

MINUTES

General Education Committee

September 8, 2022

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Members present:

Theresa Covich (Instructional Services Librarian), Steve Hodson (Professor of Music), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Carmel Saad (Associate Professor of Psychology), Felicia Song (Professor of Sociology), Tara Sturges (Assistant Registrar)

Agenda Items:

I. Prayer – Tatiana Nazarenko

II. Approve the Minutes of April 19th

The committee members unanimously approved the minutes with one correction.

III. Election of Committee Chair

The committee members unanimously nominated Steve Hodson to be Committee Chair. Steve Hodson accepted the appointment and was elected chair of the committee.

IV. Committee's Responsibilities

Tatiana distributed printed pages from the Faculty Handbook with details concerning members' responsibilities. Tatiana also distributed the GE Committee Combined document and presented an overview of the General Education website.

Action Item: Tatiana requested that new committee members submit personal biographies for the GE Committee membership webpage.

V. Tasks for the 2022-2023 Academic Year

The Committee reviewed the Task Sheet for the 2022-2023 academic year.

- A. BTFJRD: Update presented to new members the status of this task. The GE Committee awaits the approval of the addition of this category to the current GE. The next faculty meeting may include a discussion on how to move this item forward. A committee member stated that holding a faculty workshop wherein current courses are evaluated in one sitting for applicability will allow for greater efficiency in course approval and be less time-intensive on faculty schedules. This workshop should be held in spring 2023 prior to midterms.
- B. Steve Hodson: update concerning the removal of the Serving Society/Compassionate Action from the GE.
 - a. Steve met with President Beebe to discuss this topic in the summer of 2022. They determined two problems: the difficulty of assessment coupled with WASC's suggestion that it be removed from the GE and the lack of coordination

and organization in the current Serving Society program. Dr. Beebe supports moving this requirement from the GE curriculum and making it a graduation requirement, akin to the Senior Residency requirement, with the hope of offering more exciting opportunities. Various possible programs were mentioned.

- b. If approved, the ad hoc committee to address and implement this transition will be comprised of Paul Bradford, Angela D'Amour, Steve Hodson, Scott Lisea, Rick Ostrander, Jeff Schaffer, and Tara Sturges.
- C. Common Inquiry Assessments: committee members will coordinate the following assessments during the 2022-2023 academic year to work with corresponding department chairs to review and assess student learning in relation to the area SLOs. Assessments will take place during spring 2023 with the results to be discussed during Mayterm 2023. All preparations need to be done in the fall semester.
 - a. Understanding Society Assessment: Carmel Saad
 - b. Working Artistically Assessment: Felicia Song
- D. Separating Written Communication and Oral Communication requirements: Steve Hodson will invite Sarah Skripsky to an upcoming GE Committee meeting as an expert consultant on this subject.
- E. Reducing the number of required PEA units: Tatiana presented research that she and the GE Committee performed in the past concerning common practice among peer institutions in this category. Based on this research, it was recommended that the committee proceed with pursuing this adjustment to this Common Skills requirement, noting that this must be executed with respect and honor toward all involved. Tatiana noted that Steve Contakes did much work in researching this topic and will be consulted.
- F. Modern Foreign Language: a three-semester competency-based requirement
 - a. Tatiana noted that this recommendation was made by the Modern Languages Department's external reviewer and was found to be common practice among peer institutions. She discussed this item with Dinora Cardoso, Department Chair, and Kim Denu. Dinora will need to work with the Records Office to determine any resulting assessment or process changes if needed. Theresa Covich will work with Dinora on behalf of the Committee.

VI. 2022 Reasoning Abstractly Report

Action Item: Committee members will review this document prior to the next meeting on September 22, 2022. At that time, members will discuss whether the document is ready to be submitted as the GE Annual Assessment Update report for the Program Review Committee.

VII. RS-116 Syllabus: RS-116 Submission Form; RS-116 Rationale

To be reviewed and discussed during the September 22, 2022 meeting.

VIII. RS-155 Evaluation

Committee members agreed after reviewing the submitted document that a syllabus is needed for further examination of whether this course is sufficient for fulfilling the criteria for the

Thinking Historically and Thinking Globally GE requirements. Tatiana will ask Sandra Richter to submit the syllabus.

IX. Other Business

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Sturges

Addendum:

MINUTES
General Education Committee meeting at the Faculty Meeting
September 23, 2023
4:15-4:45pm
GLC Room

Members present: Steve Hodson (Professor of Music), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Felicia Song (Professor of Sociology & Anthropology), Tara Sturges (Assistant Registrar)

Absent: Theresa Covich (Instructional Services Librarian), Michelle Hardley (Secretary and Registrar), Carmel Saad (Professor of Psychology)

I. Prayer - (none)

II. Review of RS-116 (Europe Semester/Fall 2024)

After reviewing the submitted documents, the committee will recommend to Faculty Senate that RS-116 (The Apocolypse) be allowed to fulfill the Reading Imaginative Literature requirement only when offered during an Off-Campus Program. Although one member of the English department is not in favor of this designation, the Statement of Rationale submitted for RS-116 (Europe Semester/Fall 2024) included approval from several other members of the English department.

II. GE Combined Document: e.g. vs i.e. Discussion

There was some discussion concerning the “e.g.” and “i.e.” designations in the GE Combined document. Follow-up is recommended to clarify the appropriate and if the same designation should apply to all General Education categories.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Sturges