



Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

Date: Friday, April 10, 2020

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Zoom

Attendance: Ruben Anguiano, Sondra Bland, Joann Brennan, Summer Cao, Bassem Hassan, **Antwan Jefferson (chair)**, Craig Lanning, Taisto Makela, Christine Martell, Sandra Quinn, Kim Regier, Omar Roubi, Kodi Saylor, Gregory Walker, Michelle Carpenter, Kari Shafenberg, Nimol Hen, Alana Jones, Zixia Cao, Joann Brennan, Samantha Rovno (recorder).

Not Present:

18 total

Agenda and Minutes

1. Opening and Minutes

- Introductions of members present, and overview by Antwan Jefferson, chair, for new members of the CCOC and recent personnel changes.
- Minutes for the December 2019 meeting were approved by 8 attending members, with one new member abstaining. Mary Baitinger will correct Jeff Franklin's status in the minutes, as he will be teaching on campus in fall 2020 and not retired.

2. Updates

- Sucharita Das Petition – the student had requested a core waiver for her undergraduate degree, as she has both bachelor and master degrees from India. Antwan and Joann worked extensively with International Education and the Registrar's office in December and January, and based on the information collected from the student and these departments, the student's core classes were waived, with the exception of Cultural Diversity. The student has signed up for a class in this area and will be graduating with a bachelors in May, 2020.

3. New Business/Action Items

- Core Course Proposal – LCRT 3815 (Cultural Diversity) - Sherri Taylor, representing the syllabus, reviewed the purpose of the class and its highlights. Content includes family literacy and practices in cultural communities, family systems, oral and written language, and intersections of culture and community and businesses. The proposed textbook uses short case studies and a variety of communities. The CCOC generated the following comments and suggestions:
 - An amazing class.
 - Literacy should be defined within the course syllabus, even though the issue is addressed over several lectures.

- Family literacy should be clarified.
- The proposed title does not define what the class actually teaches. Perhaps a more technical term should be used.
- How is being literate defined? What does this actually mean?
- Good learning outcomes.
- The neighborhood walk, as part of the curriculum, may not address diverse communities where people actually live (ex. an apartment building in a community may be different than the neighborhood itself). The scope of the walk should be wider in scope.
- While there are no prerequisites for the course, how would a freshman fare taking a 3000 level class? Would their writing skills be acceptable when submitting course assignments?

Action: Antwan will communicate these comments to the instructor. Depending on the revisions and when the syllabi is returned, Antwan may approve it on behalf of the CCOC or else brought to the group again for final approval at the March 2020 meeting.

- Core Course Proposal – Math 3041 – This was co-designed with SEHD to support elementary school majors. Usually, Math 1010 or 2830 is taken, but educators believe neither adequately prepares elementary teachers for the work they do in classrooms. Pedagogical practices are integrated into the course. Comments and ideas discussed by the group included the following:
 - If a non SHED student takes this class, will they have the background to understand it?
 - As this course is customized to SEHD curriculum requirements, does this open the possibility up to different departments?
 - Current rules state core courses should be available to all. Some core classes should be geared towards departments.
 - What is the advantage of this course over other math classes being offered, if you are not an elementary school major?
 - Can SEHD offer this course within their requirements or as an elective? If so, does the potential exist for bachelor degree hours to go beyond 120 credits towards graduation?
 - Only a small portion of university students would benefit from this class.
 - If there is a requirement for the class that is major specific, then this proposed course doesn't satisfy the purpose of the core.
 - A larger discussion is needed if the Math Department is open to developing partnerships with other departments, as in the case with this particular proposed course.
 - Could this course not be approved as part of the core, but if it is offered, could education students request Math 3041 waive the math requirement?
 - Could the title be changed to include other students who are not education majors?
 - A quantitative literacy discussion should occur campus-wide.

Action: The CCOC verbally agreed that Math 3041, in its present form, would not be accepted for the core. They would like to see further revisions and the course brought back for a continued discussion. At minimum, the title should be changed and prerequisites removed.

- FYE Course Title Change – The First Year Experiences Program (FYE) would like to change ETST 3111 from Stories We Tell: Explorations of Race, Ethnicity and Culture to How Do We Talk About Race? Stories of Race, Ethnicity and Culture.

Vote: 11 present CCOC members approved the title change for this course.

- FYE Course Proposals – The First Year Experiences Program (FYE) would like to add two new courses to their curriculum, HIST 1111- Shiver Me Timbers – The History of Pirates (Humanities) and COMM 1111 – Football in American Culture (Behavioral Sciences). Christy Heaton, director of FYE, was unavailable to attend, and Antwan provided the purpose of the program and allowances of specific core classes towards their curriculum. COMM 1111 was determined acceptable, but HIST 1111 has several issues. This syllabus had numerous typos, clarity in writing assignments, no rubric, Learning Outcomes are not showing how they would be used, critical thinking is not assessed and unclear as a graded component, no graded assignment in the first 5 weeks, and Internet piracy should be considered as part the class curriculum.

Vote and Action: 11 CCOC members approved COMM 1111. For HIST 1111, Antwan will provide Christy feedback, and he will approve when the syllabus is updated on behalf of the CCOC, so Christy can meet her fall 2020 FYE printing deadline.

- Special Topics – Study Abroad – Tabled for a later meeting, due to Kari's absence.

4. Old Business

- Core Arts & Humanities Review (Fall 2019) and Core Social Sciences Review (Spring 2020) – Antwan informed the group he is in the process of contacting the deans from the fall core review with feedback from the CCOC reviews that was completed in November. For the Core Social Sciences review, there are approximately 19 classes to be reviewed, and each CCOC member will have 5-6 syllabi each. Antwan will be sending out requests to deans for spring syllabi reviews in the next few weeks, and the earliest the CCOC will review them is in March.
- PHYS Lecture/Lab pairings and PHYS Course Sequencing – As discussed by Sandra Quinn and CCOC members during the December 2019 meeting, students would be grandfathered in who have taken either PHYS 2351 or PHYS 2361 and have mismatches of lectures and labs. This includes current and past semesters, as well as the upcoming spring 2020. Today's discussion is centered around approving 2 new labs and how they

match with 2351 and 2361, and confirming the grandfathering details of students.

Comments and questions by CCOC members included the following:

- In the past, there have been 10-15 petitions to approve mismatched labs with classes, even though the core list details the correct pairings. Potentially there could be many more.
- If grandfathering in mismatches does not get approved today, students graduating this spring will not be able to do so.
- A solution to lab mismatching is to have only one lab for college physics, with no restrictions,
- Neither labs currently are algebra or calculus-based.
- All lab mismatches before Fall of 2020 should be grandfathered in.
- Engineering's lab requirements and configurations have been perceived as ambiguous and should be better clarified by their department to the CCOC.

Note: 11 voting CCOC members approved grandfathering in any student, before Fall 2020, who took a physics lab course related to PHYS 2351 or PHYS 2361 that was mismatched.

Action: Antwan will contact the new chair of Engineering and ask for clarity regarding their department needs related to the physics lab courses, particularly the one lab for either class concept.

- Fall 2019 Informal Review – This conversation regarding CCOC process improvement for the committee as a whole will be discussed at the March 2020 meeting, due to lack of time. Potential topics will be agenda updates and feedback, successes and challenges during fall semester 2019, and ideas going forward for the CCOC as Jeff Franklin has left, Joann Brennan has joined, and Antwan is cycling off as chair. Antwan encouraged CCOC members to consider chairing the group, starting in summer/fall 2020.