Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

Date: Wednesday, May 3, 2017
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Meeting Location: Alumni Conference Room, LSC, 14th Floor
Attendance: Ruben Anguiano, Sheryl Coffey, Phillip Gallegos, Carol Golemboski (chair), Jeff Franklin, Antwan Jefferson, Craig Lanning, Hans Morgenthaler, Gwen Persons, Mary Lee Stansifer, Traci Sitzmann, Tammy Stone, Gregory Walker, Mary Baitinger (recorder)

Agenda and Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from April 5, 2017 meeting

    Vote: These were approved by the present 5 voting members.

2. Announcements/Updates
    - Mary Baitinger requested that CCOC members update their calendars by July, 2017 in order to schedule the fall 2017 CCOC meetings.
    - The Cultural Diversity syllabi will be reviewed by the CCOC during the fall 2017 semester.

3. Review of Student Petition for Breece Kelsey
    Carol provided the following background:

    - The student is in his fourth year in CAM and would like the *Fundamentals of Computing* with lab to count for his Biological and Physical Sciences with lab Core requirement.
    - The student took this course while pursuing a minor in Computer Science. He decided not to pursue the minor and the courses he took in Computer Science do not fulfill any degree requirements.
    - The student's petition includes a letter of support from his advisor attesting to rigor of course.

    The group discussed the following related to the petition:
    - Approving a class which was never a core course, as well as retroactively requesting a past course for core credit, opens the door for numerous students to pursue a similar request.
    - The request is too much of a stretch, as the labs are not the same.
    - If this were a transfer course from another institution other than CU Denver, we would consider it for fulfilling the core requirement. But since the student has attended here, it does not.

    Vote: Breece Kelsey's petition was denied by the present 9 voting members.

4. Review of Student Petition for Jesse Caraballo
    Carol provided the following regarding the student's petition:
    - The student is Business major and former Music major and would like to have his Drawing I course count for the Arts core requirement.
    - The student's advisor writes that along with the drawing class and 26 hours of music courses, the spirit of the core has been fulfilled.

- The student argues that transfer students get more leeway in terms of fulfilling the core with transfer credits. Native students who take similar non-Core courses are usually denied core credits.

The CCOC discussed the following related to the petition:
- Courses accepted for the core are vetted through a rigorous process and include Learning Outcomes, which many other university courses do not.
- Currently there is no process to "test out" of a class, although this is something in the future that CU Denver and the CCOC would consider implementing if created by CDHE.
- If the student were still an art major, he would still need to take a core Arts class regardless.

Vote: Jesse Caraballo's petition was denied by the present 8 voting members and approved by 1 voting member.

5. Review of Core Course Proposal for ENGL 2154
This course, *Introduction to Creative Writing*, is proposed by CLAS, Department of English. It has a pre-requisite of ENGL 1020 (Composition). Typically, core courses do not have a pre req, but in this case, the Core Composition needs to be completed first. The CCOC noted that this is the first course in the Arts that is not CAM-related, a plus for its approval, and the core area is sparse for classes. The syllabus and petition were very thorough, and the course would need to be renumbered and effective Spring 2018.

Vote: The proposed ENGL 2154 course was approved by the present 9 voting members.

6. Review of Core Course Proposal for LING 2000
This course, *Foundation of Linguistics*, is proposed by CLAS, Modern Languages.

The CCOC discussed the following related to the course proposal:
- In the Learning Objectives, behavioral sciences requirements are not listed – how are they addressed in the assignments?
- The syllabus needs to be more explicit.
- There is a great deal of technical features regarding language. Is the course more behavioral science?
- Rubric or a guide should be added.
- Scientific method versus scientific/cultural level?
- How is the scientific method itself taught to the students?
- Critical thinking exists in the syllabus.
- Would this course pass a CCOC syllabus review in its present form?
- Assignments need to be clarified and how the knowledge is applied.
- Collecting data exists, but how is it integrated?
- Personal, Social—learning outcome—is that in syllabus?
- Applications: not much evidence of how apply evidence to human experience. Are there specific assignments that do this?
- Knowledge: how are the assignments pulling the issues together in the Learning Outcomes? Lots of info about collecting data but how does it integrate?

Action: Carol will synthesize the above feedback/suggestions in an e-mail to Modern Languages. If they want approval for the course this spring, a revised syllabus will be sent to CCOC members. Votes will be collected electronically, and a decision rendered by mid-May, 2017.

Vote: The proposed LING 2000 course was approved via electronic vote by 10 voting members and denied by 2 voting members. The faculty member who proposed the course was advised to update the syllabus based on the recommendation of the committee to consolidate the course and core learning outcomes. Effective date for this course is Fall 2017.

7. Review of Core Course Proposal for FITV 1000
   This course, *Fundamentals of Film and Television*, is proposed by CAM. If approved, the course will have to be renumbered. This course, although similar to another core course, focuses only on film and television. CCOC comments regarding the proposal include: A need to clarify writing assignments (the discussion board assignments have a different requirement than in the syllabus assignments); the late arrival to class needs to be clarified; a CAM creative project is different than a humanities created project; and the proposal a very thorough.

   Vote: The proposed FITV course was approved by 8 voting members. Pending the creation of a new course number (to be done by CAM in fall 2017), this course will become effective for the core in Spring 2018.