

**GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2008**

Present: Pam Bowers, Theo Drab, Joe Fowler, Hebbie Purvis, Michael Rabens, Ed Walkiewicz, Arthur Webb, Mark White, Roger Zierau, and Gail Gates.

1. New General Education Designation Requests

ENTO 2991 – Introduction to the Science of Entomology Laboratory, requests “L, N” designations, effective Spring 2009.

Approved “L, N” designations, effective Spring 2009.

PHIL 3920 – Ethics and International Justice, request the “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

Approved “H, I” designations, effective Fall 2008.

PHIL 3920 – Ethics and Justice in Development, request the “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

Approved “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

REL 4050 – Understanding Islam, request the “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Summer 2008.

Approved “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Summer 2008.

REL 4050 - Understanding Islam, request the “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

Approved “H, I” designations, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

WMST 3450 – Language and Gender, request the “D” designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

Approved “D” designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2008.

2. General Education Five Year Review of “H and H, I” Designations

a. Tabled from March 10, 2008 Meeting

HIST 3263 – Modern Europe 1815 to 1914, request continuation of “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

3/10/08 - Tabled

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

HIST 3323 – Modern France 1789 to Present, request continuation of “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

3/10/08 - Tabled

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

RUSS 3123 – Russian Culture and Civilization, request continuation of “H, I” designations, effective Spring 2008.

2/13/08 – Tabled

Tabled continuation of the “H” designation pending clarification of the writing requirement on the syllabus.

Discontinue the “I” designation, effective Spring 2009. The syllabus does not show that at least 50% of the course relates to contemporary cultures. Please

remove outdated information on “Guidelines for Evaluating Courses for General Education Designations” and replace it with “General Education Courses Area Designations Criteria and Goals”, <http://osu.okstate.edu/acadaffr/aa/gened-CriteriaGoals.htm>.

b. New Reviews

HONR 1013 – The Ancient World, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

HONR 1023 – The Middle Ages and Renaissance, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

HONR 1033 – The Early Modern World, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

HONR 1043 – the Twentieth Century, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

HONR 2063 – Ethical Issues Across Cultural Perspectives, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

HONR 3013 – Holocaust Studies Seminar, request continuation of the “H, I” designations, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H, I” designation, effective Spring 2008.

LA 3673 – History and Theory of Landscape Architecture, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The syllabus does not indicate if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments. In addition, not all students are required to write a paper.

MUSI 2573 – Introduction to Music, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria.

¹Writing warning: When this course is reviewed in 3 years it must meet the writing requirement for H, S, D and I courses is defined below:

Lower division courses - outside of class writing assignments appropriate to the discipline that are graded with feedback on writing. Minimum of 5 pages of writing assignments during semester.

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

MUSI 3583 – Traditional World Music, request continuation of the “H, I” designations, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H, I” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria.

PHIL 1013 – Philosophical Classics, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Discontinue “H” designation, effective Spring 2009. The course has no outside of class writing requirements and therefore does not meet the writing criteria for the “H” general education designation.¹

PHIL 1213 – Philosophies of Life, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 3113 – Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria.

PHIL 3213 – Modern Philosophy, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The syllabus does not indicate if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

PHIL 3313 – 19th and 20th Century Philosophy, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 3413 – Ethics, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The syllabus does not indicate if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

PHIL 3513 – Social Philosophy, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

¹Writing warning: When this course is reviewed in 3 years it must meet the writing requirement for H, S, D and I courses is defined below:

Lower division courses - outside of class writing assignments appropriate to the discipline that are graded with feedback on writing. Minimum of 5 pages of writing assignments during semester.

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

PHIL 3613 – Philosophy of Religion, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria.

PHIL 3713 – Philosophy of Education, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 3803 – Business Ethics, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria.

PHIL 3813 – recent American Philosophy, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 3823 – Engineering Ethics, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of individual writing does not meet the criteria.

PHIL 3833 – Biomedical Ethics, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria and the syllabus does not indicate if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

PHIL 3843 – Philosophy of Law, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 3913 – Existentialism, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The syllabus does not indicate if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

¹Writing warning: When this course is reviewed in 3 years it must meet the writing requirement for H, S, D and I courses is defined below:

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

PHIL 3943 – Asian Philosophy, request continuation of “H, I” designations, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H, I” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 4013 – Perspectives on Death and Dying, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 4113 – Philosophy of Art and Literature, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the required writing in the syllabus does not appear to meet the criteria.

PHIL 4313 – Philosophy of Mind, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designations, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 4453 – Philosophy of Literature, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designations, effective Spring 2008, with writing warning.¹ Writing requirements on the syllabus are not clear.

PHIL 4713 – Philosophy of Science, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

PHIL 4733 – Philosophy of Biology, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

POLS 4653 – Contemporary Political Thought, request continuation of “H” designations, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not appear to meet the criteria.

REL 1103 – Religions of Mankind, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Discontinue “H” designation, effective Spring 2009. The syllabus indicates no out of class writing requirements and therefore does not meet the writing criteria for the “H” general education designation.¹

¹Writing warning: When this course is reviewed in 3 years it must meet the writing requirement for H, S, D and I courses is defined below:

Lower division courses - outside of class writing assignments appropriate to the discipline that are graded with feedback on writing. Minimum of 5 pages of writing assignments during semester.

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

REL 3243 – Paul and the Early Church, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

REL 3573 – Religions of Native Americans, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The syllabus does not indicate if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

REL 4113 – Islam Cultural Perspectives, request continuation of “H, I” designations, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H, I” designation, effective Spring 2008.

TH 2413 – Introduction to the Theatre, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

TH 3903 – History of Costume and Décor, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Discontinue “H” designation, effective Spring 2009. The syllabus indicates no required out of class writing and does not meet the writing criteria for the “H” general education designation.¹

TH 3923 – Theatre History I, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria and it is not clear if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

TH 3933 – Theatre History II, request continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008.

Approved continuation of the “H” designation, effective Spring 2008 with writing warning¹. The length of the writing requirements does not meet the criteria and it is not clear if students have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments.

¹Writing warning: When this course is reviewed in 3 years it must meet the writing requirement for H, S, D and I courses is defined below:

Lower division courses - outside of class writing assignments appropriate to the discipline that are graded with feedback on writing. Minimum of 5 pages of writing assignments during semester.

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

3. **Courses Not Submitted for General Education Five Year Review of “H and H, I” Designations:**

HIST 3253 – Absolutism Enlightenment 1648 1798
Approved discontinuation “H” designation, effective Fall 2008.

PHIL 2113 – Introduction to Philosophy
Approved discontinuation “H” designation, effective Fall 2008.

REL 3123 – Old Testament Prophets
Approved discontinuation “H” designation, effective Fall 2008.

REL 3613 – African Cultures and Religion
Approved discontinuation “H, I” designation, effective Fall 2008.

4. **Other Business**

Dr. Bowers noted that on Friday, March 7th, University Assessment and Testing (UAT) held it's annual meeting with the Assessment Council, General Education Advisory Council, and General Education Assessment Committee to discuss the general education assessment results and process.

These following recommendations can be implemented immediately upon agreement with GEAC and the Provost's office. The responsible unit is indicated in parentheses.

- ♦ (UAT) Collect data via assistance from Institutional Research and Information Management (IRIM) on classifications and majors of students in all general education courses for a reasonable period of time in the recent past (i.e., 1-2-3 years). Use these data to determine general education courses to target at the 1000-, 2000-, 3000-, and 4000-levels in order to secure both a representative cross section of majors, and an acceptable distribution of classifications (noting that many juniors or seniors may take certain 1000- and 2000-level general education courses).
- ♦ (UAT / Academic Affairs) Engage Provost Strathe in working with the Deans so they understand the importance of, and the Provost's expectation that, faculty members teaching courses with general education designations will provide written artifacts when asked to do so. In addition, the understanding should include that Deans educate the unit (school/department) heads regarding their expectation that faculty submit artifacts as requested.
- ♦ (GEAC) Include a “statement of understanding” in the General Education database process that requires the person submitting a course for general education designation approval to indicate their understanding that they are expected to submit artifacts as requested. In addition, the person requesting the designation should be asked to identify the assignment that could be submitted from that course for general education assessment. The “statement of understanding” should include that academic units (departments/programs) seeking general education designations understand that failure to provide requested artifacts for

assessment purposes may result in losing the general education designation for the course.

The following bullet points are intended to capture the intentions/recommendations of the group and restate in more specific terms. The following specific actions would implement the intentions of the group to require greater accountability and participation:

- ♦ (GEAC / Academic Affairs) A notice of this policy should be sent from the Provost to all departments currently teaching courses with general education designations, and this notification should then be sent each time a new course designation is approved or renewed.
- ♦ (UAT) Develop a system that results in systematically sending an e-mail notification at an appropriately identified time to the instructor of each general education designated course (copying the department/school head and dean where the course is taught). Remind the instructor that the department/school/college agreed that the instructor of this course will submit written artifacts as requested and inform them of the process for submission. (Encourage faculty to have students submit assignments to them electronically so that the process of submitting artifacts is easier for both faculty and UAT.)
- ♦ (UAT) If the instructor is not responsive to requests, follow-up by contacting the unit head, and copying the dean, to let them know that the general education designation for the identified course is in jeopardy if artifacts are not provided for assessment as requested.
- ♦ (GEAC) If the department head and/or dean are also unresponsive, GEAC should notify the department, copying the dean, that the general education course designation will be dropped from the course, effective the next semester, until a plan for participation in assessment is provided to GEAC by the department head/dean.

Bowers also noted that she and Drs. Strathe and Gates have scheduled meetings with the executive committees of each college to plan for more systematic participation in assessment. Therefore, it is expected that instructors of general education designated courses will be more informed about the process and responsive to requests to participate.

Dr. Gates noted that GEAC will be reviewing the composition and American Government courses, and History 1103 next semester.

Ed Walkiewicz asked that the council relook zero ending courses next semester and noted that he would like for the council consider changing the decision to only allow a one-time only status for those requests.

Adjourn: 2:55 p.m.