

Council on General Education Agenda
September 24, 2019
10-11:00 a.m., Stevenson Hall 140

Attending: Becky Darner, Amy Hurd, Rachel Gramer, Rocio Rivadeneyra, Liz Sattler, Issac Faamoe, Katie Fisher, Brian Aitken, Sally Parry, Georgia Tsouvala, Lance Lippert, Amanda Klingler, Yun-Ching Chung, Chris Worland, Malinda Aiello, Derek Meyers

Action Items:

1. Approval of September 10, Minutes
 - a. Rivadeneyra made the motion, Worland seconded. Unanimous approval.

2. Assessment overview
 - a. Derek Meyers gave an overview of general education assessment. He indicated that we are working on the fine arts category. There are enough fine arts sample assignments collected to start the review and these instructors were very good about turning in artifacts. Meyers said that the inaugural student survey was implemented last spring. Meyers broke down data by college and several demographic variables. There were 620 students who responded. The results were neutrally positive, and Meyers will provide the raw data for the open ended questions. About two thirds of the students completed the open-ended questions, which is a significant number. Lippert would like to see the data in categories. We have never done this survey before so this can serve as a baseline.

3. MQM 120 Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in the Workplace (new course proposed for ICL)
 - a. This course was brought to CGE in the spring but was tabled due to unclear general education category descriptions.
 - b. Worland wondered if this was more of a U.S. Traditions course. Parry and Aitken agreed that the course doesn't really focus on political systems which was original intent of this course.
 - c. The description of the ICL category has been watered down. Aitken said it happened when SOC 106 was approved. The course is not bad, but it probably does not fit into that category, but the committee at the time approved it in a split vote. Parry said that the ICL category was originally designed for political topics. The consensus was for the department to look at UST as a potential category.
 - d. Aitken motioned that we not accept it for ICL. Parry 2nd. Unanimous approval.
 - e. Hurd will suggest proposal to go up for U.S. Traditions.

4. HSC 206 Global Health (new course proposed for SS)
 - a. Parry offered concerns that this is really a SMT course and not really a social science one. Went through reading list and seeing more medical journals than anything else.
 - b. Aitken explained that courses like this usually fall within SMT. These courses usually have a science pre-req, but this one does not, and it is not required. A food studies course was approved last spring and it was an SMT course.
 - c. Aiello reiterated that this course would not be accepted as a social science course in IAI. It would be better in the life sciences category.
 - d. Hurd mentioned that it has been approved for AMALI

- e. Tsouvala mentioned concern for long reading list for a Gen Ed course. About 30 articles.
 - f. Lippert suggested that public health is social science because of how we deal with these topics as a culture, and this is a high level social science course. Klingler suggested that it needs to deal more with society's reaction to these health crises to be a social science course.
 - g. Parry made a motion that we reject the course for the social sciences. Sattler 2nd. Unanimous approval.
 - h. Hurd will talk with the department about this suggestion.
5. EAF 205A01 Social (In)Justice and Schooling (proposed for ICL)
- a. Parry stated that the description is too long and should be reduced to 20 words.
 - b. Chris is worried about the readings and assignment and assumptions of students' knowledge of education (no pre-req) before taking the course. The reading list is full books, and this is too extensive for a general education course that will be aimed at second semester freshmen or sophomores. Similar concerns from Darner and Rivadeneyra.
 - c. Aitken mentions this would be one of 4 undergrad courses (and first at the lower classman level) taught in EAF. This seems to be a course that students would self-select out by a few years of offering it.
 - d. Rivadeneyra feels that they set up a good argument for it being political lens but not sure if it is general enough for general education.
 - e. Lippert suggested the course is too condensed for a general education course. Darner stated that the goal of the course may be too advanced for a lower level course. Parry questioned if they have stripped out enough of the EAF teacher ed courses to appeal to students for general education. EAF's other courses require students to have completed 60 hours and clinical experiences.
 - f. Parry questioned if it is really an ICL course. Rivadeneyra felt that it fit into ICL because school systems are a political institution. If that is the lens they are using, this fits into ICL. Parry suggested that it better fits in UST because it focuses on the US education system. She also updated the CGE on the education programs that dropped EAF courses, and that this was a way to compensate for the students who were no longer required to take the EAF courses. It gives students an opportunity to learn about the topic.
 - g. Gramer thinks that the assignments are appropriate for this level, but the rest of the syllabus does not indicate that. There is value in this topic and would make a good contribution to the general education curriculum if it were revised.
 - h. Klingler felt that this course would be good for students as the topics are faced by our students today. It will help them understand that education is political and that it isn't them alone facing these issues. The students do belong here, and it legitimizes what they may have faced in the education system.
 - i. Parry brought up that it might be more appropriate for U.S. Traditions because of focus in U.S. education system. Rocio brought up that ICL also has a U.S. focus so it still fits there.
 - j. Rivadeneyra motioned to table the discuss until we had a revise proposal. Lippert 2nd. Unanimous approval.
6. Hurd will follow up with EAF.

7. Lance motioned, Georgia seconded to adjourn. Passed.

Information Items:

5. General Education Assessment Update – Derek Meyers
6. IDS 121A22 French Cinema: Art, History, Culture (new course proposed for LH)
7. IDS 133A28 Study Abroad: Bologna, Italy (new course proposed for H)
8. IDS 213 Comics, Graphic Novels, and Society (new course proposed for SS)