

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2016, MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Location: Gardiner Hall 230

Present: Matt Church, Christine Ehrick, Paul Himes, Dwain Pruitt, Edna Ross, Elaine Wise

Absent: William Cunningham, Changbing Hu

Guests: Katie Etheridge, Trey Lewis, Stuart Esrock

The meeting was convened at 2:01 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

01-16F: The committee reviewed the Department of Criminal Justice's revised proposal for an accelerated BS-MS program in Criminal Justice. The revised proposal indicated that students would be allowed double-count 9 hours of 600-level CJ coursework for both the undergraduate and the graduate degrees. Students would choose these hours from CJ 621, CJ 643, CJ 649, and CJ 650. Committee discussion turned to whether it was appropriate and/or desirable for college seniors to be enrolled in 600-level courses. Some committee members suggested that perhaps it would be preferable for students to be enrolled in 500-level versions of these courses. The committee agreed that recommending such a change to the proposal is beyond its purview. SIGS allows undergraduates to take 600-level courses with departmental approval, so the proposal is in keeping with University policy. The revised proposal was, therefore, **APPROVED**, though two members asked that the record reflect that lingering concerns remained.

13-16F: The committee also revisited its suggested amendments to the proposed Black Performance Studies minor. At its last meeting, the committee voiced concerns that students might earn up to 9 hours at the 200-level, resulting in a recommendation that students be limited to 6 hours at the 200-level. Dr. Pruitt presented Dr. Tomarra Adams' responses to the committee's comments, noting that the proposed minor is a 21-credit program, so, even if a student chose to take 9 hours at the 200-level, s/he would still take 12 hours at the 300-level. Matt Church noted that several other social science minors in the College also allow students to take 9 hours at the 200-level. The committee voted to **APPROVE** the Black Performance Studies minor as originally proposed by the Departments of Pan-African Studies and Theatre Arts.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Stuart Esrock and Mr. Trey Lewis of the Career Development Center presented two items for the committee's review: a change to GEN 202's title and description to reflect the difference between its content and intended student learning outcomes and those of GEN 201 and the creation of GEN 203, an internship course.

17-16F: The committee **APPROVED** changes to the course description and title of GEN 202 pending submission of a revised course syllabus that restates the proposed course attendance policy. As written, the syllabus states that excused University absences and unexcused absences will be treated in the same way. Dr. Himes noted that this was in conflict with University policy and that the attendance policy should be restated to inform students that, should they anticipate having multiple University-excused absences, they should not enroll in the course during that semester. GEN 202 is an eight-week course, so excessive absences will be ruinous. Matt Church also recommended that its final grading scale be changed to reflect student grades based on points earned, rather than percentages, to make its grading explanations consistent. Its new name will be "Leadership and Strategic Career Development." Its new description will read: "This seminar will require students to engage in critical reflection, chart a path forward toward personal and

professional growth, and craft a specified course of action to enhance leadership competence and career progression.”

18-16F: The committee **APPROVED** the creation of GEN 203, “Internship,” pending submission of a revised syllabus that addresses the absence policy concern mentioned for GEN 202, that includes the University’s disability policy statement, and that alters the course’s proposed description to indicate that a student may repeat this course once for credit if s/he has identified a new internship site.

At its next meeting, the Curriculum Committee will address new items of business from the departments as well as return to its development of suggested language to be included in all A&S CUE syllabi.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwain C. Pruitt, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Governance
Prepared September 23, 2016

College of Arts and Sciences
Curriculum Committee
September 23, 2016
230 Gardiner

AGENDA

- 1) Approval of Minutes of September 9 2016, Meeting
- 2) Old Business
 - 01-16F: Creation of accelerated BS-MS program in Criminal Justice (revised submission)
 - 13-16F: Creation of Black Performance Studies minor (reconsideration of raised concern about the number of 200-level options)
- 3) New Business (available on the Curriculum Committee's Sharepoint site)
 - 17-16F: Change to GEN 202 (title and description)
 - 18-16F: Addition of GEN 203, "Internship"