



**General Education Curriculum Committee 2005-06
Meeting of December 2, 2005 – 3:00 p.m.**

Minutes

Voting Members Attending: Ann Allen, Susan Crim, Lynn Boyd, Sherri Brown, Karen Gray, Anna Marie Johnson, Ben Moore, (student), Babu Nahata, Alicia Paez (student), David Swanson, Larry Tyler, Bronwyn Williams (Chair), Wiley Williams

Others: Dale Billingsley (non-voting), Kathy Carden (staff), Michelle Bachelor (non-voting) Julia Dietrich (non-voting)

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of November 4, 2005 were approved.
2. **Course Proposal Reviews:** The following courses were endorsed for CD general education credit by the course proposal subcommittee and approved by the full committee. However, some syllabus formatting modifications were requested. Also, the subcommittee expressed concern about the monitoring of the “topics” courses (ENGL 368 and 369) to insure ongoing compliance to the general education guidelines for each new section under the approved course title. Since this concern carries over to other courses, as well, the committee tabled discussion about a review mechanism. Departments would be reminded about the frequency of offering requirement. The HUM 315 course was noted as a model course for creative assessments and a well-developed syllabus.

Approved

- ENGL 368 Minority Traditions in English Literatures-CD2
- ENGL 369 Minority Traditions in American Literature-CD1
- HUM 315 Alternative Judaisms-CD2 (*model course)
- ML 270 Chinese Contributions to the World-CD1
- PHIL 319 Philosophy of Race and Racism-CD1

As proposed, the following courses were not endorsed for general education credit. The course proposal subcommittee presented their reservations with triple counting these courses to fulfill a language requirement and two general education requirements. Also, a protocol issue was raised in counting language courses in this way. There was considerable discussion from differing viewpoints about the feasibility of this approach (three-way split in a lower-level course attempting to cover all three outcomes adequately). Also, some opposed these courses since language study involves only one component of diversity and there isn't a language requirement under the new university-wide general education program. Under the humanities requirement, students are encouraged to complete a literature or philosophy course. Underlying concerns prohibited the approval of these courses.

Rejected

- SPAN 201 Intermediate Spanish I (H/CD1 proposal)
- SPAN 125 Spanish & Hispanic Culture (H/CD1 proposal)
- FREN 125 French & Francophone Culture (H/CD2 proposal)

*Action: Kathy Carden will notify the departments of the approvals, request an electronic version of the modified syllabi, assign the approved general education codes and process the CIFs. Bronwyn Williams will provide a rationale for the split vote and rejection of the language courses for general education credit.

3. **Rubrics**: Approved rubrics for Critical Thinking – Mathematics and Cultural Diversity were distributed.

4. **Criteria for Rubric Scoring**: Bronwyn Williams shared drafts of the rubric criteria documents. These reference sheets will serve as guidelines for the readers in assessing the written communication, cultural diversity, and critical thinking competencies. In the social sciences, a broad-based rubric will be used. All documents were approved for distribution prior to the first training session in January, with a disclaimer that the documents would be subject to revision prior to the actual assessment.

5. **Future Meetings**: The December 9 meeting was canceled; the committee meetings would resume in February following the January assessment meetings.

Kathy Carden, recorder