

University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes  
Meeting Subtitles: “The Joys and Sorrows of Laundry” or  
“The Illusion of Choice” or  
“The Quest to Create a Perfectly Crispy Resolution”  
October 19, 2021 from 2:00pm-3:30pm  
Meeting in WebEx

**I. Opening Business**

A. Welcome

B. Minutes for:

a. October 12, 2021

**J. Yakovich motioned to approve. T. Bontly seconded. S. Wilson noted a needed correction to the motion to revise ARE 3440W. Approved with correction with three abstentions.**

b. October 13, 2021

**J. Yakovich motioned to approve. M. Hatfield seconded. Approved as submitted with three abstentions.**

C. We will next convene in the electronic ether on November 2, 2021.

**II. Old Course Business**

A. The University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee recommends addition of the following course:

1. Motion to untable (M. Hatfield, D. Ouimette) UNIV 4840 SYE Seminar (#8504) [Add letter-graded version]

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

UNIV 4840. SYE Seminars

1.00 credits

Prerequisites: Open only to seniors; instructor consent required.

Grading Basis: Graded

An overview of the transition to life beyond the University with a focus on life skill awareness and development including financial literacy, career readiness, and reflection on the meaning and value of the undergraduate experience. Each section will be open to select populations based on major or other affiliation and will have unique elements within assignments or in-class activities that are related to the specific entity. Assignments will be graded with a rubric for a letter grade.

*Discussion*

- E. Schultz noted the catalog number proposed in the catalog copy is incorrect; the actual catalog number for proposed course is 4840. It is meant to be a letter-graded version of an existing course, UNIV 4820, which is S/U graded. E. Schultz felt it was acceptable to approve the department as long as they can confirm that 4840 is the intended number.

- J. Yakovich noted that the motion was initially tabled because the grading system was not included in original syllabus and due to typos in the syllabus. It was unclear if the typos had been corrected in the new version.

**The motion to add UNIV 4840 (#8504) was approved unanimously.**

### III. New Course Business

A. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends deletion of the following 3000-and 4000-level course from General Education:

1. Motion to delete (J. Yakovich, T. Bontly) HDFS 3240W Aging in American Society (#3481) [Deleting just the W version]

#### *Discussion*

- E. Schultz noted that the CAR provides no explanation for the drop, but also noted that this course was previously un-cross listed from a SOCI course. M. Wagner indicated the reason for the drop was that it had not been offered in some time.

**The motion to delete HDFS 3240W (#3481) was approved unanimously.**

### IV. Motions from Delta2GE

- S. Wilson recapped the progress to date. Business before committee is to consider the materials sent to it in shaping and considering the resolution or set of resolutions. Working with parliamentarian for guidance on framing resolution(s). Committee is comfortable with revisions to section about Faculty Navigators but no motion was made as this document is not meant to be a resolution.
- E. Schultz requested that the latest version of the document be distributed to the committee. S. Wilson added the document to Google Docs and the link was distributed to the committee by M. Wagner:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qtC7RpqerW6zIYWtnC\\_rM\\_ArTV7Cv7yP/edit?invite=CM2TIIUB](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qtC7RpqerW6zIYWtnC_rM_ArTV7Cv7yP/edit?invite=CM2TIIUB)
- Further discussion about concerns that courses must satisfy both learning objectives of Topic of Inquiry (henceforth: "TOI") 2.
- Some members expressed concerns that the TOIs varied in how many learning objectives a course must meet to qualify. One member worried that this could lead to more course proposals for those TOIs with less strict requirements than others. Should there be more parity? DeltaGE Working groups were given latitude to determine the requirements of each TOI, but one member noted it would be incumbent upon this committee to justify the standards of each.
- E. Schultz asked if learning objectives are being designed to be assessable outcomes or objectives in a more general sense from which assessable outcomes would flow? M. Wagner said TOI objectives are meant to be larger and that there are learning outcome

examples on the Delta website. She said the group worked to ensure that the curriculum is linked with what NECHE wants in terms of assessability.

- S. Stifano said K. McDermott did some research after the last meeting regarding the concern that current CA 4 courses might not convert to TOI 2. She found that 59/100 shouldn't have issues while just 13/100 might have significant issues. This eased his concerns somewhat.
- The committee opened discussion on TOI 3.
- One member asked if there was any concern about overlap between the TOIs, particularly with TOI 3. M. Wagner and T. Long noted that there was strong demand from student groups and institute directors for a separate TOI about diversity, equity, and social justice. M. Wagner said USG has been very vocal about wanting to include awareness of anti-black racism in the Gen Ed curriculum, and that their biggest wish was to make the large UNIV anti-black racism course compulsory for all students. The committee decided against it. One member asked if this amounted to an interest in mandatory cultural competence training? M. Wagner said that gaining knowledge, skills, and tools to be culturally competent is a lifelong process that can't be accomplished through a simple training. Wants those tools to be integrated into all TOI courses.
- One member asked for a better definition of "biological diversity" in the description of TOI 3.
- Should the learning objectives for the TOIs include pedagogical and instructional characteristics, or should they focus on learning outcomes? The first learning objective of TOI 3 requires dialogic engagement. M. Wagner said there was a strong feeling in DeltaGE that for TOIs, rather than learning about something, there was a certain way to engage with these topics. Dialogic engagement is crucial. S. Wilson asked whether this was specific to the learning objective or about the pedagogical approach across TOIs. T. Bontly noted that such an approach raises issues related to resources; to do this, you need small classes, or need to be out in community. Can't do that for every course if there will be hundreds. M. Wagner said that the resource question did factor in determining whether a course must satisfy all or just some of a TOI's learning objectives.
- One member asked if for the purposes of the resolution it was sufficient to say that courses must satisfy some or all of the learning objectives and then leave it to the implementation group to figure out the details. The member's concern was that if courses must satisfy all objectives, that could create pressure to lower the standard for satisfying standards just to ensure that there are a sufficient number of courses. M. Wagner worried this approach would mean that some intentions and considerations of the TOIs would get lost. No matter what is decided in this group, there will likely be amendments on Senate floor.
- S. Rusch noted that CLAS and other schools/colleges have additional general education requirements and asked if that will continue to be the case. M. Wagner said the Delta task force was only looking into requirements for all students and haven't looked at school requirements – nor have they been approached by any of the schools about this. Once the new system is in place, that will likely be next step. S. Stifano said this created a "nasty

chicken and egg problem." CLAS C&C has unofficially decided they have to wait and see, and he imagines he will empanel a subcommittee as soon as the school is sure of what the new Gen Eds will look like.

**Attendance (in bold): Suzanne Wilson** (Chair), Alana Adams, **Mary Ann Amalaradjou**, **Tom Bontly**, Mark Brand, Peter Diplock (ex-officio), Kate Fuller, **Marc Hatfield**, Dalton Hawie (*student rep*), **Matt McKenzie**, George Michna, **David Ouimette**, **Sharyn Rusch**, **Eric Schultz**, **Steve Stifano**, **Manuela Wagner** (Ex-Officio), **Julia Yakovich**, *Cindy Zhang (sabbatical Fall '21)*, *Terra Zuidema (Registrar alternate)*

**Guest: Tom Long**