

Minutes

General Education Implementation Committee Meeting

October 8, 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 3:07 pm.
2. The minutes from the last meeting were unanimously approved.
3. CRITERIA DOCUMENT REVISIONS: The Committee approved the revised document on the condition that a few minor changes are made. Several decisions were made: a) It was decided that references to specific departments in the document would be deleted since it did not seem to be in the spirit of the Steering Committee's concern to not link any general education requirement with any particular unit. b) The revised version of the (non-historical) Social Science criteria, which was constructed when Tweed consulted faculty in political science, sociology, anthropology, economics, and psychology, was approved, with some minor revisions. The Committee suggested a revision of the language regarding "individual or group behavior" in the Social and Behavioral Sciences section on page 6. c) On the historical requirement, the committee asked Tweed to seek clarification from Peter Coclans regarding the exclusion of courses in disciplinary history (page 6). d) The two letter General Education requirement identifiers will be added throughout the document. e) The committee rejected a proposal to define "substantial" or offer minimum page requirements for the Communication Intensive (CI) courses. f) The committee will review the issues surrounding the Rhetoric section at their next meeting, and add any revisions to that section after that. g) The approved document, with these revisions, will be posted to the web with the latest draft date, and it will be sent to departments, schools, and curricula (deans, department chairs, and directors of undergraduate studies). h) At the last meeting Tweed agreed to consult faculty colleagues in various departments with relevant expertise to help the Committee define the "North Atlantic World" more precisely, and he presented the results of those consultations with faculty in Slavic, Classics, Religious Studies, Asian Studies, Geography, Germanic Languages, American Studies, and other units. After a discussion of the several options, the Committee reaffirmed the current labels for the two related requirements: *The North Atlantic World* and *Beyond the North Atlantic World*. And it defined the North Atlantic World. On the North American side, the North Atlantic World means the U.S. and Canada (as defined by current political borders—including Alaska

- and Hawaii) and includes Native American peoples and cultures. On the eastern borders of Europe the boundaries are drawn by the reach of the Germanic and Romance language families, thereby excluding Slavic cultures. On the southern borders it includes the ancient Mediterranean world, including ancient Greece and Rome as the Ancient Near East as far as Egypt. A revised account of the requirement, with these new more precise definitions of the boundaries was approved.
4. **ONLINE COURSE REVISION FORM:** The committee tentatively approved the design and format of the course revision form, on the condition that Joe Bray and the Technology Subcommittee make some revisions. The Implementation Committee reserved the right to make editorial changes to the language of the form at future meetings. The Committee expressed its thanks to Joe Bray, and the members of the Technology Committee from AIS, the Registrar's Office, and the Office of Undergraduate Curricula. The Committee asked for the following revisions to the Revision Form:
 - a. The "Contact Info" button should read: "Add Contact Person."
 - b. Under Connections, "Approved Internship" should read: "Academic Internship."
 - c. The "Revised Course Start Term" field should be hidden (i.e. not a part of the form) during the initial launch of the system because everyone will be using Fall 2006. However, the field should still be coded as if it were being used so that, after the initial launch of the system, the field can be made available during the following fall as the default value.
 - d. The text explaining the "Renumber All" button on the main screen should read something like: "If you select 'Renumber All' you must renumber all courses. You can not use this form to pick and choose which courses you want to renumber."
 - e. The Technology Committee needs to clarify what "Does this course replace an existing course?" means.
 - f. The "brief justification for course revision" field should be a pull-down menu with two options. Option one should read: "To meet the new Gen Ed requirements" (this would be the default). Option two should read: "Other." (If "Other" is selected, then a text area should appear, and that field would need to be filled in before successful submission of the form.)
 - g. The Technology Committee needs to confirm that if a user selects Approaches and Connections then all of the corresponding fields will be visible on the same screen. (As opposed to the Approaches fields being on one screen and the Connections fields on another.)

Leif Forer, who serves on the Technology Subcommittee, agreed to communicate these revisions to others on the Subcommittee.
 5. **UPDATE ON THIRD INFORMATION SESSION:** After a very brief report by Tweed, the Committee decided that it needs to address the question raised at the information session about whether students cannot use

- one-hour credit courses (like choir or band in the Music Department) to meet a general education requirement. They agreed to take this up at a future meeting.
6. DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY OF UNITS' RENUMBERING SCHEME: The Committee discussed a proposal that emerged from both a previous information session and the Administrative Boards: to ask that units submit a brief overview of their renumbering scheme. The Implementation was not inclined to require this, but asked Carolyn Cannon to talk with her colleagues in Advising about how important this information might be for advising students. She agreed to report on this at the next committee meeting.
 7. REVISED COURSE RENUMBERING AND GEN ED IDENTIFIERS DOCUMENTS: The revised Renumbering document will not be posted or sent until the Committee decides on the Foreign Language numbers at next meeting.
 8. UPDATE ON OTHER TECHNOLOGY ISSUES: Forer noted that the Technology Committee is busy coding and making the revisions to the online course forms that were recommended by the Implementation Committee.
 9. The meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leif Forer
Assistant, Undergraduate Curricula