

MINUTES
General Education Committee
October 21, 2020
2:00-3:30 p.m.
Zoom

Members present: Steve Contakes (Professor of Chemistry and Committee Chair), Michelle Hardley (Registrar), Steve Hodson (Professor of Music), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director of the Westmont Library), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Rachel Winslow (Professor of History)

Absent:

I. Prayer – Steve Contakes

II. Approve the Minutes of October 14
The meeting minutes were approved with minor corrections.

III. TA-035 – Costume Design – Add to Common Inquiries: Working Artistically
The committee discussed the course proposal. Minor changes will be requested from Mitchell on the language of the student learning outcomes and a request to define one acronym in the syllabus.

The course was approved effective spring 2021.

IV. Discussion on Justice, Reconciliation and Diversity Proposal
Rachel, Steve C. and Steve H. gave updates on the progress made in their conversations with the departments that teach in the Common Context areas, the Diversity Committee and Angela D’Amour and the Serving Society GE area.

The History department was willing to adjust the certification criteria in the GE Combined document to include more explicit coverage of issues of race and ethnicity over time. Philosophy and Religious Studies felt that their areas do this already but that their GE categories were not the best places for this emphasis to be highlighted. We could suggest revisions to the entire Common Context area, but this might be a bigger project than we are able to accomplish in this time period.

Steve H. talked with Angela D’Amour on the Serving Society/Enacting Justice category. Angela oversees the APP-191SS course (20% of students complete the requirement with this course). The options for completing this area are varied

with little consistency and oversight. We need to ensure that the service levels are consistent, the opportunities are unpaid and that the service is done with reflection. The GE Committee members decided that a revision of this area to include issues of race and ethnicity was also a bigger project than we are able to accomplish at this time.

Rachel made some minor edits to the GE Combined document and the proposal materials based on comments from the Diversity Committee and feedback from GE committee members. The GE Committee spent the remainder of the meeting discussing these changes to the proposal language, the position of the new GE category in the re-envisioned Common Fluencies category, and the list of possible courses to meet the category.

Steve will send out a final version of these documents for committee review and approval with the goal to present these materials to Academic Senate in their October 27th meeting.

V. Other Business

None

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Hardley