

University Undergraduate Academic Council
April 5, 2017
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
CEHS Dean's Conference Room

Present: D. Williams, S. Stewart, K. Witemeyer, S. Lewis, C. Roper, V. McCracken, D. McAnulty, S. Jones,

Absent: C. Pruett, G. Powell, I. Shepherd

Ex-officios: E. Gumm (B. Fang and T. Lee were not present)

Guests: Jessica Smith, Amy Boone, Tom Milholland, Ron Morgan, P. Roggendorff, Leslie Reed, K. Pybus, Jason Morris, Darby Hewitt, Robert Green, Nil Santana

The meeting began at 3:29 p.m.

I. Call to order by S. Lewis.

II. Prayer by D. Williams.

III. Approval of the minutes from 3.1.17

Motion to approve the minutes by S. Stewart; seconded by C. Roper; all in favor; motion passes.

Information Items:

- IV. Spanish Minor – Course Revision
- V. SPAN 290 – Change Grade Mode to Credit/Non-Credit
- VI. SPAN 499 – Prerequisites (Senior Standing & OPI Test Score)
- VII. French Minor – Establish Categories for Advanced French Courses
- VIII. FREN 352, 386, 481, 484 – Renumber to Conform to Course Categories
- IX. JMC 321 – Revise Course Description
- X. HIST 479 – Change Course Title
- XI. ENGR 135 – Prerequisites
- XII. ENGR 305 – Prerequisites

- XIII. ENGR 306 – Prerequisites
- XIV. ENGR 334 – Prerequisites
- XV. ENGR 342 – Prerequisites
- XVI. ENGR 343 – Prerequisites
- XVII. ENGR 350 – Prerequisites
- XVIII. ENGR 355 – Prerequisites
- XIX. ENGR 356 – Prerequisites
- XX. ENGR/PHYS 388 – Prerequisites
- XXI. READ 322 – Add Junior Standing to Prerequisites

As these were information only, there was no discussion.

Action Items:

- XXII. Renumber HIST 480 to HIST 280

R. Morgan – Texas History is required for all our social studies majors and for the history teaching programs. We have low demand for this course so it is only offered once every two years. Teachers are not doing as well on their US and Texas History exams when they take their certification exams. We need to change this course to be offered more frequently, offer online options, and create a curriculum that covers more breadth with less research depth than the 480 course. And offering it at the 200-level makes it available to all students by adding it to the Historical Literacy and Social Science menus. V. McCracken – Does it change anything about your major? Will there be enough upper-level hours? R. Morgan – We do not have any trouble with the upper level hours. D. McAnulty – What is the rationale for it being added to the university requirement menus? R. Morgan – It is multicultural with the Latino populations, Blacks, women, etc. J. Smith – We have a large number of history courses in the social science menu, so this fits with what is already there. R. Morgan – All of our lower-level courses are included on the menu.

S. Jones makes a motion to vote on the first four items together with University Requirement menus being contingent on UGEC approval. S. Stewart seconds. All in favor.

Motion to approve items XXII-XXV by S. Jones; seconded by S. Stewart; all in favor; motion passes.

- XXIII. HSST, HSTT – Revise Degree Plans to Replace HIST 480 with HIST 280
- XXIV. Add HIST 280 to University Requirements Historical Literacy Menu
- XXV. Add HIST 280 to University Requirements Social Science Menu
- XXVI. HIST, GLST – Revision to Degree – GPA 2.75 & Add HIST 250 to History Menu for HIST

R. Morgan – We are trying to sync up the GPA 2.75 requirement across our degree plans. We also have the HIST 250 course that was created for a minor in Women and Ethnic Studies, but it was never included in the History majors degree plan. We are making it an option in the HIST degree. It does not affect the history teaching degrees. Only the non-certification programs. It still approaches a survey of US History from a broad perspective just from the point of view of minorities. Many students come to us with credit for US History I and II from AP and dual credit, and this gives them another option

Motion to approve by S. Stewart; seconded by D. Williams; all in favor; motion passes.

- XXVII. SPAN - Revision of Major – Drop SPAN 290, Add OPI Requirement to SPAN 301

P. Roggendorff – This stems from the conversation lab. We are trying to move away from clock hours being the measure of proficiency and standardizing that with an exam – the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). We want our minors to come out at a certain level and the majors at a certain level – matching our industry standards. Harding University also administers this exam to all of their majors. We want our students to leave ACU with their speaking proficiency at the advanced level. We are changing our conversation lab to a language laboratory. We will test them as a part of SPAN 301, then based on that initial result, they can participate in study abroad or go to a language school, or take some of our labs to increase their proficiency. They keep taking the OPI until they master the level that they need. The lab is a much more robust way to address this proficiency issue.

Motion to approve all Spanish items (XXVII – XXX) by S. Stewart; seconded by S. Jones; all in favor; motion passes.

- XXVIII. SPAN 390 – New Course

P. Roggendorff – New lab to enhance student speaking proficiency. S. Stewart – Can they take this multiple times? P. Roggendorff – Yes. And they don't have to worry about the grade. That is why it is credit/non-credit. Removing the pressure of the grade, allows students to focus on gaining their proficiency and not stress about their performance on

the OPI exam. S. Stewart – I'll be interested to see how this affects our student teachers. We often have them struggle to pass on the first attempt. P. Roggendorff – Yes, we hope to make it more robust for better outcomes.

XXIX. SPNT – Spanish Teaching – Drop SPAN 481, Add SPAN 301

P. Roggendorff - We haven't offered SPAN 481 in several years. If students can meet the proficiency standards required for the SPAN 301 course, they will be better prepared for the teacher certification exams. Teacher Education Council has already approved.

XXX. SPAN 481 – Close Course

P. Roggendorff – We propose closing this course since it will no longer be required for the SPNT program.

XXXI. FREN 342 – New Course

P. Roggendorff - This is the addition of French Cinema. It has been taught a couple of times as Special Topics and has been popular. The professor has experience as an actor on the stage in France and has passionate knowledge about the subject matter. It feeds well with the department's Film Studies minor as well as the French minor. V. McCracken – Will it be a required course in the minor. P. Roggendorff – It is one in a menu.

Motion to approve by D. McAnulty; seconded by S. Jones; all in favor; motion passes.

XXXII. Add German Minor

P. Roggendorff – We are proposing to reinstate the German minor. We had it a few decades past. Now with Leslie Reed in our faculty and tenure-tracked, together with developments in Leipzig, this seems like a great time to move forward. We anticipate a lot of connections with study abroad. We structured it as three different broad categories: Language, Literature, and Culture. We need four new advanced courses to round out this program out and Leslie has worked hard to develop these courses for us.

Motion to approve by S. Jones; seconded by D. Williams; all in favor; motion passes.

XXXIII. GER 321

L. Reed – Grammar. It is the only grammar course on the menu. I developed this course as a grad student at Vanderbilt. It seeks to set the study within the realm of short stories to give it a more enjoyable context. None of these courses is a prerequisite for the others.

Motion to approve all German courses together by D. Williams; seconded by D. McNulty; all in favor; motion passes.

XXXIV. GER 341

L. Reed – Germ Film – It is a chronological structure, but mostly focused in the 20th Century. All the films are classics. We look at the theory side of things. There will be a lot more listening comprehension. P. Roggendorff – Leslie has already taught a course in World Cinema. She is involved in the Film Studies Minor, so she is uniquely qualified to teach this course.

XXXV. GER 361

L. Reed – This is the most typical of courses that you would expect. We present materials in chronological order. We hit major authors from early times up through the 20th century. S. Lewis – Are you building toward something with your competencies? L. Reed – This is supposed to build on their grammar and vocabulary skills and gain a deeper level of competency in each area.

XXXVI. GER 461

L. Reed – German drama. This one is more of an elective option. We focus on the Enlightenment and Romantic periods for the playwrights. The level of German language in this course is higher, older forms of speaking. That is why it is a 400-level course. S. Jones – The competencies do seem higher level. S. Stewart – Where do you get your competencies? L. Reed – I got a lot from the upper level Spanish course competencies and then added my own emphasis.

XXXVII. Convergence Journalism (BA & BS) – Revision of Degree Plan

K. Pybus – JMC 321 was required for several years so that students would get credit for working at the Optimist. Now we have more options available to students. The language is archaic, only mentioning the student newspaper. Journalism students are required to spend two semesters on student media. Other programs have a 1 semester requirement. We are trying to line up the course description and the degree plan. This change is for both the BA and BS programs. S. Jones – So it does require them to be involved with a *departmental* media. K. Pybus – Yes.

Motion to approve by S. Stewart; seconded by C. Roper; all in favor; motion passes.

XXXVIII. HON 401-409 – Close Cross-listed Colloquia Courses

J. Morris – We currently offer colloquia both for 1-credit hour and zero credit. With block tuition, zero credit hour courses are no longer needed. We did a study, and most students do not fully maximize their block. E. Gumm – How many students are taking the zero credit hour compared to the for-credit version? J. Morris – I think about 10%

take the zero credit option. S. Lewis – It is a graded course, right? J. Morris – Yes. V. McCracken – This will help a lot from an instructor perspective. We never know who is taking credit and who is not.

Motion to approve by V. McCracken; seconded by D. Williams; all in favor; motion passes.

XXXIX. ENGR 281 – New Course

D. Hewitt – Engineering Thermodynamics should be more at the macro-level than the current iteration shared with Physics (ENGR/PHYS 481). It is more appropriate for the needs of Engineering students. There is some confusion about the name. We are changing the name to Engineering Thermodynamics instead of Thermodynamics I. T. Milholland – This won't affect our credentials, correct? D. Hewitt – Correct. V. McCracken suggested some minor edits to the course description.

Motion to approve with minor changes to course description by V. McCracken; seconded by D. McAnulty; all in favor; motion passes.

XL. BSE – Replace ENGR 481 with 281

E. Gumm – Is this change retroactive to a certain catalog? D. Hewitt – For all current students. Back to 2014-15 or 2015-16 catalog.

Motion to approve with option to be retroactive to either 2014-15 or 2015-16 catalogs by D. McAnulty; seconded by D. Williams; all in favor; motion passes.

XLI. BSE – Add MATH 187 to Math/Science Menu

D. Hewitt – MATH 187 is a calculus lab. This was an oversight when we were making changes to the BSE degree plan. Adding this option makes it easier for students to earn a math minor and enhances their understanding of calculus.

Motion to approve by S. Jones; seconded by D. Williams; all in favor; motion passes.

XLII. ART 347 – New Course

R. Green – This course is designed to be part of our study abroad program in Oxford and Italy. Because we are highly encouraged by study abroad to offer the same courses every two years, we wanted to substitute this course for Painting I. We weren't able to successfully incorporate the learning objectives in Painting I in the study abroad program. We did a special topics course along these lines in the past. This new course would be a substitute for Painting I in non-painting BFA majors. It is highly interactive with the study abroad environment. This builds on the idea of the "Grand Tour." S. Lewis – There is not a degree plan change proposed. J. Smith – We are running too far

behind to modify the degree plan at this point. E. Gumm – It is a major requirement, not in the concentration, so we need some more in-depth conversation at the college council. S. Lewis – Let's edit the degree plan information in the application to say "be a suitable substitute for" instead of "satisfy." R. Green – We've been intentional to get it through council so it will be available for the next study abroad session. It is our intention to spell it out in the degree plan in the future.

Motion to approve with the edit noted by D. McAnulty; seconded by D. Williams; all in favor; motion passes.

XLIII. Close BFA Photography Concentration

N. Santana – Just a reminder, the concentration has been in place for three years. We have had low enrollment. In three years, we've only had 2 students, and one of those has switched, so we are down to one. Being strategic with the department, this is a good move. We are still offering photography courses. There is high demand for the courses. While there is high demand for the courses, however, there is not high demand for the concentration. For the student still in the major, we will continue to teach out the courses they need as special topics.

Motion to approve by S. Jones; seconded by S. Stewart; all in favor; motion passes.

T. Milholland – For future information - It would be helpful to have documentation at the front end to address the teach-out plan any time we close a program. V. McCracken – Perhaps we can add a note on the approval chart to indicate this.

Meeting ended at 4:58 p.m.