

Liberal Studies Committee Minutes
October 4, 2007
3:30 pm
Clark Hall 317

Present: M. Sadler, G. Wilson, T. Wacker, F. Slack, C. Zoni, M Swinker, D. Pistole
M.Hildebrandt, E. Auvil, S. Reid, M. Browne, Y. Asamoah

Guests: Dr. Gawdat Bahgat; Dr. David Ferguson

The minutes from the September 27 meeting were approved on a Wacker/Wilson motion.

Dr. Bahgat presented his LBST 499 proposal, Iraq – What Lies Ahead? The committee believes that the proposal is timely and should generate interest. Provisional approval was given on a Wacker/Swinker motion with the following recommendations: 1) in the publicity statement, provide students with a realistic estimate of the required reading and/or required text books, 2) need to include a bibliography that reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the course, 3) suggest a more detailed explanation of how the class participation grade will be determined, 4) need to include an attendance policy, 5) suggest that the topical outline include more detail and perhaps the amount of time anticipated for each topic, 6) exam policy –if you plan to give essay exams, provide students with more explanation so as to the format for exams, and 7) paper – more explanation about what is expected would be helpful to students. Once these suggestions are addressed, the revised proposal should be forwarded to M Sadler.

Met with Dr. David Ferguson and considered his request to allow students who enroll for MUSC 281 Music of the British Invasion, to count that course as meeting their fine arts requirement. Following a review of the LS criteria and much discussion, there was consensus that the proposed course does not meet the established LS criteria for the fine arts category. On a Pistole/Asamoah motion, the request was denied. While the committee sees value in the proposed course, it seems to be a better fit for the LS Elective category or it has the potential to be developed as an LBST 499 (objectives and assignments would have to be redesigned for a senior level student). Dr. Ferguson is encouraged to re-submit his request if he is interested in pursuing either of these options.

Brief report on the progress of the LS Revision Subcommittees was provided.

On a Hildebrandt/Wilson motion the meeting adjourned at 4:30.