

University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes
Meeting Subtitle: “What Is It You Truly Desire? Nature Writing”
9:00am Wednesday, September 11, 2019
Senate Conference Room

I. Opening business

- Called to order: 9:02am
- Minutes of August 28, 2019 were eApproved.
- We will next meet September 25, 2019.

II. Report of the Chair/Representative

- A. University Senate (P. Bedore) – The Senate voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.
- B. Senate Executive (P. Bedore) – P. Bedore passed on feedback about concerns regarding the April 2019 Senate vote on the DeltaGE report to the SEC and Senate Chairs. The Senate meeting was recorded, so there is a record that when the question was called, a vote was taken (by voice) to approve the end of debate before a second vote was taken (by hand) on the motion. At SEC, it was suggested that both votes should have been taken by hand. The SEC will provide a primer on Robert’s Rules to all Senators in 2019-20.
- C. GEOC (M. Wagner) – The committee discussed a number of items, including the focus of the Provost’s Course Enhancement Grant Competition. The Chair had originally proposed focusing on presumed shortages in the CA1 and E areas, but members were reluctant to favor some areas over others and were dubious of the idea that these areas actually had shortages. One GEOC member argued that we do not necessarily need more E courses so much as we need more seats in currently offered sections of E courses. Regarding CA1, one member questioned if the shortage in this area was university-wide or just in CLAS, in which case the problem seems to be one of CLAS’s own making for requiring their students to take more CA1 courses than the university at large. Given the general resistance to focusing on particular content areas for the competition, the Chair asked members to consider what they would like to see as the competition’s focus and email their suggestions before the next meeting.
- One Senate C&C member felt that CLAS provides most of the Gen Ed courses, so they are often underrepresented in discussions and resources in general.
- D. UICC (M. Hatfield) – The committee has not met, so there is nothing to report.

III. Other Committee Reports

- A. Honors Board of Associate Directors (P. Bedore) – Honors board met on 9/9/19. Topics of interest include: 1) There are currently a few one-credit courses that basically function as Honors conversions (eg. BIOL 1109, NUSC 1166); the board is not inclined to encourage

additional courses of this kind given the option of offering an Honors and non-Honors version of the same course in the same class at the same time; 2) Portfolium was piloted last year in the Honors program and was used mostly for co-curricular activities. Portfolium is now licensed for all UConn students, faculty, and staff. This year Honors is expanding use into classes; all UNIV 1784 classes will have at least one assignment in Portfolium.

- One member noted that he had not heard of Portfolium and was not receiving any Honors newsletters as an Honors advisor.

B. Scholastic Standards (L. Schlesselman) – SS is still looking at the dual degree issue. UConn received some feedback from NECHE, which said it was okay to change from 30 extra credits to 18 credits. SS is also working on the grade appeal policy. The expected turn-around time was shortened from about 3 months to 10 days. Course renumbering is still on the table as well and will come back up shortly. There was a request to look at why undergrads cannot get an A+ but grads can. Katrina Higgins had wanted to discuss a “fresh start” or academic forgiveness policy before she left. This would wipe out grades for students who left under certain conditions and then came back, allowing them to start cleanly. There is still discussion of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), and SS will look into textbook pricing and how we can control this to help students out.

- One member asked if there was a way to tell students the average price of books for a given class. Not really. Moreover, we also don’t want students choosing classes based on the price of the books
- Some research suggests that only 20% of students buy the books.

C. Δ2GE Working Group (TBD) – The group has managed to arrange meetings and will have its first meeting on September 20.

D. Other News – Follow-up items:

- a. P. Bedore noted that after the last meeting we gave one proposer feedback about including minimal technical skills on the syllabus. The proposer wrote back to say that “eCampus requires info on minimal technical skills on syllabi.”
 - One member noted that eCampus cannot require faculty to do anything.
- b. There was a question at the last meeting about W instruction. P. Bedore reached out to Tom Deans, who responded by saying that there is some ambiguity in the wording about who can teach W courses and that some departments largely ignore this clause. He felt that the issue became worse after budget issues hit the university in 2008.

A. Old Business

A. New 1000- and 2000-level courses:

1. ECE 1401 Programming for Electrical Engineers (#12103)

Note: Currently on hold pending department discussions of additional changes to the proposal.

B. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends addition of the following 3000- or 4000-level courses to the General Education curriculum:

1. Motion to add (D. Knecht, D. Ouimette) NURS 4230W Quality Improvement and Evidence Based Practice in Nursing (#9220) [New W]

Proposed Catalog Copy

NURS 4230W. Quality Improvement and Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing

Prerequisites: NURS 3205; and ENGL 1010, 1011, or 2011. Corequisites: NURS 3334 and NURS 3444 or NURS 3554 and NURS 3664

A framework for health care system change through evidence-based practice (EBP) and quality improvement (QI). Strategies for implementing EBP, including dissemination through writing. QI processes, use of information technology to monitor and evaluate quality indicators, and implementation of strategies to improve outcomes.

Discussion

- P. Bedore will check with the proposer on whether the course is repeatable for credit. It was felt that checking “Yes” was an error.
- The syllabus needs information on grading and policies.
- It was noted that the APA manual is on permanent reserve in the library.

Motion to add NURS 4230W (#9220) was approved unanimously.

C. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends revision of the following 3000- or 4000-level existing courses:

1. Motion to revise (G. Stuart, L. Schlesselman) ARE 3434 Environmental and Resource Policy (#10938) [Add E]

Current Catalog Copy

ARE 3434. Environmental and Resource Policy

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Economic and policy aspects of natural resource use and environmental quality issues.

Designed for students with diverse departmental affiliations.

Revised Catalog Copy

ARE 3434E. Environmental and Resource Policy

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.
Economic and policy aspects of natural resource use and environmental quality issues.
Designed for students with diverse departmental affiliations.

Discussion

- There is a typo in the grading scale.

Motion to revise ARE 3434 (#10938) was approved unanimously.

2. Motion to revise (J. Chandy, J. Terni) ARE 3437 Marine Fisheries Economics and Policy (#10939) [Add E]

Current Catalog Copy

ARE 3437. Marine Fisheries Economics and Policy

Three credits. Recommended preparation: ARE 1150 or ECON 1200 or ECON 1201

Explores the various natural, human and management components of the fishery system and presents the application of economic and policy analysis for the optimal allocation of resources to a fishery.

Revised Catalog Copy

ARE 3437E. Marine Fisheries Economics and Policy

Three credits. Recommended preparation: ARE 1150 or ECON 1200 or ECON 1201

Explores the various natural, human and management components of the fishery system and presents the application of economic and policy analysis for the optimal allocation of resources to a fishery.

Discussion

- Student Learning Objectives are needed in the syllabus rather than Course Learning Objectives.

Motion to revise ARE 3437 (#10939) was approved unanimously.

3. Motion to revise (D. Knecht, S. Rusch) ECON 3466 Environmental Economics (#11127) [Add E]

Current Catalog Copy

ECON 3466. Environmental Economics

Three credits. Prerequisite: ECON 2201 or 2211Q.

Application of economic reasoning to environmental issues. Topics include air and water pollution and the management of natural resources; market failure and environmental regulation; market-based mechanisms; cost-benefit analysis, environmental valuation, and program evaluation; environmental justice from an economic perspective.

Revised Catalog Copy

ECON 3466E. Environmental Economics

Three credits. Prerequisite: ECON 2201 or 2211Q.

Application of economic reasoning to environmental issues. Topics include air and water pollution and the management of natural resources; market failure and environmental regulation; market-based mechanisms; cost-benefit analysis, environmental valuation, and program evaluation; environmental justice from an economic perspective.

Discussion

- The syllabus needs a grading scale and policies.

Motion to revise ECON 3466 (#11127) was approved unanimously.

4. Motion to revise (G. Stuart, J. Terni) ENGL 3635 Literature and the Environment (#8461)

[Level change Add CA1 and E]

Current Catalog Copy

ENGL 3635. Literature and the Environment

Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors and higher, others by consent.

Ecocritical approaches to literary treatment of global environmental issues.

Revised Catalog Copy

ENGL 2635E. Literature and the Environment

Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011.

Ecocritical approaches to literary treatment of global environmental issues. CA 1.

Discussion

- One member wondered if the course needed to change its content because of the change in number. In general, lower level courses are often broader in scope.

- The syllabus needs a grading scale, student learning objectives, and more of the university policies.

Motion to revise ENGL 3635 (#8461) was approved unanimously.

5. Motion to revise (S. Rusch, D. Ouimette) ENGL 3715 Nature Writing Workshop (#8959) [Add E, description revision]

Current Catalog Copy

ENGL 3715. Nature Writing Workshop

Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to sophomores or higher; open only with consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: ENGL 1701.

For student writers of proved ability who wish training in techniques of nature writing. Emphasis on nonfiction or poetry.

Revised Catalog Copy

ENGL 3715E. Nature Writing Workshop

Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to sophomores or higher; open only with consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: ENGL 1701.

For student writers of proven ability who desire training in techniques of nature writing. Emphasis on nonfiction or poetry.

Discussion

- One member wondered if students would really understand what “techniques of nature writing” refer to. Yes, creative writing majors will understand this.
- The rubric should explain what “excellent” means in terms of grading.
- Some policies are there, but not the one on plagiarism, which seems like an important one for a writing course.

Motion to revise ENGL 3715 (#8959) was approved unanimously.

D. New S/U Graded Courses:

1. Motion to add (T. Casa, L. Schlesselman) ENVE 3997 Directed Research in Environmental Engineering (#11479)

Proposed Catalog Copy

ENVE 3997. Directed Research in Environmental Engineering

Credits by arrangement, not to exceed three per semester. Prerequisite: Open only with consent of supervising instructor; enrollment in the School of Engineering. Course may be repeated for a maximum of six credits.

Individualized or group research conducted under the supervision of the instructor.

Discussion

- It was noted that Scholastic Standards has not yet officially requested renumbering, but the department is moving ahead.
- One member felt that a research course being graded S/U was unusual. He did not understand the justification. Other members noted that their departments had similar courses that were S/U graded, since the work often involved grading the process rather than the product.
- A search of the catalog revealed that a CE version of the same course is letter graded, which lead some members to believe the course might have been mistakenly marked S/U. P. Bedore suggested tabling it pending consultation with the department.

L. Schlesselman motioned to table ENVE 3997 (#11479). J. Chandy seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. ENVE 4997 Independent Research in Environmental Engineering (#11481)

Note: ENVE 4997 was held for the same reason as ENVE 3997.

E. New Graduate-level S/U Graded Courses:

1. Motion to untable (J. Chandy, G. Stuart) ISG 5730 Professional Skills and Competencies (#10394)

Note: Course was tabled pending consultation with MCB, PNB, and PHAR.

Proposed Catalog Copy

ISG 5730. Professional Skills and Competencies

Variable credits (one to two credits). Repeatable for credit up to ten credits. Instructor consent required.

Career skills development toward effective practice in health care research, diagnostic and/or clinic settings. Students taking this course will be assigned a final grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory).

Discussion

- An update was provided by the proposer. An MCB faculty member chairs the committee, so MCB was represented in the development of this course. Rachel O'Neill from MCB also noted that this course is intended for a different group of students.
- One member was not really satisfied with the proposer's explanation, but would not hold the course up.
- There was originally some confusion on the idea of it being a "multi-semester" course, but this was clarified.

Motion to add ISG 5730 (#10394) was approved with two abstentions.

B. New Business

A. Revise 1000- and 2000-level courses:

1. Motion to revise (G. Stuart, T. Casa) CAMS 1123 Intermediate Latin I (#12891) [Revise prereqs and description]

Current Catalog Copy

CAMS 1123. Intermediate Latin I

3 credits. Prerequisites: CAMS 1122 or two years or more of Latin in high school. Not open for credit to students who have had CAMS 1124.

Review of the essentials of grammar. Reading of classical Latin prose and poetry with emphasis on Cicero and Ovid or Virgil.

Revised Catalog Copy

CAMS 1123. Intermediate Latin I

3 Credits. Prerequisite: CAMS 1122, two years of Latin in high school, or instructor consent. May not be taken out of sequence after passing CAMS 1124.

Review of the essentials of grammar. Reading of classical Latin prose and poetry with emphasis on Cicero and Ovid or Virgil.

Discussion

- The syllabus needs a grading scale.

Motion to revise CAMS 1123 (#12891) was approved unanimously.

2. Motion to revise (J. Terni, J. Chandy) CAMS 1124 Intermediate Latin II (#12890) [Revise prereqs and description]

Current Catalog Copy

CAMS 1124. Intermediate Latin II

3.00 credits Prerequisites: CAMS 1123. Cannot be taken for credit after passing CAMS 3102.

Review of the essentials of grammar. Reading of classical Latin prose and poetry with emphasis on Cicero and Ovid or Vergil.

Revised Catalog Copy

CAMS 1124. Intermediate Latin II

Three Credits. Prerequisite: CAMS 1123 or instructor consent.

Introduction to the reading of classical Latin prose and poetry with emphasis on Cicero, Ovid or Virgil, with particular attention given to a review of the essentials of grammar.

Discussion

- There was a question about removing language related to passing CAMS 3102, but it was determined that this was fine.
- The syllabus needs a grading scale. It was clarified that a grading scale is a best-practice suggestion in the syllabus, not a requirement.

Motion to revise CAMS 1124 (#12890) was approved unanimously.

- B. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends deletion of the following 3000- and 4000-level courses from the General Education curriculum:

1. Motion to delete (J. Chandy, D. Knecht) ECON 2312W Empirical Methods in Economics II (#11981)

Discussion

- The department is only dropping the W version, not the non-W.

Motion to delete ECON 2312W (#11981) was approved unanimously.

- C. Revise 3000- and 4000-level S/U graded courses:

1. Motion to revise (S. Rusch, M. Hatfield) MARN 4891 Internship in Marine Sciences (#12951) [Revise repeatability]

Current Catalog Copy

MARN 4891. Internship in Marine Sciences

1.00 - 3.00 credits | May be repeated for a total of 3 credits. Prerequisites: Recommended preparation: Nine credits of MARN courses at the 3000 level or above.

An internship under the direction of MARN faculty. Placements stress application of academic training. A journal of activities is required. One credit may be earned for each 42 hours of pre-approved activities in a semester to a maximum of three credits. Students taking this course will be assigned a final grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory). With a change in topic, may be repeated for credit, not to exceed 3 credits.

Revised Catalo Copy

MARN 4891. Internship in Marine Sciences

One to three credits. May be repeated for a total of nine credits. Recommended preparation: Nine credits of MARN courses at the 3000 level or above. Instructor consent required.

An internship under the direction of MARN faculty. Placements stress application of academic training. A journal of activities is required. One credit may be earned for each 42 hours of pre-approved activities in a semester to a maximum of three credits. Students taking this course will be assigned a final grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory).

Discussion

- Can the course be taken for three credits per semester or nine? This is unclear. P. Bedore will clarify with the proposer.

Motion to revise MARN 4891 (#12951) was approved unanimously.

Attendance (in bold): **Pam Bedore (Chair), Mark Brand, Tutita Casa, John Chandy, Marc Hatfield, Kate Fuller, David Knecht, Matt McKenzie, David Ouimette, Sharyn Rusch, Lauren Schlesselman (Ex-Officio), Gina Stuart, Jennifer Terni, Manuela Wagner**

Respectfully submitted by Karen C. P. McDermott

Adjourned 10:18am