

**MINUTES**  
**General Education Committee**  
**January 31, 2020**  
**2:00 – 3:30 p.m.**  
**VL 216**

**Members present:** Steve Contakes (Professor of Chemistry and Committee Chair), Paul Delaney (Professor of English), Michelle Hardley (Registrar), Michelle Hughes (Chair and Professor of Education), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Co-Director of the Westmont Library), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness)

**Absent:**

**I. Prayer** – Tatiana Nazarenko

**II. The minutes from January 31, 2020 were approved.**

**III. IS-122 Technology and European Society - Add to Common Inquiries: Understanding Society**

Ken has added language to the syllabus to illustrate how the course assignments help students meet the learning objectives for the course.

Paul asked Felicia Song for her perspective on the course. She was in favor of the course but would recommend that the suggested Sociology textbook be required. She also wondered where the foundational theories were within the course, but acknowledged that these could be implicit versus explicit within the syllabus.

There were some additional concerns raised on the amount and type of work required over the summer and whether there will be enough instruction and guidance given to students to engage in this work. Will students be able to critique the sociological studies they read over the summer when they have not had instruction in the subject? Ken should consider having students read and summarize their articles over the summer, then write the critiques after receiving instruction within the semester.

Steve will communicate these thoughts to Ken and request a revised syllabus.

**IV. IS-123 The Arts in Europe - Add to Common Inquiries: Working Artistically**

The syllabus has not yet been revised and will be considered in a future meeting. The additional information received from Lisa DeBoer should be passed along to Patti Hunter.

**V. RIL Syllabus Evaluation**

The GE Reading Imaginative Literature Syllabus Review document is on the shared drive. The syllabi can be found on the syllabus archive. Please evaluate your assigned syllabi using the document on the shared drive by the next GE Committee meeting.

**VI. Department of Religious Studies' Response to the CUPA Assessment**

The CUPA team met on Tuesday to finalize the language of the report. The GE Committee reviewed the most recent version. It appears to be a good response to the assessment efforts this year. Steve will circle back to the Religious Studies department and let them know that it looks like they are engaging in a lot of beneficial activities for students and we applaud their efforts.

**VII. First Year Experience Report and Update**

A revised version of the First Year Experience proposal with embedded tutoring was distributed to the committee. Faculty in History, Philosophy and Religious Studies are on board with the general idea. The next step is to present the proposal to Mark for funding.

**VIII. Serving Society: Angela D'Amour Revision of the Internship Category**

This item will be discussed in a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Hardley