

University Undergraduate Academic Council

Adams Center Conference Room

May 5, 2014

2:30-4:30 p.m.

Present: S. Lewis, D. Pemberton, D. Pope, E. Brokaw, P. Lakey, D. Williams, T. Baggs, W. Willis

Absent: M. Riggs

Ex-officios: N. Coates, D. Christianson

Guests: N. Jordan, L. Penya, P. Roggendorff, K. Hatfield, B. McKelvain, R. Beck

Meeting began at 2:34 p.m.

I. Call to Order and Prayer by S. Lewis

II. Approval of the minutes from 4.30.14

Motion to approve by Brokaw; seconded by Lakey; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

IV. SPAN 444 - Revolution & Insurrection in Latin America

This course has been taught since 2010. The course will be taught in Spanish in Uruguay.

Motion to approve by Brokaw; seconded by Pope; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

V. SPAN 462 - Short Story

Motion to approve by Lakey; seconded by Pemberton; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

VI. SPAN 470 - Christian Expression in Hispanic Letters

This course is a counterpart to Literature and Belief.

Motion to approve by Pope; seconded by Willis; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

VII. SPAN 471 - Borges and Cortazar

This is a study abroad course, at some point it could be taught in Abilene as well. There was discussion about adding study abroad to the course description.

Motion to approve by Lakey; seconded by Brokaw; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

VIII. SPAN Major Revisions, Placement Credit Policy, Renumbering, Supporting Language, Supporting Discipline.

The council will not be voting on the Placement Credit Policy. The provost and department came to an agreement to first pilot the policy. Right now students who take a placement test are placed into a course and the previous courses are waived. However, the

new proposal requests that students receive credit for the prerequisites that are being waived. A year from now the council will look at the results of the pilot and how students are responding to it.

Currently the major specifies a lot of co-requisites. The new changes won't be as specific. The department also decided to drop the second language, couldn't find other universities that had this requirement. By eliminating twelve hours of specified co-requisites and supporting language and adding five hours of Spanish the degree is more rigorous.

Motion to approve by Pope; seconded by Pemberton; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

IX. THEA 205 and 206 - New Course

This course was developed for entering students, it helps meet the two semesters of voice. This course prepares the students to be more comfortable singing. The students watch others perform and it helps them to objectively measure their own progress.

Motion to approve both courses by Willis; seconded by Pemberton; all in favor; none opposed motion passes;

X. SOCI 499 Capstone - Application, Syllabus

This is an existing course that is being proposed as a capstone. Next year when the new POLC courses are brought through this course will change to POLC 499. Sociology is using SOCI 498 and Criminal Justice is using SOCI 499, the council found it confusing as to why it won't be changing to POLC 499 now. Susan pointed out that the college council needs to approve of the change before it comes to the UUAC so it will remain SOCI 499 until the new changes come through. Melissa pointed out that there are not any instructions for the research paper, just the paragraph about the 2000 word requirement. There is also an error on page 12, it should read SOCI 499, not SOCI 498.

Motion to approve by Williams; seconded by Pope; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes;

XI. PSYC 345 Social Science Menu

This course was specifically made for the menus. Unlike other courses on the menus this course reads a majority of different books and covers content will go across multiple disciplines. A lot of the courses on the general education requirements do not have multiple requirements like this course does. Susan asked why the course was placed at the 300 level if it was specifically made for the general education. McKelvain said that based on the class material it is a 300 level course and would be more challenging for a first or second year student. Willis pointed out that many freshmen take core and come in with English 112 and could potentially take this course as a second semester freshmen and enroll in the course not knowing how rigorous it is. For example it could be compared as taking a Greek course as a freshman bible major. McKelvain said that any student with 10th or 11th grade level reading could understand the course and that it was not as intense as a Greek course. Pemberton mentioned that problem based learning students look at an issue through a variety of lenses in a purposeful way and in doing so they will learn better, they would already have the prerequisites so they will have the reading ability to do so. McKelvain does not think that students will pick this course if they are not ready for it. Lakey asked if McKelvain intends to talk about biblical text in the course as well as the spiritual dimensions. McKelvain stated that it isn't a bible class so it won't be discussed, and that it is a part

of the overall commitment at ACU spiritually. Coates agreed with McKelvain that the course is different than other social science courses. He did have a concern from the faculty senate that the council needs to be careful about how the faculty at large and Student Life would think of this course of action. Coates suggested tabling the course for the menus and think about the decision over the summer so this course could not make headlines of some sort. Coates was asking whether it was an appropriate university wide course. McKelvain was concerned that it could be tabled forever if there was not leadership action now. Based on the criteria, why is it questionable that this course shouldn't be put in? Beck mentioned that this topic is a big issue and is a need and this class would better inform students. N. Jordan stated that the UGEC looked primarily at the criteria. The UGEC was concerned about the 300 level focus but decided it was placed well based on the content and reading list. Pemberton mentioned that students are going to talk about this issue either way. She would rather they do it in a class rather than on their own.

Motion to approve for social science by Pemberton; seconded by Atkinson; 5 in favor; 3 opposed; motion passes;

XI. PSYC 345 Cultural Awareness Menu

Students will consider issues from the perspective of others who hold different world views. It is important to understand other cultures and how people deal with minorities, advocacy etc. Also, the impact it has on culture, change and their identity.

Motion to approve for Cultural Awareness by Pemberton; seconded by Williams; 5 in favor; 3 opposed; motion passes;

XII. The CASAC brought forward a recommendation that will not be voted on until the fall. The CASAC are no longer going to be approving or denying general education menu items. Also that a new course not be placed on the general education menu until it has been approved and in the catalog for one year. The UUAC will need to make updates to the approval chart. Pemberton did not agree that a course should need to be in the catalog before being approved as a general education requirement. L. Penya stated that it is hard to approve of a course and menu at the same time.

XIII. Recognition of service by members who have expiring terms.

Ed Brokaw, Dana Pemberton, Melissa Atkinson and Mark Riggs

Meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.