

GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
November 14, 2016
143 ITLE

Present: Kristen Baum (chair), Deni Blum, James Cain, Stephen Clarke, Karen Flaherty, James Knecht, Bill Ryan, and Pamela Fry.

1. New General Education Designation Requests:

AMST 3950 – The South in Film and Television, requests the “H and D” designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

(Crosslisted with ENGL 4550)

Members approved the “H and D” designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

AMST 4910 – Period Seminar, requests the “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

Members approved the “H” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

CDIS 4980 – Speech, Language, and Culture of Costa Rica, requests the “I” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

Members approved the “I” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2017; contingent upon clarification that the course meets the 10-page writing requirement.

CHIN 3713 - Chinese Culture, requests the “I” designation, effective Fall 2017.

10/14/16 - Members approved the “I” designation, effective Fall 2017.

ENGL 4450 – The South in Film and Television, requests the “H and D” designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

(Crosslisted with AMST 3950)

Members approved the “H and D” designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.

GEOG 3093 – Historical Geography of North America to 1800, requests “H” designation, effective Fall 2017.

(Crosslisted with HIST 3093)

10/14/16 - Members denied the “H” designation. Members encouraged resubmission pending clarification that the course meets the criteria for the “H” designation.

11/14/16 – Members approved the “H” designation, effective Fall 2017.

HHP 3010 – Health Issues in Diverse Populations, requests the “D” designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2016.

9/12/16 - Members denied. The writing requirement doesn’t meet the 10-page criteria and there is no evidence of students having the opportunity to receive feedback on the writing assignments.

11/14/16 – Members approved the “D” designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2016.

HIST 3093 - Historical Geography of North America to 1800, requests “H” designation, effective Fall 2017.

(Crosslisted with GEOG 3093)

10/14/16 - Members denied the “H” designation. Members encouraged resubmission pending clarification that the course meets the criteria for the “H” designation.

11/14/16 – Members approved the “H” designation, effective Fall 2017.

HIST 4883 – History of Modern Southeast Asia, requests “H and I” designations, effective Spring 2017.

Members approved the “H” designation and denied the “I” designation as it doesn’t appear that the course meets the “I” criteria in that 50% or more of the course content relates to contemporary international cultures.

MC 4360 – News Literacy, requests the “D” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2017.
Members denied the “D” designation as it is not evident that the course meets the criteria for the “D” designation.

- Courses designated “D” emphasize one or more socially constructed groups (e.g. racial, ethnic, religious, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation) in the United States.
- At least one-half of the course materials must relate to these groups.

POLS 2313 – Social Justice Politics, requests the “D” designation, effective Fall 2017.
Members approved the “D” designation, effective Fall 2017.

PSYC 3343 – Black Psychology, requests the “S and D” designations, effective Spring 2017.
Members approved the “S and D” designations, effective Spring 2017.

SCFD 2001 – Religious Diversity and Education, requests the “D” designation, effective Fall 2017.
Members approved the “D” designation pending clarification that students have the opportunity to receive feedback on their writing assignments.

SOC 4923 – Sociology of Punishment, requests the “S” designation, effective Fall 2017.
Members approved the “S” designation, effective Fall 2017.

2. **Writing Requirements for Assessment – James Knecht**

¹The writing requirement for H, S, D and I courses is defined as follows:

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.

Possible changes discussed to be added to the above statement:

At least one writing assignment must be two or more pages in length of continuous, individual work (2-3 pages recommended).

OR

At least one writing assignment needs to be more than 1 page of continuous, individual work.

OR

No change but provide examples of writing length requirements.

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.

Possible changes discussed to be added to the above statement:

At least one writing assignment must be two or more pages in length, of continuous, individual work (4-6 pages recommended).

OR

At least one writing assignment needs to be more than 1 page of continuous, individual work.

OR

No change but provide examples of writing length requirements.

²Faculty who teach “N” and “L” courses will describe writing assignments that are appropriate to the discipline.

James noted that the proposed, changes stated above, was the result of discussions with Sarah Gordon, Lisa Cota, Jon Comer and other Committee for the Assessment of General Education (CAGE) members familiar with

the artifact assessment process. It is difficult to assess critical thinking and writing communication with less than two pages of writing, as anything less does not provide enough material to evaluate using the VALUE rubrics.

Members asked if sample assignment lengths could be provided. It was also noted that the Assessment and Academic Improvement Council (AAIC) recently approved having a member of CAGE sit in on General Education Advisory Council (GEAC) meetings to help facilitate the sharing of information.

3. Other

Dr. Fry noted that as we approach the initiation of CourseLeaf, the Council should reevaluate the General Education Policies and Procedures, and the Criteria and Goals. The revisions could be drafted in the Spring and presented to Instruction Council in the Summer. Dr. Fry also noted that there needs to be future discussions on how to enhance general education.