

GEOC Meeting May 8, 2013

In attendance:

Murphy Sewall, Françoise Dussart, Karen Piantek, Sarah Winter, Ana Maria Marcos-Diaz, Tom Abbott, Tom Long, Tom Meyer, Tom Deans, Xae Alicia Reyes, Mike Young, Stephanie Milan, Wally Madych

Not present:

Eric Schultz, Rosa Helena Chinchilla, Peter Kaminsky, Kailee Himes, Richard Jones, Noah Sharpsteen, Laurent Michele, Gustavo Nanclares (sabbatical)

Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm.

1. Minutes of the April 17, 2013 meeting

The minutes of the March 17, 2013 meeting were accepted with minor corrections submitted online.

2. Announcements

- GEOC welcomes Kathleen Tonry to replace Tom Deans as W Subcommittee Co-Chair
- GEOC welcomes Ana Maria Marcos-Diaz as Second Language Co-Chair

3. Subcommittee Reports

CA3

The CA3 Subcommittee does NOT recommend approving the following new course proposal as a Content Area 3, non-lab course:

- ANTH 1010

Committee Note: The committee notes that the topic list cannot be covered in detail over the course of a single semester and that the proposer did not provide a course schedule from which coverage might be determined. This lack of information prevents the committee from clearly determining whether enough science will be presented to warrant inclusion in CA 3.

Discussion

- Eric Schultz provided a statement to be read in his absence that urged the GEOC and three applicable subcommittees to carefully examine the syllabus provided to be sure the proposer has put forward a reasonable plan to cover topics provided and that those topics adequately meet content area criteria.
- Committee members noted that the proposer's new syllabus did not significantly change; they found insufficient evidence to prove the course could satisfy the CA3 requirement.
- The list of topics provided was not anchored in a specific plan for implementation thus creating reasonable doubt that the course could address all the proposed topics within a single semester.
- There was a suggestion to teach the course first without CA3 approval and then revisit the designation later.
- There was also discussion about a possible overlap with courses in other departments; on the other hand, the proposed course is entry level and Gen Ed, so it would serve a different purpose than similar existing courses.
- It was suggested that GEOC should consider guidelines for HOW you judge a multidisciplinary course.

CA3 Report accepted as submitted.

CA4

The CA4 Subcommittee recommends approving the following new course proposals as a Content Area 4 – International (Int) courses:

- HIST 1600 Introduction to Latin America and the Caribbean
- MUSI 3421 Music in World Cultures

The CA4 Subcommittee recommends approving the following new course proposal as a Content Area 4 – non-International (non-Int) course:

- LLAS 2011W Introduction to Latino-American Writing and Research

The motion to approve carried unanimously.

W

The W Course Subcommittee recommends provisional approval of the following courses:

- AH 4297W Honors Thesis in Allied Health Sciences

Approval contingent on revising the CAR to include a distillation of the syllabus' key points in 41f so that the CAR can stand on its own (currently the CAR language in 41f is simply a cut-and-paste job using the GEOC W Guidelines).

Discussion

- POLS 3239W Politics of the Environment and Development

Approval contingent on revising the syllabus to include the 15 page minimum, and revision of the CAR so that section 41f reflects the key points of the syllabus.

Discussion

The motion to approve with contingencies carried unanimously.

4. Reports and Discussion

GEOC To-Do List for 2013-2014

- Course Alignment Project – Mike and Murph will contact the departments over the summer to set up the project for the Fall; it was determined that the department appointee should not be on GEOC to avoid conflict of interest
- A proposal was sent to the Senate C&C for revision of the CA1 criteria guidelines, but other areas have not revised their guidelines since their inception; subcommittees should plan to review their criteria in the Fall.
- The GEOC should address the question of computer and info lit competencies. Can they be combined?
- 1-credit W Assessment has been confirmed (BUS, ARTH, ECON, etc); Murphy will talk to Larry Gramling in BUS

5. Other

- The GEOC recognized members who are ending their term of service: Murphy Sewall (Chair), Xae Alicia Reyes (CA4), Sarah Winter, Rosa Helena Chinchilla, Tom Deans (W)

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Piantek
GEOC Administrator