

University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes

Meeting Subtitles: “The Senate C&C Met in the Form to which it is Accustomed” or “A Discussion of Freshmen’s Sense and Sensibilities” or “A Reminder that Committee Members are Graded on Participation, Not Attendance”

12:30pm Wednesday, 21 September, 2016

Senate Conference Room

**I. Opening business**

- A. Meeting called to order at 12:35pm
- B. Welcome
- C. Regrets: Dean Hanink
- D. Minutes of the 7 September meeting were approved unanimously
- E. We will next meet 5 October, 2016

**II. Report of the Chair/Representative**

- A. University Senate (M. Darre) – The Senate met and approved the consent agenda without comment. Provost Mun Choi reported that UConn has 70 new faculty. NEASC will be sending a visiting team. Scholastic Standards submitted by-law changes regarding minors and grades. There was an enrollment update to report over 6000 new students across campuses.
- B. Senate Executive (M. Darre) – The committee met prior to the University Senate meeting, mainly for introductions and to review the outlook for the school year.
- C. GEOC (E. Schultz) – The GEOC had its first meeting. The main order of business was the requested approval of generic Gen Ed transfer credits for CA4. M. A. O’Donoghue presented the case on behalf of Transfer Admissions. GEOC also piloted a new course approval procedure. Courses will be reviewed by the full committee first to review their appropriateness as Gen Eds. There is a substantial problem with the way that most proposers fill out this section of the CAR; in a large number of cases they are just copying and pasting the Gen Ed guidelines without any kind of analysis or explanation. Finally, the GEOC will again host its course development competition after a one-year hiatus. P. Diplock noted that CETL is launching a similar initiative and felt that he and E. Schultz should talk. E. Schultz agreed to touch base with him.
- D. Gen Ed Assessment Task Force (M. Darre) – M. Darre projected the report on the board for discussion.

- This report is considered a draft report. E. Schultz noted that he felt this process has stalled, and it needs to be reinvigorated.
- There were no additional comments on the report since the last meeting.

**M. Buck motioned to accept the report. E. Schultz seconded. The motion to accept carried unanimously.**

- E. UICC (M. Buck) – M. Buck referred the committee to a report she emailed that UICC Chair Eric Donkor had sent to the Provost’s Office.
- F. Curriculum Advisory (“Workflow”) group (E. Schultz) – P. Diplock noted that he would be able to send info in a few weeks regarding the discussion from last meeting about adding language to the new CAR related to teaching online, hybrid, etc. courses. It was noted that there has been some confusion between INTD and CA4-INT on the part of proposers. E. Schultz noted that the INTD check-box has persistently been problematic, so we will need to figure out a solution. M. Darre felt that the process for downloading CARs was still a little time-consuming, and he wondered if there was a way to address this. E. Schultz recommended sending feedback to Cheryl Galli; she is compiling a list for future revisions.

### **III. Other committee reports**

- A. Growth and Development Committee (S. Wilson) – No report. S. Wilson did not receive notice that the meeting was occurring. She is waiting on the committee to send her the minutes.
- B. Diversity (M. A. O’Donoghue) – No report. M. A. O’Donoghue was unable to attend, but she will get the minutes from the meeting.
- C. Standing Honors Board (D. Hanink) – No report.
- D. Scholastic Standards (No current rep) – No report. E. Schultz noted that he is no longer the Scholastic Standards representative. S. Park said he would volunteer if the meetings are on Wednesdays when he is up at Storrs.

### **IV. Old Business**

- A. New 1000- or 2000-level courses:
  - 1. Motion to take off the table (E. Schultz, S. Wilson) ECON 2212Q Quantitative Intermediate Macroeconomics. Motioned to add (S. Wilson, M.A. O’Donoghue) ECON 2212Q Quantitative Intermediate Macroeconomics.

*Note: GEOC has reviewed and approved this course. This course was tabled on 9/7/16 pending clarification of the enrollment restrictions. Richard Langlois confirmed the restriction should be for ECON 2202 and sent supporting documents.*

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

ECON 2212Q. Quantitative Intermediate Macroeconomics

Four Credits. Prerequisites: ECON 1200 or both ECON 1201 and 1202; MATH 1071Q or 1110Q or 1125Q or 1131Q or 1151Q or 2141Q. Not open to students who have taken ECON 2202.

Intermediate macroeconomic theory using quantitative techniques. Definition and measurement of major economic variables; business cycles; economic growth; labor supply; savings and production decision; the effect of government policies; and general equilibrium.

*Discussion*

- The syllabus needs a grading scale.

**Motion to add (ECON 2212Q) approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to add (K. Labadorf, M. Buck) KINS 2200 Introduction to Athletic Training (Proposal #85)

*Discussion*

- E. Schultz questioned the enrollment restriction to majors for a 2000-level course. He felt as though the department was playing “strong defense” to limit enrollment.
- M. Darre and S. Wilson both suggested that resources might be an issue, so the restriction makes sense.
- It was noted that the catalog copy is different than what was originally approved.
- **E. Schultz motioned to table the course pending confirmation of the correct catalog copy. K. Labadorf seconded the motion. Motion to table was approved unanimously.**

3. Motion to add (K. Labadorf, M. Buck) MAST 1300 Maritime Communities

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

MAST 1300. Maritime Communities

Three credits.

Maritime communities and environment in an interdisciplinary and international context from economic, geographic, historical, and other social science perspectives.

*Discussion*

- Minor edits were made to the course description.
- E. Schultz indicated both an affinity for the MAST designation and a desire to take the course.

- The syllabus contains the graduate grading scale, which is unnecessary.

**Motion to add (MAST 1300) approved unanimously.**

B. The GEOC recommends revision of the following 3000- or 4000-level courses in the Writing (W) Competency:

1. Motion to revise (K. Labadorf, M. Buck) SOCI 3503/W Prejudice and Discrimination (Level change from 3000 to 2000)

*Current Catalog Copy*

SOCI 3503. Prejudice and Discrimination

(243) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Sources and consequences of racial and ethnic prejudice and discrimination.

SOCI 3503W. Prejudice and Discrimination

(243W) Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2503. Prejudice and Discrimination

(243) (Formerly offered as SOCI 3503.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher.

Sources and consequences of racial and ethnic prejudice and discrimination.

2503W. Prejudice and Discrimination

(243W) (Formerly offered as SOCI 3503W.) Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; Open to sophomores or higher.

*Discussion*

- The syllabus needs a letter grading scheme.
- E. Schultz noted that there was really no rationale provided for the level change.

**Motion to revise (SOCI 3503/W) approved unanimously.**

C. The GEOC recommends inclusion of the following courses in Content Area 2 – Social Science:

1. Motion to include (E. Schultz, M. Buck) MAST 1300 Maritime Communities

*Discussion*

- E. Schultz felt that enrollment for this course should be restricted to full professors, or others by permission. This suggestion was rejected.

**Motion to include (MAST 1300) in CA2 approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to include (M. A. O'Donoghue, M. Buck) POLS 3211/W Politics of Water  
*Current Catalog Copy*

POLS 3211W. Politics of Water

Three credits. Two 1 hr 15 mins lectures/seminars per week. Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; recommended preparation: POLS 1202 or 1207; open to juniors or higher; freshmen and sophomores by permission.

The role of water in state building, state-society relations, and economic and political development. Draws on approaches from comparative politics and international relations.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

POLS 3211W. Politics of Water

Three credits. Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; recommended preparation: POLS 1202 or 1207; open to juniors or higher; others by permission.

The role of water in state building, state-society relations, and economic and political development. Draws on approaches from comparative politics and international relations.

*Discussion*

- Minor revisions were made to the catalog copy. The lecture hours (instructional pattern) were originally included, but M. Buck noted that if it is included the course must always be taught that way.
- The syllabus needs a letter grading scheme.
- M. A. O'Donoghue noted that the assignment percentages in the syllabus do not add up to 100%, only 80%.

**Motion to include (POLS 3211/W) in CA2 approved unanimously.**

D. The GEOC recommends inclusion of the following courses in Content Area 4, Diversity and Multiculturalism, non-International:

1. Motion to include (D. Ouimette, S. Park) SOCI 1251/W Social Problems

*Note: Both the W and CA2 subcommittees and GEOC have reviewed and approved this course.*

*Discussion*

- It was noted that the CAR listed the content area as "CA4 US," which does not exist. The course is seeking a CA4 non-international designation, which is just listed as "CA4."

**Motion to include (SOC 1251/W) in CA4 approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to include (S. Wilson, K. Labadorf) SOCI 3503/W Prejudice and Discrimination

*Discussion*

- No further discussion.

**Motion to include (SOCI 3503/W) in CA4 approved unanimously.**

3. Motion to include (S. Wilson, M. A. O'Donoghue) SOCI 3601/W Sociology of Gender

*Note: The W subcommittee and GEOC have approved this course.*

*Discussion*

- The syllabus needs a letter grading scheme.

**Motion to include (SOCI 3601/W) in CA4 approved unanimously.**

- E. The University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee has approved the deletion of the following course:

1. Motion to delete (M. A. O'Donoghue, D. Ouimette) UNIV 4800 Senior Year Experience (Proposal #233)

*Discussion*

- The committee felt that the reason given to delete the course was inadequate. It also questioned the form's assertion that the deletion would not affect other departments.
- It was unclear whether the UICC as a full committee actually reviewed the course or whether the approval was made only by the UICC Chair.
- **E. Schultz motioned to table the course pending more information on why the course is being dropped and its potential effects on other departments. He also noted that UICC Chair Eric Donkor should be contacted to see if the course deletion was reviewed by the full committee. K. Labadorf seconded the motion. The motion to table was approved unanimously.**

- F. For the information of the Senate C&C, the University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee and Senate C&C Chair have approved the following Special Topics course for one offering:

1. UNIV 3985 Surviving & Thriving: A Crash Course for UConn Exchange Students

- G. Other GEOC actions

1. Deletion of the Computer Technology competency

*Discussion*

- E. Schultz felt that the document received from GEOC was not in a format that was usable to the Senate C&C or appropriate to the University Senate. He was also unsure how the recommendation in item 2 that “language be added to the FYW courses” would be accomplished.
- One member who is also on Information Literacy subcommittee noted that the subcommittee did not meet often and had very little input into this initiative.
- It was noted that the first part of the motion had merit because the Computer Technology Competency has not really been in use for about two years.
- S. Wilson suggested tabling the motion and requesting a separation of the two parts. E. Schultz felt that the better course would be to reject the motion and send it back to GEOC to request the separation.

**The motion to approve the deletion of the Computer Technology Competency and revise language related to FYW courses was rejected unanimously. The motion will be sent back to GEOC for revision.**

V. New Business

A. New 1000- or 2000-level courses:

1. Motion to add (E. Schultz, S. Park) DMD/ENGL 2610 Introduction to Digital Humanities (Proposal #3)

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

DMD 2610. Introduction to Digital Humanities.

3 credits. Consent of Instructor Required.

The application of digital technology and media to such subjects as art history, classics, cultural and area studies, history, languages, literature, music, and philosophy. This course will provide a broad survey of the landscape of international and interdisciplinary digital humanities through the lens of ongoing work of faculty and staff researchers at the University of Connecticut.

*Discussion*

- The description neglected to include the instructor consent part in the actual catalog copy that was requested, so it was added. Other minor edits were made to the catalog copy.
- One committee member expressed surprise that the course was only offered in Storrs. He thought it would be offered in Stamford as well.

**Motion to add (DMD/ENGL 2610 - #3) approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to add (D. Ouimette, M. Buck) ENGL 2612 Digital Literary Studies (Proposal #202)

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

ENGL 2612. Digital Literary Studies.

Three credits.

Introduction to the shaping of literature and literary studies by digital technologies, critical engagement with digital media, and historical and theoretical approaches to media and technology.

*Discussion*

- It was noted that this course is offered at both Storrs and Stamford.
- The syllabus needs a letter grading scheme.

**Motion to add (ENGL 2612 - #202) approved unanimously.**

3. Motion to add (M. A. O'Donoghue, M. Buck) PNB 1000 Introduction to Physiology and Neurobiology (Proposal #232)

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

PNB 1000. Introduction to Physiology and Neurobiology

Spring semester. One credit. Open to first-year students, others with consent of instructor. Students taking this course will be assigned a final grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory).

An introduction for declared and prospective Physiology and Neurobiology majors. Introduces key discoveries, current research areas, and technological innovations in physiology and neurobiology, and develops familiarity with the PNB department.

*Discussion*

- E. Schultz noted that he circulated this proposal to the EEB department because they are considering a similar course.
- The syllabus needs a grading scheme.
- D. Ouimette noted that FYE has been offering a PNB-themed FYE course for years. He did feel like a little might be lost in this class given the much larger class size, but he found the initiative interesting.

**Motion to add (PNB 1000 - #232) approved unanimously.**

4. Motion to add (E. Schultz, D. Ouimette) SOCI 2310 Introduction to Criminal Justice (Proposal #293)

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

SOCI 2310. Introduction to Criminal Justice

Three Credits.

The criminal justice system from a sociological perspective, including crime, police and law enforcement, courts and adjudication, corrections and juvenile justice.

*Discussion*

- The committee briefly discussed the place of a Criminal Justice course of study at a liberal arts university.

**Motion to add (SOCI 2310 - #293) approved unanimously.**

Attendance (in bold): **Michael Darre (Chair)**, George McManus, **David Ouimette**, **Eric Schultz (Ex-officio)**, **Suzanne Wilson**, **Marianne Buck**, Dean Hanink, **Kathleen Labadorf**, **Maria Ana O'Donoghue**, **Steven Park**, **Peter Diplock (Ex-officio)**

Respectfully submitted by Karen Piantek.