

Council on General Education Minutes

April 1, 2025

10:00-11:00 a.m., STV 140

Presiding: Gregory Ferrence

Present: Brian Aitken, Allison Antink Meyer, Linda Clemmons, Gregory Ferrence, Amy Hurd, Katie Krcmarik, Julie Murphy, Joshua Newport, Brian Rejack, and Rocio Rivadeneyra

Ferrence called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Action Items:

1. Approval of March 18, 2025 Minutes

Ferrence asked if there were any corrections to the minutes as presented. There were no corrections. The minutes were approved as presented.

2. ANT 201 Reconstructing the Past with Experimental Archaeology (new course proposed for SCMT designation)

The proposal was submitted by Dr. Shelby Putt, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Anthropology

Ferrence informed Council members the proposal was for a new course. He felt the supporting documentation provided a detailed alignment to the SCMT designation requirements and thought the course looked interesting. He noted that while two prerequisite courses were listed, ANT 102 and ANT 197, they were both recommended and not required. He questioned what the reason would be for the department to do that.

Aitken noted that ANT 102 already had the SCMT designation so students could potentially take one SCMT course to then take another SCMT course in ANT 201. He added that this could potentially drive down enrollment. However, Aitken said he did not know enough about particular course to be able to determine if enrollment in one of the recommended courses was truly needed to be successful. If not, he would recommend trying the new course without the recommended course prerequisite.

Ferrence thought the 100-level courses were recommended as foundational as the proposed course was at the 200-level. Aitken responded there are other 200-level courses offered on campus that do not have a similar requirement. Ferrence agreed with Aitken's suggestion to remove the recommend course language but did not feel that its inclusion was a deal breaker for him to approve the course. Aitken also felt the course was a good fit for the SCMT designation.

Rivadeneyra noted that ANT 197 was in a different General Education designation and students could take that course without "doubling-up" on the SCMT requirement. Aitken noted the course gets lost in that category due to the large amount of courses in it. He suggested changing the prerequisite to read enrollment in one ANT course prior to enrollment for ANT 201.

After further discussion, Council members felt as the courses were not required, the proposal should not be sent back to the department for additional information. However, they requested Hurd pass along the suggestion to the department to revisit as ANT 102 is in the same category as ANT 201 would be.

A motion was made by Rejack to approve ANT 201 for the SCMT designation. Seconded by Rivadeneyra.

All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

The motion passed.

Discussion/Update Items:

3. General Education Revision Update

Hurd informed Council members the revision proposal was scheduled to be voted on by the Academic Senate at next week's meeting. Last week's review session was similar to the first in that no new concerns were brought up. She added Academic Senate members spent most of the time discussing the experiential learning component of the proposal.

Rejack asked about the overall timeline if the proposal was approved. Hurd responded if approved, the revision would go into effect in fall 2028. She added course proposals could potentially be submitted as early as this fall once the new curriculum system Course Dog was up and running.

Hurd will notify Council members of the outcome of the Academic Senate's vote next week.

A motion was made by Newport to adjourn. Seconded by Aitken.

Meeting adjourned: 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Soemer Simmons