

University General Education Council
April 26, 2017 - Electronic Vote

Agenda items were posted to the UGEC blog on April 26 and considered by council electronically as a supplemental meeting at the end of the semester.

Action Items:

I. ITC 480 – New Course for Capstone/Writing-Intensive for CS and DET Majors

D. Mendenhall – Can a student who is not a Christian complete this course, or is faith a prerequisite? J. Homer - That's a good question. A student who is not a Christian obviously should be able to complete the portfolio and consider the ethical dilemmas in the case studies. For the final paper, I think that we would allow a non-Christian student to write the paper from the perspective of whatever guiding principle he or she identifies as the foundational meaning or motivation in his or her work/life. J. Wallace - So they would not have to write about their major discipline from a Christian World View in the final paper? J. Homer - I think that we would ask them to address their discipline from a Christian perspective but they do not have to identify with that perspective. They can identify and consider the Christian perspective, but also state and support whatever beliefs they rely on. I'm open to suggestions for improvement based on how other departments have addressed this consideration. S. Talley - I appreciate the above question as well. In Teacher Education, we state our standard as, "The teacher reflects on how Christian principles can appropriately inform professional development and practice" so that a student who does identify as Christian has the freedom to use their faith beliefs to support their position.

J. Wallace - This course seems to have its' comprehensive assignment doing something that is inconsistent with the course outcomes. Perhaps the course competency #4 should be altered or the assignment modified? J. Homer - I agree that we can make changes to align the competencies and assignment description, in line with Doug's suggestion about demonstrating an "ability to think critically about faith and vocation." Competency #4 currently expects that students will "Envision life after graduation working in the major discipline with specific focus on global Christian mission." We can modify that to be more open to other beliefs, perhaps something like "Envision life after graduation working in the major discipline with specific focus on the interaction between your faith and vocation."

J. Wallace - Also the co-curricular requirement seems to suggest any or all student events whether they are co-curricular or extra-curricular. Is that correct? J. Homer - We were trying to be broadly inclusive in the list of co-curricular activities, to allow space for activities and experiences at ACU that the student finds meaningful and formative.

E. Gumm - It would appear that everyone from our Council has participated in the discussion and/or voting at this point. There are more than enough people who have voted to approve, but technically no motion and second to do so. Therefore, if there is

no objection, we will consider Karen's vote in the first position to represent the motion and Martha's vote in the second position as the second of that motion and we will consider all of the other votes to approve votes in favor of that motion. That represents more than enough votes to approve ITC 480 to serve as the Capstone course for the CS and DET majors.

K. Hendrick made a motion to approve the capstone. M. Smallwood seconded. All in favor. Motion passes.

Online meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m. on April 28, 2017.