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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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10-9-2014

### Curriculum minutes 10/09/2014

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**UMM CURRICULUM COMMITTEE  
2014-15 MEETING #5 Minutes  
October 9, 2014, 10:50 a.m., MFR**

*Members Present:* Bart Finzel (chair), Sarah Ashkar, Donna Chollett, Carol Cook, Stephen Crabtree, Dan Demetriou, Janet Ericksen, Pieranna Garavaso, Sara Haugen, Peh Ng, Ricky Rojas, Gwen Rudney, and Emily Sunderman

*Members Absent:* Pilar Eble, Maryanna Kroska, and Sonja Swanson

*Visitors:* Jayne Hacker, Nancy Helsper, Judy Korn, and Jeri Squier

***In these minutes: Interdisciplinary Studies catalog course changes and Division of the Humanities catalog course changes***

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**Approval of Minutes – October 2, 2014**

MOTION (Ericksen/Ng) to approve the October 2, 2014 minutes with minor corrections. Minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Catalog Course Changes**

**Interdisciplinary Catalog Course Changes**

Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) courses and interdisciplinary programs are the responsibility of the academic dean, so Finzel presented the course changes.

**American Indian Studies (AmIn)**

Two courses (AmIn 1701 and 3452) are being deactivated, reflecting changes in staffing in the program. There is a tenure-track search underway to replace an American Indian faculty member who has left UMM. Finzel expects that new courses will be added in the next couple of years.

**Environmental Studies (EnSt)**

Two courses (EnSt 2102 and 3301) are being deactivated due to staffing changes. Two new courses are being proposed.

EnSt 3112 – Climate Change and Moral Responsibility (4 cr; ENVT) (new course)

EnSt 3201 – Environmental Justice (4 cr; E/CR) (new course)

These two courses are being proposed by Clement Loo. Finzel has spoken with him about prerequisites and Loo has agreed to add “prerequisite of 4 credits of EnSt courses or #” to both courses. The prerequisite should appear in ECAS in the *Course Prerequisites for Catalog* section.

**Honors Program**

One course (IS 3246H) is being deactivated because the faculty member has retired. The Honors Capstone Project (IS 4994H) currently has variable credits (1-4 cr) but it has always been taken for 2 credits, so it is being revised to 2 credits with the maximum of 8 removed.

Three new honors courses are proposed:

IS 3243H – Honors: Dialogues and the Ancient World (2 cr; HUM)

IS 3244H – Honors: Fascism, the Resistance, and Their Legacy in Contemporary Italy (2 cr; IP)

IS 3247H – Honors: Heroes of Ancient Greece and Rome (2 cr; HUM)

These courses are elective courses in the Honors Program. IS 3243H and 3247H offer a rare opportunity for students to study classics at UMM.

### **Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)**

Three courses (IS 1807, 1809, and 1815) are being deactivated. The faculty members who taught IS 1807 and 1809 are no longer at UMM, and the faculty member who taught IS 1815 will not be teaching the course during the 2015-17 catalog cycle.

**MOTION** (Ericksen/Rudney) to approve the interdisciplinary studies course changes. The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

### Division of the Humanities Catalog Course Changes

#### **Art History (ArtH)**

Art History has ten course changes. Four courses are being deactivated (ArtH 3122, 3143, 3144, and 3311). Two courses are changing the level from 3xxx to 2xxx (ArtH 3101 is changing to ArtH 2102, and ArtH 3111 is changing to ArtH 2103). Three courses are changing when the course will be offered (ArtH 3171, 3191, and 3281). ArtH 3111 has a title change and update to the course description to better reflect what is actually covered during the semester.

Ericksen stated that the rationale for changing the course level from 3xxx to 2xxx does not clearly say why the courses are being lowered. Is the content of the courses really changing? If not, it may be confusing to students. Rudney added that the rationale for deactivating courses should say more than “This course will no longer be taught.” Why is the course no longer being taught?

#### **Studio Art (ArtS)**

Two new studio art courses are proposed:

ArtS 1606 – Film Studies and the Creative Process (3 cr; ART/P)

ArtS 1900 – Fashion Trashion: Where Style Meets Sustainability (1 cr; ART/P)

The description for ArtS 1606 as proposed is very similar to one already on books in English. The faculty members have discussed the issue since and have written new descriptions, so Garavaso has asked that the course be withdrawn and it will be presented at next week’s Curriculum Committee meeting with the revision made to the description. Finzel asked why ArtS 1606 is being proposed for 3 credits, which doesn’t fit into our basic 2 or 4 credit course structure in the majors or minors. Garavaso explained that in Studio Art many courses carry and have always carried 3 credits. The discipline wants to ensure that majors take enough courses to develop their skills over longer periods of time. Korn stated that she was surprised to see the course offered in studio art since often times this course is offered in theatre arts. Garavaso stated that various disciplines were involved in the

discussion of creating a film studies minor or area of concentration. The course will be sent back to the discipline for a discussion of the description.

ArtS 1900 was originally offered as a directed study and as part of a project in one of the courses offered by Professors Jess Larson and Jenny Nellis. It wasn't an independent course offered for everybody. Since many students have expressed an interest in it as a course, it is being proposed. This will offer more variety in the types of courses offered for the ArtP GenEd.

### **Dance (Dnce)**

Two new dance courses are proposed:

Dnce 1330 – Introduction to Dance in Musical Theatre (1 cr; ART/P)

Dnce 2320 – Contemporary and Modern Technique and Choreography (1 cr; ART/P)

These two courses provide more variety for the Art/P GenEd and offer more variety of dance courses. Finzel asked if the courses will be offered in rotation with others. Garavaso answered that they will probably have to rotate because there is only one dance instructor. Rudney noted that the title and description of Dnce 1330 don't match. The title gives the impression that it will be an overview of dance but the description specifically focuses on ballet. Squier suggested that either the title should include ballet or the description should say that it is a basic study of dance. Rudney stated that it might be a mistake and recommended that it be sent back to the discipline for discussion.

**MOTION** (Rudney/ Ericksen) to approve the course changes in art history, studio art, and dance, omitting ArtS 1606 and Dnce 1330.

The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

### **English (Engl)**

English has 45 course revisions that fit into five categories:

1. Eight courses were revised to add the words “or declared English major” to the prerequisite in order to ensure that some 2xxx-level literature courses are available to first-year English majors who have not yet completed the WLA requirement. These courses are Engl 2014, 2015, 2031, 2033, 2041, 2059, 2061, and 2411.

Squier asked if declared minors were excluded on purpose. Ericksen answered that there are not many minors and they are aiming at a number of students who, prior to WLA, would have come in with college writing credits and begun taking classes toward the major. Students generally don't declare anything their first year, especially a minor. Squier noted that if it becomes a problem it can be addressed at the time.

2. Four 2xxx-level courses that do not require a lot of writing were revised to remove the prerequisite of Engl 1601 to enable students to take Engl 1601 and the 2xxx-level course concurrently. These courses are Engl 2201, 2202, 2211, and 2212.
3. Twenty-six 3xxx- or 4xxx-level courses were revised to remove the HUM GenEd designator when the prerequisite satisfies the same GenEd. These courses are Engl 3142, 3153, 3154, 3155, 3156, 3157, 3159, 3161, 3166, 3168, 3171, 3172, 3253, 3261, 3262, 3411, 4044, 4012, 4023, 4024, 4028, 4029, 4031, 4032, 4034, and 4036.

4. Two 3xxx-level courses are undergoing the following changes: Engl 3165 has a revised title and description to better represent what the course does, and the HUM Gen Ed designator is being removed because the prerequisite satisfies the same GenEd; and Engl 3312 has a revised Gen Ed to bring it more in line with UMM practices and to ensure there are enough HDIV options for the licensure students during spring semester.
5. Four courses are being deactivated because either the instructor is no longer at UMM (Engl 2421 and 3281); or the instructor does not intend to teach the course in the foreseeable future (Engl 3169 and 4033).

English has five new courses:

- Engl 2107 – Writing with Digital Media (4 cr; HUM)
- Engl 2172 – Topics in Writing: Professional Writing Skills (4 cr)
- Engl 2173 – The Nature Essay: Writing and Reading Creative Non-fiction about the Natural World (4 cr; ENVT)
- Engl 3173 – Contemporary British Literature (4 cr)
- Engl 3174 – Contemporary Indian and Caribbean Literature (4 cr; IP)

Garavaso stated that Engl 2107 is proposed with the intent to broaden course offerings in writing. Ericksen added that there is a demand. Students have asked for more writing courses. Hopefully, the enrollment will match the demand. Garavaso stated that Engl 2172 is a writing course focusing broadly on professional writing. Engl 2173 will focus on writing about the environment. The last two courses, Engl 3173 and 3174, are the result of breaking up one course that covered both topics. These two courses can now cover each topic in more depth.

Finzel asked whether the first three writing courses will be included in the creative writing minor. Ericksen answered that she was not sure about Engl 2107, Engl 2172 will not be included in the minor, and Engl 2173 will be an elective in the minor.

The lack of a GenEd for Engl 2173 was questioned. Ericksen answered that she did not know what the GenEd would be. Professional writing is not Humanities. Rudney noted that she is not opposed to liberal arts supporting technical writing, but the course seems to be career-focused. Ericksen noted that the course would not be offered regularly and would be supplemented with other possibilities. That's one reason not to put a GenEd on it. Ashkar stated that it seems like a course that Career Services should offer. Rudney noted that Career Services cannot provide the actual writing that needs to occur. Ng stated that the course is very specific and is more like a skills course, and her first impression when seeing it was to question why it has 4 credits. Technical writing is much more than this course, which is just a skills course. Korn added that the course was introduced last summer as a provisionally approved course. This course would not have been accepted to transfer to UMM. If this course is approved then we would not only have to accept it in the future but she would have to give credit to the students who requested similar credit in the past. Ericksen suggested that the course be brought back to the discipline with that new transfer information. Korn noted that if the course is proposed again it should be kept in mind that when we receive transfer credits, we receive the credits at the level assigned from the sending college and very few have come in with more than 2 credits for a similar course.

**MOTION** (Ericksen/Ng) to approve the course changes in English, omitting Engl 2172. The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

## French (Fren)

French is proposing a lot of changes. Three courses (Fren 1021, 1023, and 3060) are July in Paris study abroad courses that are increasing from 4 credits to 6 credits. Ashkar asked what the rationale was for increasing the study abroad courses to 6 credits. Garavaso noted that the same request is made for IS 2024, which is a study abroad course that carries 6 credits. Ashkar replied that IS 2024 is a six-week program, and July in Paris is a four-week program. The increase in credits will increase the cost of the program. Also, the students in the program are enrolled at the Sorbonne so UMM faculty in this program are not necessarily doing the language teaching. Garavaso stated that the decision should be based on the course and students, not the cost of the course. Ashkar stated that the most common format for study abroad courses is 3 weeks for 3 credits. July in Paris is 4 weeks for 6 credits. Ng added that students would be expected to put in a 60-80 hour week. Korn stated that her first thought when she saw the proposal was that the French discipline must have a really healthy study abroad program. Students who are studying abroad often take a related directed study for an extra two credits when they return in order to be eligible for financial aid. A better model might be to offer a four-credit course with the option of a 2-credit directed study, rather than offering a 6-credit course. Ericksen agreed that motivation for students taking the 2-credit directed study is financial. Ashkar stated that the students could easily take a 2-credit directed study during May term since they don't leave for Paris until July. It was decided to vote separately on the three July in Paris courses.

Other revisions in French include the removal of redundant GenEds to courses that will be reduced from 4 credits to a range of 2-4 credits (Fren 3112, 3113, 3114, and 3503) with one being reduced from 4 credits to 2 credits (Fren 3603). The credit change should allow students to take a wider variety of courses and may interest students in the major. Redundant GenEds are being removed from Fren 3501, 3502, 3604, 3605, and 3606, and the course title and description of Fren 3011 and 3505 have been revised.

The three courses being deactivated (Fren 3001, 3602, and 4901) are being replaced by new courses. Fren 3001 is being deactivated because it is a 4-credit course being replaced with three 2-credit courses (Fren 3002, 3003, and 3004) that will be taught by tenure-track or tenured faculty who will teach in their areas of expertise.

French has proposed nine new courses:

- Fren 2013 – Explorations I: Grammar (1 cr)
- Fren 2014 – Explorations II: Cultures (1 cr)
- Fren 3002 – Civilization and Composition I: From the Middle Ages to Classicism (2 cr; HIST)
- Fren 3003 – Civilization and Composition II: France Since the Revolution of 1789 (2 cr; HIST)
- Fren 3004 – Civilization and Composition III: Colonialism and Francophone Worlds (2 cr; HIST)
- Fren 3408 – Medieval and Early Modern Studies: Quests, Quails, and Custards—Food in Life and Literature (2-4 cr)
- Fren 3409 – Medieval and Early Modern Studies: Monsters and the Marvelous (2-4 cr)
- Fren 3607 – Francophone Studies: Sex and Gender in Francophone Literature (2 cr)
- Fren 4902 – French Capstone Project (2 cr)

Finzel asked if the clusters of courses work together in sequence, or if they are stand-alone courses. Garavaso answered the courses are not sequential, that students in the major are expected to take more than one, but students are not required to take them all. Ericksen asked if that was true of the 1-credit courses as well. Garavaso answered that those two courses are being offered to encourage

students to meet once a week with French faculty to continue to practice French. Ashkar stated that the Roman numerals in the course titles make the courses appear to be sequential, giving the students the impression that they have to take them in numerical order. She asked if the numbers could be removed from the titles to eliminate the confusion. Ericksen noted that removing the Roman numeral from Fren 3002, 3003, and 3004 would result in the short title being the same for all three. It was decided that all of the Roman numerals will be removed from Fren 2013, 2014, 3002, 3003, and 3004, Squier and Helsper will work on the wording of the short titles for Fren 2013 and 2014, and Garavaso will inform the discipline of the changes. If they object to the changes, the courses will be brought back to the committee.

**MOTION** (Ericksen/Ashkar) to approve the course changes in French, omitting Fren 1021, 1023, and 3060.

The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

**MOTION** to approve the credit increase in the July In Paris study abroad courses, Fren 1021, 1023, and 3060.

The motion failed to pass (0-11-0).

### **German Studies (Ger)**

German studies has two new courses:

Ger 4002 – German Civilization II: From 1871 to the Present (4 cr; HIST)

Ger 4101 – History of the German Landscape (4 cr; HIST)

German studies has been in transition and now has two faculty members who are rethinking the major and adding new courses. Other course changes, including deactivation of courses, will come to the committee later.

### **Humanities (Hum)**

Humanities has 13 course deactivations as a result of the dean's request for humanities to clean up this section of the catalog. Humanities has one new course: Hum 1305 – Career Preparation in World Languages (1 cr). The course originated in French in connection with the French capstone. One part of the course is facilitated by the director of Career Services, and the French faculty member teaches the credit-bearing part of the course. The course was offered in the summer and students expressed an interest to continue the course.

**MOTION** (Ericksen/Ng) to approve the course changes in German studies, humanities, and Latin. The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

### **Music (Mus)**

Music has a number of new faculty who have inherited courses from previous faculty. They are proposing changes to twelve courses in the Music curriculum. Five courses are being deactivated.

Two new courses are being proposed:

Mus 2045 – Intermediate Class Guitar (1 cr; ART/P)

Mus 3353 – Music Arranging and Orchestration (2 cr)

Mus 2045 is a new course offered by an instructor who has created a strong studio class. Students are interested in continuing but are not yet ready to go to the intermediate individualized level yet. This course is added to allow them to continue with class studies in guitar. Mus 3353 is a new course that is a result of combining Mus 3351 and 3352, which are being deactivated.

**Theatre Arts (Th)**

Theatre is proposing one new course: Th 3306 – Advanced Lighting and Sound Design (4 cr; ART/P)

This course will address the need for a course in the technical aspect of theatre.

**MOTION** (Ng/Cook) to approve the course changes in music and theatre arts.

The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

Next week's agenda will include course clean-up. Squier suggested that natural sciences be looked at for clean-up. There are courses on the books that aren't being offered. Ng stated that she will ask the division to look at the courses.

Submitted by Darla Peterson