

Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

Date: Friday, November 8, 2019

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Chancellor's Conference Room, LSC, 14th Floor

Attendance: Ruben Anguiano, Jody Beck, Sondra Bland, Michelle Carpenter, Bassem Hassan, Antwan Jefferson (chair), Alana Jones, Christine Martell, Sandra Quinn (via phone), Kim Regier, Kodi Saylor, Kari Shafenberg, Mary Lee Stansifer, Gregory Walker, Mary Baitinger (recorder).

Not Present: Jeff Franklin, Nimol Hen, Craig Lanning

Agenda and Minutes

1. Opening and Minutes

- Introductions of members present.
- Minutes for the September 13, 2019 meeting were approved (10, with one abstention). There are no minutes for Friday, October 11, 2019, since the group did not meet, due to lack of agenda items.

2. Announcements/Updates/No Action

- Student Petition: Abdulla Alyafei – this student did not take the correct lab and lecture together, as the pairings were not clear on the core list. Antwan Jefferson, chair, approved this petition, as others of a similar scope were approved in the past.
- Student Petition: Evan Russum – this student took a course in Astronomy at Utah State and, based on the transfer lists used CU Denver (TES and Transferology), this course appeared to fulfill a core requirement. Kari and Sandra highlighted the challenges the TES (preferred) system provides regarding transfer courses and how the technology to approve courses is being wiped to reduce these types of errors. The Registrar's Office will archive past course information approvals, once the upgrade is complete. Antwan approved this petition, as this situation was not the fault of the student.
- GEOG 1602 Prefix Request: The Geography Department requested the core list display a notation indicating GEOG 1602 is both a core requirement as well a geography prerequisite for their degree. Antwan declined to do so, as many degrees at CU Denver use core classes in the same manner.
- Core Course Name Change for INTE 2500: The new title #Learning: Digital Spaces and Far Out Places was approved by Antwan, as departments frequently update course names. A question posed was whether the hashtag would interfere with loading the wording into the CU catalog system. Kari will follow up with Alison Diekhoff to ensure it is not an issue.
- Additional Item – Mary Lee asked the group to discuss, at a future date, the creation of upper division courses to count towards core requirements (International Perspectives excepted). In the Business School, many transfer students need 3000 level core courses to complete their degrees and are lacking core upper division classes.

3. New Business/Action Items

- Fall 2019 Arts and Humanities Core Course Review – Mary discussed the procedures and documents towards the review process, with results to her by December 2. Antwan provided background and information on the Early Alert, attendance policies, critical thinking skills, and the writing component listed on the reviewer sheet. It was asked if CCOC members can provide instructors writing suggestions for classes, the amount of writing, and if there should be a percentage amount. Antwan answered that these are outside the scope of the CCOC reviews, only that the writing component is evident in the syllabi. Gregory asked the group about syllabi academic rigor, as some he reviewed use tests, while others employ open book exams. CCOC members provided methods used in their own classes, including the types of materials being tested, fill in the blanks, stress reducers, etc.
- Revisions to Physics Core Course Pairings – these were provided to the CCOC on the 11/8/19 agenda, and the following information, comments and questions included:
 - A vote on the pairings is currently being approved by the Physics Department. At this time, the CCOC is being asked to provide any comments or observations, and these will be brought back to the department and approving authorities (EPCC).
 - There are three sets of labs and two sets of lectures. Flexibility is being added to the process of choosing labs affiliated with courses. Some courses are just changing their names.
 - Changes to the pairings would potentially be enacted in Fall 2020.
 - Types of math classes, including those affiliated with MSU, are not considered a determining factor when students select their sets of physics pairings.
 - How will incoming transfer courses be affected? Will they align and will equivalency occur?
 - Classes will eventually have GTPathways approval.
 - Descriptions in the course catalog must change to align with the new numbers.
 - The CCOC would like two lab syllabi to review, to make sure consistency exists.
 - Previous mismatches of physics courses and labs by the students should be grandfathered in and accepted towards their graduation requirements.