):

- E. Schultz gave the C&C an overview of changes being requested.

1. Motion to revise (M. Darre, M. Buck) GSCI 1010 Dinosaurs, Extinctions, and Environmental Catastrophes (Title and description change) **[CA3]**

Current Catalog Copy

GSCI 1010 Age of the Dinosaurs

(Formerly offered as GEOL 1010.) Three credits. A reconstruction of the Mesozoic world of the dinosaurs as interpreted from geological and paleontological evidence. Includes fundamental concepts of stratigraphy, historical geology, paleoclimatology, and paleontology. CA 3.

Revised Catalog Copy

GSCI 1010 Dinosaurs, Extinctions, and Environmental Catastrophes

Three credits. Not open for credit to students who have passed GSCI 1050, 1051, 1055, or 1070. Students who complete both GSCI 1010 and GSCI 1052 may request that GSCI 1010 be converted to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

A reconstruction of the Mesozoic world of the dinosaurs based on paleontological and geological evidence. Past and present environmental catastrophes leading to mass extinctions and changes in biodiversity. Fundamental concepts of geology, stratigraphy, historical geology, and paleoclimatology. CA 3.

Discussion

- E. Schultz had questions about whether the enrollment restrictions that are listed in the form should be in course description. Inclusion of them seemed evident from form, but the question is whether this was clear to the CLAS C&C. The

committee elected to approve the catalog copy that included the restrictions, and chair Schultz will communicate immediately with the proposer and the chair of the college curricula and courses committee.

- Minor changes were made to the description for clarity.

Motion to revise GSCI 1010 passed unanimously with amendment to enrollment restriction language.

Update

- Course proposer Thorson agreed in communications with Schultz after the meeting that his intent and that of the program and college was to list the enrollment restrictions.

2. Motion to revise (M. Darre, M. Buck) GSCI 1050 Earth's Dynamic Environment (Title and description change) **[CA3-Lab]**

Current Catalog Copy

GSCI 1050 Earth and Life through Time with Laboratory

(Formerly offered as GEOL 1050.) Four credits. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Not open to students enrolled in or having passed GSCI 1051 or SCI 1051.

History of planet Earth, emphasizing how rock, air, water, and life interact at different scales to produce the earth's crust, landforms, life systems, natural resources, catastrophes, and climatic regimes. Provides a scientific context for human-induced global change. Includes laboratory component (see GSCI 1052). A fee of \$10 is charged for this course. CA 3-LAB.

Revised Catalog Copy

GSCI 1050 Earth's Dynamic Environment

Four credits. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Not open for credit to students who have passed GSCI 1010, 1051, 1055, or 1070.

Origin and history of planet Earth, emphasizing how rock, air, water, and life interact at different scales to produce the earth's crust, landforms, life systems, natural resources, catastrophes, and climatic regimes. Provides a scientific context for human-induced global change. A fee of \$10 is charged for this course. CA 3-LAB.

Discussion

- Minor revisions were made to the description. Discussion and update pertaining to GSCI 1010, as noted above, pertained also to this course proposal.

Motion to revise GSCI 1050 passed unanimously.

3. Motion to revise (S. Martinez, D. Lavoie) GSCI 1051 Earth's Dynamic Environment {Lecture} (Title and description change) **[CA3]**

Current Catalog Copy

GSCI 1051 Earth and Life through Time

(Formerly offered as GEOL 1051.) Three credits. Three class periods. Not open to students enrolled in or having passed GSCI 1050 or SCI 1051. Students who complete both GSCI 1051 and 1052 may request GSCI 1051 be converted from a CA 3 Non-laboratory to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

History of planet Earth, emphasizing how rock, air, water, and life interact at different scales to produce the earth's crust, landforms, life systems, natural resources, catastrophes, and climatic regimes. Provides a scientific context for human-induced global change. CA 3.

Revised Catalog Copy

GSCI 1051 Earth's Dynamic Environment (Lecture)

Three credits. Three class periods. Not open for credit to students who have passed GSCI 1010, 1050, 1055, or 1070. Students who complete both GSCI 1051 and 1052 may request that GSCI 1051 be converted to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

Origin and history of planet Earth, emphasizing how rock, air, water, and life interact at different scales to produce the earth's crust, landforms, life systems, natural resources, catastrophes, and climatic regimes. Provides a scientific context for human-induced global change. CA 3.

Discussion

- No discussion. Discussion and update pertaining to GSCI 1010, as noted above, pertained also to this course proposal.

Motion to revise GSCI 1051 passed unanimously.

4. Motion to revise (M. Darre, D. Lavoie) GSCI 1052 Earth's Dynamic Environment {Laboratory} (Title and description change) **[CA3-Lab]**

Current Catalog Copy

GSCI 1052 Laboratory Earth and Life through Time

(Formerly offered as GEOL 1052.) One credit. Prerequisite: GSCI 1051. Not open to students enrolled in or having passed GSCI 1050. Students who complete both GSCI 1051 and 1052 may request GSCI 1051 be converted from a CA 3 Non-laboratory to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

Laboratory complement to GSCI 1051. Provides an opportunity to work with specimens (minerals, fossils, rocks), terrain images, maps, physical models, and simulation experiments. Includes two local field trips. A fee of \$10 is charged for this course.

Revised Catalog Copy

GSCI 1052 Earth's Dynamic Environment (Laboratory)

One credit. Prerequisite or corequisite: GSCI 1010 or GSCI 1051 or GSCI 1055 or GSCI 1070. Not open to students who have passed GSCI 1050. Students who complete both GSCI 1052 and one of GSCI 1010, 1051, 1055 or 1070 may request that the prerequisite be converted to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

Laboratory complement to GSCI 1010, 1051, 1055, and 1070. Provides an opportunity to work with specimens (minerals, fossils, rocks), terrain images, maps, physical models, and simulation experiments. Includes local field trips. A fee of \$10 is charged for this course.

Discussion

- Minor revisions were made to the description. Discussion and update pertaining to GSCI 1010, as noted above, pertained also to this course proposal.

Motion to revise GSCI 1052 passed unanimously.

5. Motion to revise (M. Darre, M. Cantino) GSCI 1070 Natural Disasters and Environmental Change (Title and description change) **[CA3]**

Current Catalog Copy

GSCI 1070 Global Change and Natural Disasters

(Also offered as GEOG 1070.) Three credits.

Climate change, global warming, natural hazards, earth surface processes, and the impact these have on populations now and in the past. CA 3.

Revised Catalog Copy

GSCI 1070 Natural Disasters and Environmental Change

(Also offered as GEOG 1070.) Three credits. Not open for credit to students who have passed GSCI 1010, 1050, 1051, 1055. Students who complete both GSCI 1070 and GSCI 1052 may request that GSCI 1070 be converted to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

Climate change, global warming, natural hazards, earth surface processes, and the impact these have on human populations now and in the past. CA 3.

Discussion

- Addition of a grading scale was suggested. Discussion and update pertaining to GSCI 1010, as noted above, pertained also to this course proposal. Proposer Thorson also suggested addition of the adjectival modifier 'human' to the course description subsequent to the committee's approval of the course proposal.

Motion to revise GSCI 1070 passed unanimously.

6. Motion to revise (S. Martinez, D. Lavoie) SCI 1051 Geoscience and the American Landscape (Subject area and number change to GSCI 1055) **[CA3]**

Current Catalog Copy

SCI 1051 Geoscience through American Studies

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open only to Honors students. Not open to students who have passed GSCI 1050 or 1051. Thorson

Reading-intensive foundation course in geology taught from the perspective of American Studies. A small-group, honors-only enhancement of GSCI 1051. Readings from American history and literature will be linked to the geology course content. An individual project in the student's area of interest is required. CA 3.

Revised Catalog Copy

GSCI 1055 Geoscience and the American Landscape

(Previously offered as SCI 1051). Three credits. Prerequisite: Open only to Honors students. Not open for credit to students who have passed GSCI 1010, 1050, 1051, 1070. Students who complete both GSCI 1055 and GSCI 1052 may request that GSCI 1055 be converted to a CA 3 Laboratory course.

An Honors Core course. Foundation course in geology linked to the American Landscape through readings from American history and literature. CA 3.

Discussion

- Minor revisions were made to the description; "previously offered language" and "not open for credit" language was added.
- Addition of a grading scale was suggested.

Motion to revise SCI 1051 passed unanimously.

B. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends the following new 3000- and 4000-level course in the Writing (W) Competency:

1. Motion to add (M. Buck, M. Cantino) HDFS 3311W Parenting and Parenthood
Proposed Catalog Copy

HDFS 3311W Parenthood and Parenting

Three credits. Prerequisites: HDFS 2100 or PSYC 2400; and HDFS 1070 or 2200; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open only to Juniors and higher who are HDFS majors.

Parent behavior and the dynamics of parenthood, interpersonal, familial, and societal roles of parents, and variables influencing these roles across the lifespan.

Discussion

- Minor revisions were made to the description.
- Addition of a grading scale was suggested.

Motion to add HDFS 3311W passed unanimously.

2. Motion to add (D. Lavoie, S. Martinez) HDFS 3540W Child Welfare, Law and Social Policy

Proposed Catalog Copy

HDFS 3540W Child Welfare, Law and Social Policy

Three credits. Prerequisites: HDFS 2100 or PSYC 2400; and HDFS 2004W or PSYC 2100; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Open only to HDFS majors who are Juniors or higher.

The methods through which empirical social science research can influence law and public policy affecting children and families.

Discussion

- Minor revisions were made to the description.
- Addition of a grading scale was suggested.

Motion to add HDFS 3540W passed unanimously.

3. Motion to add (M. Darre, M. Buck) MEM 4971W Senior Design Project 1

Proposed Catalog Copy

MEM 4971W Senior Design Project 1

Two credits. Prerequisites: ME 3221 and MEM 2211; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011.

Part 1 of the capstone design course for the MEM Program. The course will cover manufacturing and production cases in preparation for the senior design experience.

Both written and oral reports are required. Students will also complete the first phase of their two-semester engineering design project focused on product/process creation or improvement, including problem definition, background, and a preliminary proposal. The Business and Engineering faculty will be jointly involved.

Discussion

- Revisions were made to description based on feedback from the proposer.
- A grading scale and weightings are needed.
- Corrections were made to the number of credits.

Motion to add MEM 4971W passed unanimously.

4. Motion to add (M. Darre, S. Martinez) MEM 4972W Senior Design Project 2
Proposed Catalog Copy

MEM 4972W Senior Design Project 2

Two credits, Prerequisites: MEM 4971W.

Part 2 of the capstone design course for the MEM Program. Students will perform the design, fabrication and testing of their product design; or implementation, testing and procedure writing for their process design. The proposal from MEM 4971W will guide the fabrication or implementation and testing, to meet a detailed specification of engineering requirements. Both written and oral reports will be required. The Business and Engineering faculty will be jointly involved

Discussion

- No discussion.

Motion to add MEM 4972W passed unanimously.

5. Motion to add (S. Martinez, D. Lavoie) PHIL/HRTS 3219W Topics in Philosophy and Human Rights

Proposed Catalog Copy

PHIL/HRTS 3219W Topics in Philosophy and Human Rights

(219) (Also offered as HRTS 3219W) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; one three-credit course in Philosophy or instructor consent; open to juniors or higher. With a change in content, may be repeated for credit.

What are human rights? Why are they important? Topics may include the philosophical precursors of human rights, the nature and justification of human rights, or contemporary issues bearing on human rights.

Discussion

- Corrections were made to the title based on the non-W version.

Motion to add PHIL/HRTS 3219W passed unanimously.

C. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends deletion of the following 3000- and 4000-level course in the Writing (W) Competency:

1. Motion to delete (M. Darre, M. Buck) MEM 4915W Advanced Manufacturing Systems

Discussion

- No discussion.

Motion to delete MEM 4915W passed unanimously.

D. The Chair of the Senate C&C reported on the approval of the following Special Topics Course approved by the University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee:

1. UNIV 1995 Next Generation STEM Skills

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm

Post-Meeting Note: ERIC WILL BRING NON-MEALWORM COOKIES NEXT MEETING.

Attendees: Eric Schultz (Chair), Marianne Buck, Marie Cantino, Samuel Martinez, Dustin Lavoie (undergrad rep)

Respectfully Submitted: Karen Piantek