

MINUTES
General Education Committee
March 4, 2019
3:15-4:45pm
VL 216

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

I. Prayer – Heather

II. The minutes from February 11th were approved.

III. The New Language of the Global Awareness/Global Engagement ILO
Heather gave an overview of the discussion at Senate regarding the Global Awareness/Global Engagement ILO. There was one minor change made by Senate to the wording of the Thinking Globally GELO. These changes were approved by Senate. The change in title for the ILO will be on the March 5th Senate agenda.

IV. The GE Senior Survey Presentation to Senate
Paul gave an overview of the discussion in Senate regarding the GE Senior Survey. There was some interest in examining whether we need 4 PEA courses and if we want to run the survey with current Sophomores and Juniors (versus second semester Seniors) as the Sophomores and Juniors are still taking a fair number of general education classes.

V. The Round Table Presentation to Senate
The Round Table idea was discussed, and it was determined that if we are going to present this idea to Senate we need to have a proposal that has logistical viability with space and staffing resources. Realistically, if we have an incoming class of 315 students (the projected incoming class of First Years minus the Augustinian students) we would need to have 21 sections of the Roundtable classes at 15 seats per section. If we include the incoming transfers then we need additional sections. Increasing the seating capacity would reduce the number of sections but may change the nature of the course.

Tatiana will send the committee the latest version of the Round Table information. We will continue discussing this item and whether it is ready for presentation at the March 19th Senate meeting.

VI. HIS-195/POL-150 – Anti-Semitism and the Politics of Prejudice – Add to Common Inquiries: Thinking Globally and Thinking Historically

The course looks like a wonderful course but it is not an approved repeating course, it is a topics course. Topics courses are not given GE status as they are not formally approved through the Academic Senate Review Committee and are typically taught as one-off offerings versus in a regular teaching rotation.

Paul will send a note to Rick on these issues so that he is aware of the rationale for why the course will not be considered for GE credit.

VII. The Christian Doctrine Syllabus Audit

Tatiana and Jana evaluated the three syllabi in Christian Doctrine. Two of the syllabi were of acceptable quality and one of them was deficient in a few different areas. Tatiana will connect with the faculty member in person to explain the areas of the syllabus that need amending for any offerings by this instructor in fall 2019.

VIII. ENV-001 – Introduction to Environmental Studies – Add to Common Inquiries: Thinking Globally

The main concern of the committee was to make sure that the learning outcomes were aligned with the assignments given in the course. Based on the information Marianne sent in reply to our last memo, the committee is comfortable approving the course for the Thinking Globally GE credit. Marianne and Amanda may still want to consider rewording some of learning outcomes so that they are more aligned with assignments (and easier to assess for the instructor) but the committee is happy to let the course run with what is there with the changes Marianne has suggested.

The committee is curious to hear how the course goes, given that it is a new course for a new minor. They would like to hear an update from Marianne or Amanda on their experience with the course, any changes that were made or things learned in the first two offerings of the courses. In Paul's memo to Marianne and Amanda on the approval he will ask them to submit an informal update on the overall course experience in spring 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Hardley