



GEOC Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2018 – 1:00pm-2:30am in Dodd Conference 162

Minutes

Members in **BOLD** were in attendance:

Eric Schultz – Chair, (Karen Piantek – Admin), Joseph Abramo, Lisa Blansett, Brenda Brueggemann, Michael Bradford, Baki Cetegen, James Cole, Michael Darre (Ex-Officio), Ana Maria Diaz-Marcos, Arthur Engler, Beth Ginsberg, Bernard Goffinet, Debs Ghosh, David Gross, Alvaro Lozano-Robledo, Thomas Meyer, Michael Morrell, Gustavo Nanclares, Anji Seth, Kathleen Tonry (Ex-Officio), Eduardo Urios-Aparisi (Sabbatical), Manuela Wagner (Sabbatical)

Regrets: Beth Ginsberg, Joe Abramo

Meeting was called to order at 1:04pm.

1. Preliminaries

A. Call-ins: Dial 1-866-857-0502, passcode 2023183#

2. Welcome and Regrets

3. Past and Future

- a. Minutes of March 21, 2018 meeting
- No comments.

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

- b. Next Meeting: April 18, 2018 at 10:00am in Rowe 420
- c. Doodle Poll for Fall 2018 Meetings
- The poll has been sent. Please respond.
 - K. McDermott also noted that Co-Chairs have been asked to suggest updates to Alignment forms.

4. Chair's Report

A. ΔGE Working Group

- The subgroups are working away. One question that arose was the possibility of changing the term "General Education" to something else. Anyone with ideas can send them to E. Schultz or the Delta GE Communication subgroup.

B. Environmental Literacy Task Force

- The task force has made good progress on developing a working definition of Environmental Literacy (EL). This will give us tools to work with for selection of courses.
- This week's meeting will focus on implementation.
- GEOC's role in this initiative was questioned. Ideally, GEOC will sign off on any proposals the task force puts forward.

5. Subcommittee Reports

A. CA1 Report (see 'CA1 Report_4-2-18.docx')

- a. ARAB 2751 Arabic Folk Tales and Mirrors for Princes (#6066)
- b. ARAB 3550W Classical Arabic Literature (#6087)
- c. ARAB 3751 Al-Andalus: Music, Poetry and Science in Muslim Spain (#6067)
- d. ARAB 3771 Cinema in the Middle East and North Africa (#6046)
- e. HEJS/HIST 3362 Responses to the Black Death (#3720)

Discussion

- No discussion.

The report was approved as submitted unanimously.

B. CA2 Report (see 'CA2 Report_4-2-18.docx')

- a. EPSY 2450 Whole Child, School, and Community: Linking Health and Education (#5706)
- b. HDFS 3141 Developmental Approaches to Intergroup Relations and Victimization (#5104)
- c. SPSS 1060 The Great American Lawn: History, Culture and Sustainability (#6267)

Discussion

- It was noted that the HDFS course is actually a revised course, not a new course as suggested in the report. The CA2 report will be amended.
- Full approval of SPSS 1060 will await the discussion requested by the CA3 subcommittee.

The report was approved with the correction to HDFS 3141 as a revised course.

C. CA3 Discussion

- a. SPSS 1060 The Great American Lawn: History, Culture and Sustainability (#6267)

Discussion

- The CA3 subcommittee originally thought the course was okay but then pulled back after the question of the balance of the CA2 versus CA3 was broached.
- The subcommittee questioned what percentage of a course needs to address CA-specific content in order to fit the designation. Is it 20%? More than 50%? If it is more than 50%, then it seems a course cannot have two content areas like CA2 and CA3.
- Members discussed the rules about double-dipping. CA1-CA3 must be drawn from six subject codes, so it technically would be impossible to double dip a CA2/CA3 course; students would have to use it for one or the other. The language of double dipping implies that CA4 must be involved in the double-dip.
- GEOC discussed the idea of multiple content areas years before. Back then, GEOC decided that content does not have to be the "majority" of the course.
- If the purpose of Gen Ed is to give students a good background in an area, it was suggested that you dilute that ability by dividing the time between two disciplinary-related content areas. Most members felt that this did not extend to CA4 because the area is more content-driven and could overlap the more methodological-based content areas.
- It was suggested that GEOC does not need to make a finite decision on this, but the committee can instead evaluate this on a case-by-case basis.
- Another member felt that maybe we do want to set a percentage on how much of a course must specifically address certain content in order to acquire a designation.

- This may be part of a discussion that Delta GE can address.
- There was concern that building enrollment was too much of a driving force in the desire for two content areas.
- With regard to this specific course, the CA3 subcommittee felt there was not enough information in the syllabus to adequately determine how well the course covered either content area. For example, the required texts were not specified.
- E. Schultz will ask for a more detailed syllabus and for a possible GEOC visit from the proposer.

6. Alignment Reports

- a. CA1 Alignment Report (see 'CA1 Alignment Report 2018')
 - a. CHIN 1121
 - b. CLCS 1101
 - c. GERM 1171
 - d. GERM 3261W
 - e. ILCS 1149
 - f. ILCS 3260W
 - g. SPAN 1010

Discussion

- E. Schultz expressed joy at seeing that the instructor of CLCS 1101 revised the course based on reflections and insights he had when prompted to think more directly about the course's Gen Ed content through the alignment. In particular, the instructor revised the syllabus to more fully express the Gen Ed content.
- There was a request to get this instructor on GEOC, but he is only with UConn for another year.
- It was observed that much of our Gen Ed content involves film.

The report was approved as submitted.

- b. CA4 Alignment Addendum
 - a. GERM 3261W
- c. W Alignment Addendum
 - a. GERM 3261W

7. Old Business

- A. Information Literacy Updates (no updates)
- B. GEOC Review of Second Language Courses (no updates)
- C. Q Assessment (no updates)

8. Course Action Requests

- A. PNB 3264W Molecular Principles of Physiology, #3681 (W) [Revise Pre-reqs]

Note: This course was placed on hold pending contact with the proposer about the need for a W statement/F clause in the syllabus.

B. ASLN 3306W Advanced American Sign Language, Level II, #6427 (CA1, W) [New]

Guest: Linda Pelletier

Presentation and Questions

- Linda Pelletier explained an online platform called Go React. The site utilizes videos to perform “writing” in American Sign Language. It allows for feedback and a dialog between the instructor and student. The goal is to allow the process to happen in the source language, i.e. American Sign Language.
- GEOC members suggested that the W process as it applies to this course be more explicitly delineated in the syllabus. The course description would also need to be edited to more accurately describe the process used in the class, e.g. the “composing” process versus the writing process.
- Will there be a final product for students to submit? Yes.

Committee Discussion

- It was noted that GEOC’s decision on this course might open up other options, such as consideration of whether creating a graphic novel would satisfy the W requirement.
- There was general openness among members to support the visual direction.
- Is this closer to giving a speech or writing a paper in another language? The analogy is not necessarily clear.
- Some members felt that this was analogous to writing essays in another language, and we have W courses in other languages.
- The question of whether this format allows for engaging with the composition process was considered. Many members felt that it did.
- It was noted that the rest of the W subcommittee may need to see the presentation of Go React in order to understand what the course proposes to do.
- Members questioned whether it make sense to have students take ENGL 1010, ENGL 1011 or 2011 as a pre-req for a course like this.
- The course cannot seek the CA1 designation because its pre-req makes it ineligible.

This course was referred to the W subcommittee.

C. MCB 1201 Virus Hunting: Applied Bioinformatics, #6767 (CA3-Lab) [New]

D. MCB 3841W Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology, #6026 (W) [Revise Pre-reqs]

9. New Business

- a. GEOC Policy and Procedures Guide: discuss sections ‘GEOC Policies’ and ‘Course Proposal Procedures’ (see ‘GEOC Policy Guide_kp_es4.docx’)

10. Coming Up

- A. 2016-2017 Provost Competition Winner Reports (April)
- B. GEOC Annual Report (April)
- C. Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed
- D. Presentation from First-Year Writing (Spring)

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Karen C. P. McDermott
GEOC Program Assistant