

Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2018
CNS 202

Attendees: Sergio Adrada Rafael, Rachel Brunn-Bevel, Carol Ann Davis, Ryan Drake (Outgoing Chair), Martin Nguyen (New Chair), Glenn Sauer (Associate Dean), Margaret Wills

Call to Order

1. Approval of Minutes for April 10, 2018 meeting

The minutes were approved by Drake and Davis. Other committee members were not in attendance at the April 10th meeting.

2. Election of New Committee Chair

Drake noted it was his last meeting as chair and asked the Committee if anyone would like to volunteer for the position.

Nguyen offered to take the position as the new ASCC chair.

Vote: All in Favor of Martin Nguyen as the new ASCC chair

3. New Course Proposals

Drake informed the Committee he approved Special Topics PY 281 as the ASCC chair.

EN/W 100 Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition

Motion: Drake moves to approve; Davis seconds

- Wills liked the clear goals and outcomes.
- Davis noted this would be in line with the new core. Although it is a combination of EN 10 and EN 11, it does not replace them. It meets the requirements of the new core. The new title, Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition, is dictated by the core revision. It is a very up to date interdisciplinary course.
- Brunn-Bevel appreciated the emphasis on collaborative writing and feedback from peers.
- Davis pointed out the change from EN to ENW. ENW courses are taught in the department by writing faculty.
- Nguyen asked how the course would be accommodated.
- Davis stated there will be enough faculty to teach this. They will not rely on adjuncts. The English department hired four Professors of the Practice; they will teach this course. The registrar will be rolling out new numbering.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes unanimously

SA 135 Dark Room Photography

- Nguyen noted the syllabus was well laid out with detailed assignments. Students will experience many different aspects of dark room photography.
- Adrada Rafael liked the grading rubric.
- Wills appreciated the research paper, portfolio and reflection.
- Brunn-Bevel inquired about the restriction of the numbers of students.
- Drake commented how dangerous chemicals are being used. This may be the reason for the class size.
- Wills noted they are working in a dark room; they will and should have many rules.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes unanimously

PH 213 Critical Thinking

Motion: Wills moves to approve; Brunn-Bevel seconds

- Drake took this course in the early 90's from one of the authors who wrote the book. There is a lack of discernment in the population today tying in with the social media crisis. The department feels this will be useful for other departments as well.
- Wills stated this will be a go to class for Communication majors when students are seeking a Philosophy class, particularly for Public Relations majors. This is crucial information for persuasive speeches using logic.
- Davis noted there was opportunity to make this a LAC course.
- Drake agreed, he would like to develop this.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstention; motion passes

CO 350 Family Crisis Communication

Motion: Drake moves to approve; Davis seconds

- Wills may pull 5% or 10 % of grade from the 35% final research paper and final presentations, and put towards reflection journals, etc. This will alleviate too much pressure in the end. They wanted to offer an upper level course that draws on different areas. This will include an invited speaker from The Center for Families and Social Justice in Bridgeport.
- Drake commented on the value of this for people who are in a position to help people.
- Nguyen appreciated the diversity of assignments.

Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstention; motion passes

CO 351 Dark Side of Communication

Motion: Drake moves to approve; Adrada Rafael seconds

- Wills noted this is a course Sean has taught many times; he decided to bring it to Fairfield.
- Nguyen was surprised to see that the grade breakdown didn't include participation or attendance.
- Davis commented how she does not grade on participation for various reasons, but she noted there was a lot of emphasis on exams on this syllabus.
- Adrada Rafael thought 75% of the grade on exams was a lot. Students may not be good at exams, but may attend class and participate.
- Sauer noted Dr. Horan came from a large school where this may be the norm.
- Nguyen suggested making a recommendation to reevaluate the means of assessing the students given smaller classroom content.
- Drake stated this a 300 level course, there should be writing, participation, etc.
- Davis added - practicing the discipline, formative assessment and opportunities. CAE is available for guidance.
- Drake advised Nguyen to relay to Horan that the Committee approved this with the expectation that some of this may be changed.
- Brunn-Bevel mentioned that accommodations needed to be in line with the faculty handbook and ACDC's new language.

Vote: Approve with the suggestions the Committee outlined; all in favor; motion passes unanimously

CO 352 Global Mediated Activism

Motion: Wills moves to approve; Davis seconds

- Nguyen appreciated this bookends course as it emphasized the continued relevance of the topic He liked how you could look and view projects with written types of check-ins and have examinations as well.
- Drake noted in some places it is not clear how much should be read.
- The Committee agreed that the syllabus does not clarify how much should be read – an entire book, a paragraph, etc. Nguyen will contact the chair regarding this.
- Wills suggested a statement was needed regarding accommodations and should be put on the syllabus.
- Nguyen agreed that a uniform statement is needed.
- Brunn-Bevel noticed there was a plan to apply for a world diversity designation. In the future, will there be a shift to a social justice course?

- Wills thought that it should be considered for social justice as well.
- Davis recommended having this designated for both - adding social justice.
- The Committee discussed that there was not room on the course proposal form for social justice.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes unanimously

CO 250 Sports Media Industry

Motion: Davis moves to approve; Drake seconds

- Drake noted the nice variance in reading assignments.
- Wills remarked it was a great extension for the Sports Media and Culture Class.
- Adrada Rafael suggested the last section be moved to the beginning with the other section, placing accessibility and support and academic honesty right before the calendar.
- The Committee suggested putting on the form “see the syllabus for course attributes”.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes unanimously

Nguyen identified agenda items for discussion at the next meeting.

1. Course proposals
 - add Social Justice on the course proposal as one of the questions
 - improve formatting for more legibility and ease (Drake will oversee)

Meeting is adjourned at 5:00p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Jean Siconolfi