

MINUTES
General Education Committee
September 4, 2018
1:15-2:45pm in VL 216

Members present: Paul Delaney (Professor of English), Michelle Hardley (Secretary and Registrar), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Chair and Information Literacy Librarian), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Rachel Winslow (Director, Westmont Downtown), Steve Rogers (Professor of Psychology)

I. Prayer – Jana Mullen

II. The minutes from April 27th were approved.

III. Election of the Committee Chair

Paul Delaney will serve as chair of the committee for this year only.

IV. Delisting ENG-134 – Race and Ethnicity in American Literature – Delist from the Compassionate Action: Serving Society Requirement

The GE Committee discussed the proposal.

The committee has approved this course for delisting from the Serving Society requirement effective fall 2018.

V. Delisting EB-080 – Principles of Management – Delist from the Common Skills: Writing Speech Intensive

The GE Committee discussed the proposal.

The committee has approved this course for delisting from the Writing Speech Intensive requirement effective fall 2018.

VI. Delisting EB-160 – Principles of Marketing – Delist from the Compassionate Action: Serving Society Requirement

The GE Committee discussed the proposal.

The committee has approved this course for delisting from the Serving Society requirement effective fall 2018.

VII. MA-005 – Statistics – Add to Common Skills: Writing Speech Intensive

The GE Committee discussed the proposal. An array of sample papers would be helpful to see as this proposal is being considered. It would also be helpful to have information on the writing instruction that takes place within the class and the rubric(s) used to assess student writing.

The committee will request this information and will reconsider this submission in a future meeting.

VIII. GE Projects for the 2018-2019 Academic Year

Tatiana reviewed the major projects for the upcoming year. This list includes the usual review of new courses for GE certification and delisting requests as well as assessment projects in the Physical and Life Sciences areas and in Old and New Testament. We will also continue discussing the Round Table idea presented at the end of the spring semester.

IX. Exploring the Physical/Life Sciences Assessment

Steve gave an overview of the current status of the Physical and Life Science assessment. A questionnaire was developed and administered in CHM-005 and 2 sections of PSY-001 (277 total responses) last year.

The overall consensus was that the students did well understanding the nature of science and in their ability to interpret scientific data and graphs. Their ability to read a scientific article and draw conclusions was good, but for one of the questions the majority of students chose an incorrect answer. Their lower scores there could be due to a reading comprehension issue or the type of article chosen, but may not reflect any real deficiencies in the courses being assessed. There were no significant differences in the data between gender, class ranks and students taking a Physical Science or a Life Science course.

Steve is still working on coding for ethnicity of the students to see if there was a significant difference based on ethnicity. An additional comparison between last year's data and previous assessment efforts in this area would also be a valuable exercise.

X. The 2018-2019 OT and NT Assessment

Jana gave an update on the progress of assessment in the Old Testament and New Testament courses. This is being done as part of a larger institutional assessment effort in Christian Understandings, Practices and Affections (CUPA). Individual pre/post tests were developed for the Old Testament and New Testament courses. Students will receive credit for completing the assessments each time regardless of their score on the tests. This will allow us to see change over time within a course. Seniors will respond to the same tests as well as an additional one covering concepts within Christian Doctrine. This will allow us to see how much information students retained over time.

XI. The OT and NT Syllabus Review

Tatiana will work with Rachel and possibly Jana to review the small number of syllabi for the New Testament and Old Testament courses.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Hardley