

ACU Graduate Council
February 9, 2021
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present: D. Snider, K. Witemeyer, D. Walls, M. Long, C. Flanagan, J. Neill, D. Barnett, J. Cardot, A. Huddleston, L. Merchant, M. Scott, T. Womble

Absent: S. Jones, L. Lemley, T. Sensing were absent.

Ex-officios: (J. Wiser, M. Straughn, J. Shewmaker, G. Straughn, B. Crisp, K. Cukrowski – not in attendance)

Guests: K. White, J. Camp, M. Thompson, J. Smith, C. Riley, C. Candler

The meeting began at 12:04 p.m.

I. Approval of the minutes from 11.10.20

Motion to approve the minutes by T. Womble; seconded by M. Scott; all in favor. Motion passes.

Information Items:

- II. OCCT 603 – Revise Title
- III. OCCT 611 – Revise Title
- IV. OCCT 637 – Revise Title
- V. OCCT 637 – Remove Corequisite
Only doctoral-level students will take OCCT 643 as we move forward with the new program. Our master's students will not be required to take that course, so we need to remove that as a corequisite from the course they will take.
- VI. OCCT 651 – Revise Title
- VII. OCCT 703 – Revise Title
- VIII. OCCT 711 – Revise Title
- IX. OCCT 739 – Revise Title
The title changes are to remove the OT abbreviation from the course titles and replace with the more professional "Occupational Therapy."

Action Items:

- X. MA in English – Remove Foreign Language Admission Requirement

T. Womble – One of the listed admission requirements is sophomore-level foreign language. This requirement is going away in many programs. More and more students

are applying from non-English fields, and they don't have the required foreign language. We believe getting rid of this requirement will remove barriers for students. It really only makes sense for students wanting to study literature in other languages, and those students will have the necessary language background. It might not be a barrier, per se, but it is certainly not helping us recruit. A. Huddleston – Do you have a sense of other master's programs that maintain this requirement? T. Womble – At the PhD level, there are some that still require language proficiency, but it is an outdated requirement that seems to hinder our ability to recruit students.

Motion to approve by D. Barnett; seconded by J. Neill; all in favor. Motion passes.

XI. MA in English – Remove GRE as Admission Requirement

T. Womble – We are dropping the GRE requirement because we've realized that the GRE doesn't really indicate graduate school success. We have lost applicants because of this requirement. We look at their GPA, their letters of recommendation, and their writing samples. GRE scores are often not considered when we evaluate our applicants. Even many prestigious schools are moving away from this requirement. J. Cardot – Are you dropping this requirement for everyone, regardless of which school they are coming from? T. Womble – Yes. J. Cardot – We've dropped the requirement for our ACU students, but we still require it for students coming from outside ACU. D. Snider – How many of your students come from outside ACU? J. Cardot – Maybe 40%. D. Snider – So with this removal, Communication will be the only department still using the GRE. J. Cardot – We'll get the conversation started.

Motion to approve by A. Huddleston; seconded by L. Merchant; all in favor. Motion passes.

Meeting ended at 12:20 p.m.