

**GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2008**

Present: Pam Bowers, Jon Comer, Theo Drab, Jeretta Nord, Michael Rabens, Chuck Tauer, Ed Walkiewicz, Arthur Webb, Mark White, Michael Logan, James Scott, and Gail Gates.

1. New General Education Designation Requests

HHP 2603 – Total Wellness, request “S” designation, effective Spring 2009.
Approved “S” designation, effective Spring 2009.

HIST 3980 – History and Film, request “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2009.
Approved “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2009.

HIST 3980 – Late Imperial China, request “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2009.
Approved “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2009.

2. Past General Education Requests

For record keeping purposes, the requested revisions were made to the following course and approval is final:

PHIL 3920 – Applied Ethics in Contemporary American Film, request “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2009.
Approved “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2009 pending revision of the on-line form and syllabus to include a minimum of 10 pages of writing requirements.

3. Review of OSRHE General Education Core

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) policy 3.14 Undergraduate Degree Requirements includes:

6 Hours U.S. History and U.S. Government

U.S. History [from OSRHE policy]

U.S. history is defined as that discipline or field of study which presents a chronological record of significant events in the life of the United States of America. This discipline normally includes all of those political, demographic, geographic, social, economic, cultural, and related factors necessary to explain past events and to anticipate future ones. To meet the intent of the U.S. history requirement, a course of study 1) should be general in nature, covering a significant span of natural time, 2) should be taught by a faculty member in the discipline or department of history, and 3) should be listed in the institutional catalog under the title of U.S. history. Specialized courses in economic, social, cultural, or political history will thus not satisfy the intent of this policy.

U.S. Government [from OSRHE policy]

U. S. government is that academic discipline which treats the origins, organization, and operation of the United State of America with regard to its political and

governmental functions. To satisfy the U.S. government requirement, a course of study 1) should be general in nature, rather than narrowly specific and 2) should be taught under the auspices of the department of government or political science. In some instances, it may be desirable to satisfy this requirement by integrating U.S. history and U.S. government into one comprehensive, sequential course of study.

HIST 1103 - Survey of American History

Meaning, vitality, and uniqueness of United States history since 1492 through a thematic examination of the nation's past. Satisfies, with POLS 1113, the State Regents requirement of six credit hours of American history and American government before graduation. *No credit for students with prior credit in HIST 1483 or 1493.*

HIST 1483 - American History to 1865

From European background through the Civil War. Satisfies, with POLS 1113, State Regents requirement of six credit hours of American history and American government before graduation. *No credit for students with credit in HIST 1103.*

HIST 1493 - American History Since 1865

May be taken independently of HIST 1483. Development of the United States including the growth of industry and its impact on society and foreign affairs. Satisfies, with POLS 1113, State Regents requirement of six credit hours of American history and American government before graduation. *No credit for students with credit in HIST 1103.*

POLS 1113 - American Government

Organization, processes and functions of the national government of the United States. Satisfies, with HIST 1103 or 1483 or 1493, the State Regents requirement of six credit hours of American history and American government before graduation.

Members wanted to know about the policy that requires multiple course sections to have the same requirements.

Textbook Policy 2.04

(<https://stillwater.sharepoint.okstate.edu/Policies/Shared%20Documents/Ordering%20Textbooks.pdf>) that addresses multiple section courses:

2.04. The department head will ensure that the same textbooks are used for multiple sections of a course. (This is to ensure that students enrolled in different sections of the same course receive essentially the same textbook information. Exceptions may be made upon approval of the department head and dean for class sections where students differ significantly from normal sections (i.e. special sections for majors or international students), or where an instructor's teaching style or approach differs from the normal approach, (i.e. case study, modular, or thematic designs).

Dr. Logan noted that the sections of History 1103 are taught by faculty and doctoral students and the content of the courses is driven by the faculty's interest and research. The faculty attempt to develop skills in reading and analytical thinking. There is a coordinator for the program who reviews the syllabi for each course. The department also trains students on how to write essays.

Dr. Scott emphasized that all Political Science instructors except one faculty member uses the same textbook created by the department. The course objectives are the same but some delivery methods vary depending on the instructor. Teaching assistants train for one year before they are allowed to teach. There is a coordinator for the course and the course is also overseen by the chair of the department's undergraduate curricular committee. The department strives for balance and fairness in presenting political issues.

Members asked if Northern Oklahoma College (NOC) and OSU coordinate teaching content and methods for these courses. Dr. Gates noted that OSU faculty meet once a year with NOC to discuss course content, etc. {Note: In the past year 39 OSU students enrolled in POLS 113 at NOC compared to 3000 students who took the class at OSU. Last year 41 OSU students took HIST 1483 or 1493 at NOC compared to more than 2700 students who took HIST 1103 at OSU. Enrollment information at NOC by course is available on SIS screen 105 under the course TEMP 1999. 500 sections indicate enrollment by OSU students and 600 sections show enrollment by students who attend only NOC.}

Members of the council voted to affirm continuation of the above general education courses (HIST 1103, 11483, 1493 and POLS 1113), effective Fall 2008. Members recommend that the History department develop common course objectives for HIST 1103.

The General Education Advisory Council will review the English composition courses in the next meeting.

Adjourn: 12:00 p.m.