

Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

October 11, 2013

12:30-2:00 pm

LSC 1250

Date: October 11, 2013

Time: 12:30pm to 2:00pm

Meeting Location: LSC 1250 Conference Room

Attendance: Paul Stretesky, Cecilio Alvarez, Hans Morgenthaler, Neda Barrett, John Lanning, , Ann Martin, Ron Ramirez, Kent Homchick, Yong Liu, Manuel Espinoza, Frederick Chambers, Sam Welch, Phil Gallegos, Diane Turner, Carol Golemboski

Agenda

1.
 - a. World Theatre (THTR 3550) course was passed by the Committee.
 - b. Martina Juarez is working on changes to the UCD course (electronic) catalog. The idea is to have a central repository in the Registrar's office. This is still an ongoing discussion while Martina takes the idea to the different colleges this fall.
[ACTION] Paul will arrange to have Martina make a presentation to the committee late this semester or early next semester.
2. A proposal was sent to CCOC to add Introduction to Computing (CSCI 1320) to Natural and Physical Sciences area of the UCD Core. The Committee suggested some changes to the syllabus: include the names of the chapters in the "course outline" on page 8; add due dates to the assignments and homework; please specify how homework is different from program assignments; and add a writing component to help strengthen the idea that there is a critical thinking component in the course. Some recommendations for when the course goes forward for gtPathways review at the state level were: amplify the scientific method portion of the syllabus to help demonstrate how this course falls in the Natural and Physical Sciences Content area of gtPathways; include some natural and physical science examples; emphasize natural/physical science history and development in the Core.
[ACTION] Paul will send these suggestions to Gita Alaghband. John Lanning will meet in person and help her with these issues.
3. A proposal was sent to CCOC to change UCD core in Behavioral and Social Sciences for Behavioral and Social Science majors. The Committee unanimously voted yes to this issue. It was suggested that we should get input from the College of Arts and Media so that all the core areas can be treated the same way.
[ACTION] Paul will contact Joann Brennan about this.
4. The CCOC discussed the idea that students who take calculus-based physics and the lab (PHYS2311/2321 and PHYS 2331/2341) shall be allowed to substitute these courses for algebra-based physics and the lab (PHYS 2010/2030 and PHYS 2020/2040) to meet the core requirements in Biological and Physical sciences. The committee recognized that course content is identical except for the level of mathematical skills required. The committee discussed the positive and negative

aspects of such an approach. The Committee noted that this policy benefits students *and* strengthens the quality of education at UCD. The committee noted that this could be viewed as violating the rule about the number of courses any particular major is allowed to teach in the Core. The Committee decided that because the course content is generally the same (except that one course has calculus-based math and one has algebra-based math) that this does not violate the four course rule and maintains the standard of limiting the number of Core courses that any one discipline can teach in the Core.

[ACTION] Paul will gain input from relevant UCD stakeholders (e.g., physics faculty teaching these courses, advisors and CLAS dean's office) concerning potential policy and then send a draft of potential policy to the committee for a vote.

5. Current CCOC policy states that freshman and sophomores should not take 3000 and 4000 level Core courses. Should we modify this? We don't have enough information on how many freshmen and sophomores are actually taking these courses. We need more information before we can make a decision.

[ACTION] John will get some data for the Committee.