

Liberal Studies Committee Minutes
April 14, 2011
3:30 p.m.
Stapleton 101

Present: Y. Asamoah, J. Domaracki, M. Hildebrandt, M. Knoch, D. Pistole, J. Su, M. Swinker J. Tomlinson, T. Wacker

Excused: M. Florez, F. Slack Guest: Susan Drummond, APSCUF president

For Action:

II. Motion to approve minutes of 7 April, 2011: Asamoah/Domaracki - Passed: Unanimous.

II C. Program or Course Revisions:

The program revision in Athletic Training will be returned noting that there is no need to list Health and Wellness: HPED/FDNT/NURS 143 as a Liberal Studies Requirement since that is how it is currently listed in the catalog. The committee was also concerned that it might preclude using Military Experience to fulfill this category.

Discussion:

Summary of discussions of implementation to date – 14 April, 2011

Implementation date: LSC and UWUCC passed motions for Fall 2012

Identified two issues with implementation

1. Curriculum Implementation
2. Transition of current students to the new curriculum

Curriculum Implementation

I. Courses

- A. All current liberal studies courses will all be grandfathered into the new curriculum
- B. There will be a three year phase in of revised and new courses.
- C. There are 4 courses that will need to be done immediately (fall 2011):
 - English Composition I
 - History
 - Fine Arts

Dimensions of Wellness

- D. Yearly “due dates” for courses – cannot wait until the end of year 3
1. One yearly possibility – year 1 - Knowledge area, year 2 - Liberal Studies Electives and year 3 - Non-Western
 2. Other considerations for yearly implementation
 - a. coverage area – more than one area.
 - b. number of courses offered by a department.
 - c. how often the course is offered.
 - d. enrollment – larger done earlier in process?
 3. The committee received the spreadsheet listing all of the LS courses. Pistole noted that there are 97 LS electives, 80 Non-Western, and 99 Knowledge area courses that will have to be revised. We will discuss this issue at the 21st April, 2011 meeting.
- D. W courses – the committee feels that a review of W courses and professors would be appropriate as we review all of the other liberal studies courses. In addition, we need to continue to stress that W courses should not have more than 25 students in a section.
- E. Types of guidelines and workshops that would help faculty/advisors the most will be discussed at the 21st April, 2011 meeting.

II. Departments

- A. Department curricular revisions must be done by 1 December, 2011 (in time for the new catalog in January-February 2012)
1. Fast track concept - just the course listings (as in current catalog)?
 - a. easiest would be if departments want to make the “lost” hours free electives.
 - b. many departments will need only “lose” the LS hours (many Education programs are well over 120 already)
 - c. what constitutes a minor change that could be fast tracked
 1. all additions to get back to 120?
 2. if over 120 – reducing only LS courses?
 2. The committee discussed the “two sides” of the fast-track – everyone will have to go through the LSC and some will also need to have UWUCC review as well. We recognize that all proposals will ultimately be reviewed by the UWUCC – we are discussing the fast track possibilities/issues in this discussion.

2. Types of guidelines and workshops that would help faculty/advisors the most will be discussed at the 21st April, 2011 meeting.
3. Groups to work with to expedite revisions
 - a. College curriculum committees
 - b. Departmental curriculum committees

Transition of current students to the new curriculum

I. Course offerings

A. LBST 499 Synthesis and 4 credit College Writing – we would like to stop offering them in Fall 2012

1. What about students who might “demand” they have to have this course since it is in their catalog (contract)?
 - a. The committee felt there would be very few of these and that they can hopefully be dealt with on a one to one basis.
2. English 101 - 4 credits to 3 credits
 - a. There may be sophomores, juniors and seniors who did not take the 4 credit English course their freshman year. Asamoah thought this number was about 10% of incoming freshmen (about 200 students possibly).
 - b. The committee thought that most of these students could be “steered” to the 3 credit English course by advisors.
3. LBST 499 Synthesis – no longer offered
 - a. 499's will need to be offered through the summer of 2012.
 - b. Students graduating in fall 2012 or beyond should be advised to seek a substitute course if they need to get to 120 credits.
 - c. Advisors will need to work closely with students who will have junior status in the 2011-2012 academic year.

B. D/F Repeats

1. The committee discussed the issue of a student who receives a D or F in either the 4 credit English or Synthesis courses.
2. The problem for English is that there will be a reduction of credit for that student (4-3) which might cause problems for getting the student to 120. We discussed the need to advise these students about 1 credit course possibilities – perhaps even providing a list for advisors.

3. Synthesis is more problematic as we anticipate no more sections of the course once reach Fall 2012. We discussed the option of substituting another course for the synthesis but this does not remove the D or F. Further discussions on this issue will be necessary.
- C. Incompletes – should not be a problem as that involves the professor not a course.
- D. How to work with students and advisors to move current students to the new curriculum
1. Current students
 - a. Documentation that clearly lays out what they need to do and what it will mean for them to switch to the new curriculum
 - b. Current students must be assured that all of the LS courses that they have taken in the old curriculum do indeed count in the new curriculum – no “wasted” courses
 2. Types of guidelines and workshops that would help faculty/advisors the most will be discussed at the 21st April, 2011 meeting.

Included in these minutes are the new framework and side-by-side comparison of the changes from the current curriculum to the new curriculum.

New Curriculum Revision

Liberal Studies Framework

Liberal Studies Requirements - All students must fulfill the requirements of the university's Liberal Studies program. This involves a minimum of 43 credits among Learning Skills, Knowledge Areas and Liberal Studies electives. The number of credits may rise slightly depending on student choices. Different colleges and sometimes departments within colleges may have specific variations as to how these Liberal Studies requirements are to be met.

LEARNING SKILLS		12-13cr
English Composition I and II	6cr	
Mathematics	3-4cr	
Dimensions of Wellness	3cr	
KNOWLEDGE AREAS		28-29cr
Humanities	9cr	
One course in history, one in literature and one in philosophy or religious studies.		
Fine Arts: One Course from List	3cr	
Natural Science: Choose 1 Option	7-8cr	
Option I (8 credits): Natural Science Laboratory Courses Any two courses with laboratories (4cr each) from the natural science laboratory course list.		
Option II (7 credits): One Laboratory Course plus One Non-laboratory Course One course with a laboratory (4cr) from the natural science laboratory course list and one course (3cr) from the natural science non-laboratory course list.		
Social Science: Three Courses from List	9cr	
LIBERAL STUDIES ELECTIVES		3-9cr
Liberal Studies Electives - syllabi for courses designed to fulfill the Liberal Studies Electives requirement must provide course content that enables students to achieve one or more of the following: global citizenship, information literacy, oral communication, quantitative reasoning, scientific literacy, or technological literacy.		
TOTAL		43-51cr

NOTES

1. Global and Multicultural Awareness: One course from List 3cr
Students must fulfill this requirement by completing one course from the list; most of these courses will at the same time fulfill other requirements set by Liberal Studies or in some cases by a college or department.
2. Writing Across the Curriculum: Minimum of Two "W" Courses
All students must include among the total courses required for graduation a minimum of two designated writing-intensive courses. One of these courses must be in the student's primary major; the other(s) may be in Liberal Studies, college or major requirements, or free electives. Such courses, which involve extensive use of writing as part of the learning experience, are identified with a "W" as part of the section number in each semester's schedule of classes listing on URSA.

New curriculum framework - side-by-side comparison with current curriculum

New Curriculum Framework	Credits	Current Curriculum (changes)	Credits
<i>Learning Skills</i>			
English Composition I and II	6	English Composition I and II	7
Mathematics	3-4	Mathematics	3-6
Dimensions of Wellness	3	Health and Wellness	3
Global and Multicultural Awareness*		Non-Western Culture Course	
<i>Knowledge Areas</i>			
Humanities: Three Courses	9		
Fine Arts: One Course	3		
Natural Science Option I and II	7-8	Natural Science Option I & II	8-10
Social Science: Three Courses	9		
Liberal Studies Electives**	3-9		
Written Communication: 2 Courses***			
		Synthesis - deleted	3
Total	43-51	Total	48-56

*Global and Multicultural Awareness: One course from List 3cr
 Students must fulfill this requirement by completing one course from the list; most of these courses will at the same time fulfill other requirements set by Liberal Studies or in some cases by a college or department.

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Motion to Adjourn: Tomlinson/Knoch. Passed: Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.