

Minutes
Liberal Studies Committee
27 August 2015

Present: Y. Asamoah, M. Correia, M. Knoch, R. Kostelnik, D. Pistole, F. Slack, R. Sweeny, Sudeshna Ghosh
Excused: D. Doverspike

I. For action – Motion to approve the Minutes of 10 –20 April 2015 – with minor correction as follows: Women’s Studies prefix was not approved as WGS and must be changed back to WMST

Asamoah/Sweeny motion to approve – Passed: Unanimous

II. For Discussion

1. Caleb Finegan from the Honor College met with us to discuss adding a fourth section of HRNC 202, Science Core for Spring 2016 with one of the 2 units coming from Geography/Regional Planning. Students would get SOC credit for this section.

The Committee approves of this addition and feels that this is a variability of delivery issue. Therefore, it does not need to go through a formal curricular process.

HRNC 499 Honors Synthesis is still being transitioned to another course.

2. Portia Diaz from the Library met with us to discuss the LIBR course offerings. The discussion centered on their 1cr (LIBR 151 Introduction to Information Literacy) which is not a LS course and their 2cr (LIBR 251 Information Access in the Digital Age) which is a LS Elective course.

The Committee approves of the proposal to remove the LS Elective designation from LIBR 251 Information Access in the Digital Age and to revise LIBR 201 Internet and Multimedia as a LS Elective course and remove it’s cross listing with BTED/COMM/COSC/IFMG.

3. The Committee discussed allowing selected graduate classes to count for Writing Intensive classes in a student’s undergraduate curriculum. The Committee feels that these courses would meet the writing requirement but we are concerned about creating a trend in all graduate programs. However, since this appears to be in programs with low numbers of students and with the looming change in the way writing proficiencies are determined we feel that we can support these requests.

We will contact the graduate committee to provide them with this information and if they feel they should have some input into the process.

4. Discussion of adding wording to # 2 on Form C of the template for the new curriculum such as “And then, provide a rationale...”. The Director will check to see if we can add this to the form.

III. Course and Program Revisions/Proposals

Writing

Type I Writing Commitment

15-39 Stephanie Keppich – Communications Media

Correia/Kostelnik motion to provisionally approve – Passed: Unanimous

We would like the author to be more specific in the way they will be evaluating the writing samples (more than “grades will be given for writing samples”).

There are also a number of clerical issues such as Journal entries are worth 10% in the paragraph description, 5% in the table and then 12.5% in the total grade column.

15-40 Laura Strong – Professional Studies in Education

Sweeny/Knoch motion to approve as Type I Professor – Passed: Unanimous

15-45 Special one semester approval of Type I Writing Commitment

Annaliese Piraino – Communications Media – note the professor that was scheduled to teach this course was elected as department chair and the course is listed as a W course for the fall semester. The chair has recommended a one-time approval for this professor in this course COMM 480 – Crisis Communication to cover the already scheduled W course.

Correia/Asamoah motion to approve a Fall 2015 only Type I Writing Commitment for Annaliese Piraino from Communications Media – Passed: Unanimous

IV. Course Revisions/New Course

Communications Media

15-35a – COMM 205 Making Presentations with Media – LS Elective – Oral
Communication

The Learning Outcomes need to have rationales that tie them to the Outcomes. Using the “old” format of Outcome / EUSLO / Rationale would be best.

The course does meet the LSE Oral Communications category but it seems to be more technical than a LS Elective course.

Asamoah/Sweeny motion to provisionally approve – Passed: Unanimous

Geoscience

15-28a – GEOS 119 Geology of Energy Resources – LS Elective – Scientific
Literacy

The course cannot be both a Natural Science course and a LS Elective. We assume that the LS Elective, Scientific Reading box should be unchecked. The Committee feels it is best suited for a Natural Science Knowledge area course.

There are a number of sentences in which the wording should be cleaned up.

Correia/Asamoah motion to provisionally approve – Passed: Unanimous