

Minutes

General Education Implementation Committee Meeting

October 28, 2003

Graham Memorial 011

Members in attendance: Dean Carolyn Cannon, Dean Karen Gil, and Dean Thomas Tweed (chair), David Lanier, Joseph Bray, Bobbi Owen, Clayton Koelb, Gary Pielak, Tom Bowers, Glynis Cowell, Daniel Anderson.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm.
2. FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE NUMBERS: It was decided that the 601, 602, 603, and 604 would be used for “X courses” (instead of 701, 702, 703, and 704). It was decided that 401, 402, 403, and 404 should not be used as course numbers for students taking a second foreign language to meet the Foreign Language Enhancement requirement (FI). The Committee also decided that it was unnecessary to reserve numbers for those foreign language enhancement courses.
3. CRITERIA DOCUMENT REVISIONS: The latest draft of the Criteria document (now dated 10/28/03), which included minor reformatting of the Social Sciences requirement and addition of the Supplemental General Education description, was unanimously approved. The latest version of the document, which also includes revisions described below, will be posted to the website.
4. NORTH ATLANTIC WORLD REVISION (again): Responding to a proposal from faculty members who teach courses on the ancient Mediterranean world and ancient Near East (in Classics, Religious Studies, and Art History), the Committee decided to revise the last few sentences of the North Atlantic World description, so that we now exclude the ancient Near East from that region and leave open the possibility that some courses on ancient Greece might be “Beyond the North Atlantic World. The revised last few sentences, as amended by email after the meeting, are as follows: “Because of the region’s influences on Western Europe and North America, the southern boundaries of the North Atlantic World extend to the Mediterranean—from the Iberian Peninsula to Greece. As with other boundaries, we realize that this one is difficult to draw: the borders shift over time and change depending on the issue at hand. For that reason, courses dealing with some periods of ancient and medieval history of Mediterranean cultures from Spain to Greece might be understood as “Beyond the North Atlantic World.”
5. UPDATE ON COMMUNICATIONS WITH SCHOOLS, DEPARTMENTS, & CURRICULA: Tweed reported that he has had a good deal of communication with departments and curricula and is hearing that, generally, implementation is going well, even if there are challenges.

- No major problems have been reported to Tweed or the other Implementation Committee liaisons.
6. RHETORIC: After consultation with Senior Associate Dean Darryl Gless and others, it was decided that the language about the Rhetoric requirement in the Criteria document will remain as it is. However, to make it conform to other courses, the Committee decided that RHET A and RHET B will be renamed RHET 101 and RHET 102.
 7. ORAL COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS WHO PLACE OUT OF RHETORIC: In its conditions for approval, the Administrative Boards asked the Implementation Committee to make sure there was a fair and effective way for students who place out of Rhetoric and Composition to have instruction in oral communication. The Implementation Committee decided to eliminate COMM 9 starting in Fall 2006 and decided that the Communications Intensive (CI) requirement, as described in "Making Connections" version 1.4, meets the university's obligation to provide oral communication to all students, even those who place out of Rhetoric 101 and 102.
 8. UPDATE ON ONLINE FORM FOR FACULTY: Forer will present the first draft of the faculty email form at the Committee's next meeting.
 9. UPDATE ON ONLINE COURSE SYSTEM: Joe Bray said that AIS was on schedule and that he anticipated that the system, or at least a fairly advanced version of it, would be ready for demonstration and training purposes by the proposed deadline in November.
 10. BULLETIN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & THE ONLINE SYSTEM: After a discussion of the challenges of providing Bulletin copy of the course descriptions for the online course forms (it is labor intensive since the information is not in the data base), the Implementation Committee reaffirmed that such information is crucial to the effectiveness of the online course system and the university's ability to meet the scheduled implementation date of fall 2006. It is crucial that the current course descriptions, as they appear in the Bulletin, pop-up when scheduling officers open their courses for editing. Doing this successfully will require a great deal of labor and significant cooperation among the relevant offices, especially Publications, the Registrar's Office, and AIS. The Committee encouraged David Lanier to continue conversations with the Publications Office on this matter and to give a progress report at our next meeting.
 11. Believe it or not, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm!

Respectfully submitted,

Leif Forer
Assistant, Undergraduate Curricula