



General Education Oversight Committee
Wednesday, September 21, 2021 at 10:00am-11:30am
Via WebEx
Meeting Minutes

*Members in **BOLD** were in attendance:*

Manuela Wagner – Chair, (Karen McDermott – Admin), Michele Back, Oksan Bayulgen, Lisa Blansett, Brenda Brueggemann, Jason Chang (Ex-Officio), Keith Conrad, Robert Day, Kelly Dennis, Richard Dunn, Alex Gatten, Ali Gokirmak, Lori Gresham, Linda Halgunseth, Oliver Hiob, Tania Huedo-Medina, Morty Ortega, Eleanor Ouimet, Annelie Skoog, Jennifer Terni, Kathleen Tonry, Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, Suzanne Wilson (Ex-Officio)

Called to order at 10:02 am.

1. Welcome and Regrets

A. Regrets: Jason Chang

2. Past and Future

A. Minutes of September 13, 2021 meeting.

K. Dennis motioned to approve. M. Ortega seconded. The minutes were accepted as submitted with three abstentions.

B. Future Meetings:

Mon. October 11, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Wed. October 27, 10:00am-11:30am

Mon. November 8, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Wed. December 1, 10:00am-11:30am

3. Upcoming Deadlines

A. Spring Registration Begins (October 25) – Any courses approved this meeting and October 11 will go to the University Senate on November 1.

B. Catalog Deadline (February 5) – The absolute final GEOC meeting to approve courses is December 1.

- K. McDermott notified the subcommittees of upcoming deadlines. The first one is particularly important for new courses that proposers may want to offer in the Spring. The second is especially relevant to any catalog copy changes for existing courses.

4. Chair's Report

A. Senate and Delta2GE Update (Website: <https://delta.senate.uconn.edu/> - Updated)

- There was an issue with the process for approving the new proposal. There is no blueprint for this, so we are trying to figure out the process. Delta2 is an independent task force charged by the University Senate, so they are developing a motion that will be approved by Senate C&C before it goes to the University Senate.
- The motion will be voted on in Delta2GE this week, then it goes to Senate C&C next week, then to University Senate in November meeting. The overall motion will be voted on in February, since the University Senate does not vote on curricular business in December.
- GEOC members had a number of questions about implementation. Implementation will be worked out by a separate implementation committee.

B. 2021-2022 GEOC Business

- a. Provost's Competition, Proposer Workshop
 - M. Wagner shared an updated CFP that was drafted after a meeting with key personnel.
 - Please email any comments.
- b. Alignment: AAAS, ACCT, AFRA, AMST, CHEM, CSE, ECE, ECON, FINA, GPS, MARN, MAST, PSYC, SPSS
 - K. McDermott gave a brief overview of where we are in the process and shared some updates to the directions and forms.
- c. Subcommittee: added members to CA2, CA4, and Q
 - If you would like more members, let us know.
- d. FYW Working Group
 - M. Wagner is meeting with the co-chairs to start moving forward.
- e. Q Requirements Working Group
 - M. Wagner is meeting with the co-chairs to start moving forward.

5. Subcommittee Dockets

A. CA1 Docket

Older

- a. CLCS 2010 Media Literacy and Data Ethics [CA1, CA4-Int] (#6015) [Returned by Senate C&C for consultation with proposer]

New

- b. AMST/URBN 2400 City and Community in Film [CA1] (N/A) [Request for Intensive Session]
- c. ENGL/AMST 3280W Race and the Scientific Imagination [CA1, CA4, W] (#6377) [Add course]
- d. ENGL/HEJS 3269 Holocaust Memoir [CA1, CA4] (#6019) [Revise title and add cross-listing]
 - K. Dennis presented the CA1 report. The subcommittee is moving the intensive session request.

The CA1 Report was approved as submitted. (Approval of AMST/URBN 2400).

B. CA2 Docket

New

- a. SOCI 1701(W) Society in Global Perspective [CA2, CA4-INT, W] (#7864) [Add W]
- b. SOCI 2701E Sustainable Societies [CA2, EL] (#7603) [Revise prerequisites]
- c. SOCI 2705E Sociology of Food [CA2, EL] (#7604) [Revise prerequisites]
- d. SOCI 2709E Society and Climate Change [CA2, EL] (#7744) [Add non-W version]
- e. SOCI 2709WE Society and Climate Change [CA2, W, EL] (#7565) [Revise prerequisites]
- f. SOCI 3823(W) The Sociology of Law: Global and Comparative Perspectives [CA2, CA4-Int, W] (#7623) [Revise prereqs, add W]

C. CA3 Docket

Older

- a. ANTH 2200 Race and Human Biological Diversity [CA3, CA4] (#7157) [Adding CA3 and CA4]
- b. ENGL 2614 Writing in Algorithms [CA3] (#4375) [New course]
- c. GEOG 2410 New Digital Worlds of Geographic Information Science [CA3] (#6176) [Revise level and description]

D. CA4 Docket

Older

- a. ANTH 2200 Race and Human Biological Diversity [CA3, CA4] (#7157) [Adding CA3 and CA4]

New

- b. ENGL/AMST 3280W Race and the Scientific Imagination [CA1, CA4, W] (#6377) [Add course]
- c. ENGL/HEJS 3269 Holocaust Memoir [CA1, CA4] (#6019) [Revise title and add cross-listing]
- d. ENGL/WGSS 3613 LGBTQ+ Literature [CA4] (#6076) (Revise title and description, add FYW requirement]
- e. SOCI 1701(W) Society in Global Perspective [CA2, CA4-INT, W] (#7864) [Add W]
- f. SOCI 2501/W Sociology of Intolerance and Injustice [CA4, W] (#7640) [Revise prerequisites]
- g. SOCI 2503/W Prejudice and Discrimination [CA4, W] (#7621) [Revise prerequisites]
- h. SOCI 3601/W Sociology of Gender [CA4, W] (#7344) [Revise prereqs]
- i. SOCI 3823(W) The Sociology of Law: Global and Comparative Perspectives [CA2, CA4-Int, W] (#7623) [Revise prereqs, add W]
- j. SOCI/AAAS 3221(W) Sociological Perspectives on Asian American Women [CA4, W] (#7844) [Revise number and prereqs, Add W]
- k. SOCI/AFRA/ HRTS 3505/W White Racism [CA4] (#7622) [Revise number and prereqs]
- l. SOCI/WGSS 3621/W Sociology of Sexualities [CA4, W] (#7642) [Revise number]
 - R. Dunn presented the report. The subcommittee split their docket in two and reviewed the ENGL courses first. They will handle the SOCI courses next.
 - There was one place that LGBTQ+ still needed to be updated in the WGSS course. There was discussion of who will inform the proposer. We will think about the best process for notifying proposers of comments like this. K. McDermott noted that this info can be entered into the comments on the online CAR.

The CA4 Report was approved as submitted. (Approval of ENGL/AMST 3280W, ENGL/HEJS 3269, ENGL/WGSS 3613).

E. Q Docket

Older

- a. COMM 2010Q Applied Communication Research Methods [Q] (#5137) [Add Course]
- b. MARN 3003Q Environmental Reaction and Transport [Q] (#7019) [Revise number, title, and description]

New

- c. SOCI 3211Q Quantitative Methods in Social Research [Q] (#7641) [Revise prerequisites]

F. W Docket

Older

- a. AFRA 4997W Senior Thesis in Africana Studies [W] (#6837) [New course]
- b. ARE 3440W Writing in Environmental and Resource Policy [W] (#5836) [Revise level and description]

New

- c. ENGLW 4613 Advanced Study: LGBTQIA+ Literature [W] (#6020) [Revise title and description]
- d. ENGL/AMST 3280W Race and the Scientific Imagination [CA1, CA4, W] (#6377) [Add course]
- e. SOCI 1701(W) Society in Global Perspective [CA2, CA4-INT, W] (#7864) [Add W]
- f. SOCI 2275/W Social Well-Being [W] (#7117) [Revise prerequisites]
- g. SOCI 2301/W Criminology [W] (#7500) [Revise description]
- h. SOCI 2501/W Sociology of Intolerance and Injustice [CA4, W] (#7640) [Revise prerequisites]
- i. SOCI 2503/W Prejudice and Discrimination [CA4, W] (#7621) [Revise prerequisites]
- j. SOCI 2709WE Society and Climate Change [CA2, W, EL] (#7565) [Revise prerequisites]
- k. SOCI 2907/W City Life [W] (#7602) [Revise prerequisites]
- l. SOCI 3251/W Social Theory [W] (#7340) [Revise description and restrictions]
- m. SOCI 3271(W) Topics in the Sociology of Culture [W] (#7501) [Revise number, add W]

- n. SOCI 3307/W Drugs and Society [W] (#7341) [Revise number and prerequisites]
- o. SOCI 3315/W Juvenile Delinquency [W] (#7282) [Revise number, level, and description]
- p. SOCI 3351/W Society and the Individual [W] (#7564) [Revise number and prereqs]
- q. SOCI 3407/W Energy, Environment, and Society [W] (#7644) [Revise number, prereqs, and description]
- r. SOCI 3429/W Sociological Perspectives on Poverty [W] (#7360) [Revise number, description, and prereqs]
- s. SOCI 3451/W Sociology of Health [W] (#7342) [Revise number and prereqs]
- t. SOCI 3457/W Sociology of Mental Illness [W] (#7343) [Revise number, prereqs, and description]
- u. SOCI 3471/W Sociology of Education [W] (#7283) [Revise number and restrictions]
- v. SOCI 3521/W Sociology of Religion [W] (#7542) [Revise number and prereqs]
- w. SOCI 3601/W Sociology of Gender [CA4, W] (#7344) [Revise prereqs]
- x. SOCI 3801/W Political Sociology [W] (#7563) [Revise prereqs]
- y. SOCI 3821/W Social Movements and Social Change [W] (#7600) [Revise number and prereqs]
- z. SOCI 3823(W) The Sociology of Law: Global and Comparative Perspectives [CA2, CA4-Int, W] (#7623) [Revise prereqs, add W]
- aa. SOCI/AAAS 3221(W) Sociological Perspectives on Asian American Women [CA4, W] (#7844) [Revise number and prereqs, Add W]
- bb. SOCI/AASI/HRTS 3222(W) Asian Indian Women: Activism and Social Change [W] (#7520) [Revise number and prereqs, Add W]
- cc. SOCI/AFRA 3501/W Ethnicity and Race [W] (#7566) [Revise number and prereqs]
- dd. SOCI/HRTS 3421/W Class, Power & Inequality [W] (#7561) [Revise number and prereqs]
- ee. SOCI/HRTS 3831(W) Human Rights in the United States [W] (#7560) [Revise number and prereqs, Add W]
- ff. SOCI/HRTS 3837/W Sociology of Global Human Rights [W] (#7562) [Revise number]
- gg. SOCI/URBN 3901/W Urban Sociology [W] (#7620) [Revise number]
- hh. SOCI/WGSS 3453/W Women and Health [W] (#7580) [Revise number and prereqs]
- ii. SOCI/WGSS 3621/W Sociology of Sexualities [CA4, W] (#7642) [Revise number]
 - O. Hiob-Bansal presented the report.

The W Report was approved as submitted. (Approval of ARE 3440W).

G. EL Docket

- a. SOCI 2701E Sustainable Societies [CA2, EL] (#7603) [Revise prerequisites]
- b. SOCI 2705E Sociology of Food [CA2, EL] (#7604) [Revise prerequisites]
- c. SOCI 2709E Society and Climate Change [CA2, EL] (#7744) [Add non-W version]
- d. SOCI 2709WE Society and Climate Change [CA2, W, EL] (#7565) [Revise prerequisites]

H. Information Literacy Docket

I. Second Language Docket

6. Writing (W) Course Recommendations (Continued)

- B. Brueggemann was asked to address questions that the committee had about ASL as another language.
- It was noted that new pedagogies tend to incorporate multimodal methods of “writing.” See ENGL 1007 as an example.

- Writing Studies has been around for about 100 years. For the last 30 years, writing has been talked about in much broader terms, not just as written language. It can manifest in linguistic, aural, visual, gestural, and spatial modes.
- One member noted in the chat that the new FYW course, ENGL 1007, covers “theorizing - collecting & curating - circulating - contextualizing - engaging & entering a conversation.”
- One member noted in the chat that “the classical rhetorical canon also maps out for the process of composing in ASL: invention - arrangement - style - memory -delivery (in fact, ASL composition probably relies on delivery considerably more than composing in English).”
- One member was concerned that we changing the definition of “writing.” Should we be calling it “communication” or some other broader term?
- One member noted in the chat, “My question is whether permitting fulfillment in another language might open us up to demands by non-native or other speakers for accommodation in majors outside of CLC--i.e., whether a Korean student in Art History could demand to write her paper in Korean?” It was noted that this would not be allowed to happen.
- Going back to question of being able to do all Ws in another language, one member wondered what the original intent of having W courses was. They suggested we can assume that all students who graduate from UConn (an American university) should be expected to be able to write in English. The member would be willing to allow one of the two Ws to be in another language, but not both.
- It was noted from a W subcommittee member that the intent of the proposed change was to give students options. A student’s grade in a W course may sometimes depend on the standard for judgement. For example, by requiring a course in English, some students may be evaluated more on their writing mechanics than on the actual composition of ideas. It was noted that students whose second language is English may struggle with English grammar but still be able to construct effective arguments, present strong evidence, etc. Another member felt that the majority of students they encountered whose second language was English were just bad writers.
- One member noted that many students who come to UConn from other countries are looking to learn in English because their future employers will expect them to be able to use it.
- Writing courses are not necessarily about teaching the mechanics of writing, but about teaching the conveyance of ideas. This can be an issue of equity, and one member felt it was important to debunk myths about native speakers versus second language speakers.
- There was continuing discussion on bad writing versus bad grammatical skills.
- One member noted that we may want to expand what we mean by communication/expression, but at least part of that expression should be in English.
- This discussion will be revisited at the next meeting if needed.

7. New Business

Discussion of Intensive Session Courses

8. Old Business

Aligning the Alignment Process

Requiring Regional Campus Syllabi

PR and Mentoring Campaign for Gen Ed in the Spring:

Nomenclature for New Gen Ed Areas

Awareness of importance of Gen Ed (students, staff, faculty: presentations of Gen Ed courses, videos about what Gen Ed did for..., student focus groups on specific topics,...)

Gen Ed and Covid-19: student survey conversation with colleagues at Stamford

Mentoring: Lack of knowledge about EL

Outreach to Student Organizations

Suggestions for student initiatives
Something related to Delta2GE
Number of EL Seats

9. Carryover Business

Gen Ed Goals and Syllabi
Q Criteria Discussion
Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed

10. Course Action Requests in the Queue

Full-Committee Review

A. SOCI 3459/W Aging and Society [CA2, W] (#7601) [Revise prereqs]

- GEOC approved this course recently. K. McDermott explained the process for reviewing courses under these conditions. In short, courses can be expedited.

M. Ortega motioned to approve SOCI 3459/W (#7601). A. Gokirmak seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Requests on Hold

A. N/A

Requests Awaiting Chair Review

A. N/A

O. Hiob-Bansal motioned to adjourn. A. Gokirmak seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:26am.