

MINUTES – A&S CURRICULUM COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 10, 2004

Present: C. Bucki (Chair), E. Dew (Secretary), J. Escobar, D. McFadden, L. McSweeney, L. Newton, L. Porter, S. Rakowitz, K. Schlichting, J. Simon

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 (in CNS 100)

Minutes of Dec. 9, 2003, were approved unanimously without correction.

New Business: New Course Proposals

PY 364 – Abnormal Child Psychology Seminar (Primavera)

Discussion was quite positive. Escobar pointed out some typos for the Chair to pass on to Psychology. Some discussion of the idea that a “Seminar” might not be taught as a “Turbo.” Explanation was called for, along with the observation that departmental notes were rather limited. The committee voted unanimously in support of the course.

PY 385 – False Memories Seminar (Henkel)

There was more concern with this course. There were no prerequisites identified. Rakowitz thought that “Junior/Senior status” was enough to screen enrollments. McFadden questioned the several exams in what is considered a seminar course. Bucki especially noted that the last day of classes involved a “take home” exam. What was the basis of the final evaluation? Rakowitz moved that the course be approved pending a clarification on the final evaluation and the points for participation. The motion passed with one abstention.

In a separate motion, McFadden and Simon urged the Chair to improve the notes and evaluation process for future courses. Newton suggested that all departments be provided with a template and instructions for new submissions.

AY 189 – Ethnographic Knowledge and Practice (Crawford)

This course also generated the need for a proper outline (template) for course submissions. For example, 9a and b were not met with regards to the cycling or replacement questions. Members drew a distinction between a syllabus and an outline. Discussion of class participation (its meaning and weight) followed. The objectives and goals mentioned in the application were felt to be adequate by some, not by others. International Studies is

mentioned as a possible sponsor, but the letter was missing. The group approved the course with one abstention.

#### SO 179 – The Death Penalty in America (Rodrigues)

Lots of discussion on this one. McFadden felt there should be prerequisites for this, that it shouldn't be a 100-level course. Schlichting reports that many social science courses are 100-level, but that the department is taking another look at numbering and progressivity. Newton also felt that it was too serious for a 100-level, and that some of the readings were much more of a philosophic nature for Rodrigues to handle. Schlichting responded that it was an interdisciplinary course, as many are in the social sciences. He and Simon argued that Professor Rodrigues has been teaching Criminology for years and knows the literature as well as anyone on campus. Question also arose about 9a & b – the rotation. It is every other year, so it needn't replace another course. A motion to send the course back to Sociology was defeated 6 to 3. Another motion followed to approve the course (with the request to clarify participation and expectations of students). Passed 7 to 1 to 1.

#### VPA; AH 15 – History of Architecture (Escobar)

Everything was deemed in order on this course. The first easy job of the afternoon. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

#### VPA; MU/ED 360 – Elementary General Music Methods (Nash)

In response to student interest in teaching music in the elementary schools. This was a bit complicated as it involves GSEAP and UC. Professor Nash has a big grant to facilitate the logistical and personnel requirements. Without GSEAP's involvement, the enterprise might fail. But we can independently assess the value of the course. Simon was concerned about the final exam counting for 20% (in contrast to the standard of "roughly one-third"). The committee approved the course 6 to 1 to 2.

#### VPA; TL 104 – Sports Broadcasting (Fr. Mayzik)

Members also viewed this proposal as well drafted and complete. Simon especially applauded the statement on academic honesty. The motion to accept was passed 9-0.

Meeting adjourned, 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Dew