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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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### Curriculum minutes 03/03/1998

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**MINUTES-1997-98 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING #12**

March 3, 1998; 8:00 a.m.; Behmler Conference Room

Present: Asmus, Beiswenger, Farrell, Frenier, Korth, Kissock, Lee, Leroux, McIntosh, Nylander, Schuman, Taylor, Thielke

Absent: Ballou, Ellis

Guest(s): None

[In these minutes: Continued discussion of semester GER designator proposals and semester bulletin copy revisions; semester repeatable course lists]

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**GER COURSES OFFERED FOR ONE CREDIT:**

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Schuman referred CC members to the list of courses which had been approved for GER designation, but which are to be offered for variable credit, beginning with the one-credit option. The problem here is that Expanding Perspectives courses must be at least two credits.

Kissock reported that the first three courses on the list--Ed 3102, EEd 4202, and SeEd 4202--should have the GER designation removed. Schuman noted that we had already had a response from physics about Phys 1000 and Phys 3000 which are to have the credits changed to "2-5 credits" and keep the GER designation. Farrell assumed that ArtH 4000 and Fren 4210 should be changed to begin with 2 credits and keep the GER designators. [Note: the ArtS course listed was proposed for "ArtP" which is in the Skills category and does not have the 2-credit minimum, so this course does not create a problem.] Korth assumed that Chem 4894 would probably have the designator dropped, but he would need to check with the discipline about that. Lee also needed to consult with the disciplines about Hist 3000 and Psy 4896.

Schuman again asked Division Chairs to consult with the disciplines and report back to the CC.

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**CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SEMESTER BULLETIN COPY REVISIONS:**

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Schuman indicated that CC review of revised bulletin copy will conclude with European Studies, Women's Studies, and the Common Experience course.

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European Studies

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Schuman noted that the proposed change for European Studies is in the credits required for the major and the maximum credits in any one discipline within the major. Mooney commented that the credits for the major had not been revised from the quarter requirements. Schuman said the 48 credits for the major is within the approved range. There is a limit of 40 credits in any one discipline, but European Studies is an interdisciplinary major.

Kissock wondered what the highest count on major requirements would be. Schuman thought it would be the biology major. Korth said that the biology major required about 60 credits and 60 credits is the maximum for any major.

**MOTION** (Farrell, Lee): To approve the bulletin copy revisions for European Studies.

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor (11-0-0).

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## Women's Studies

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Frenier indicated that the Women's Studies minor is being revised to require 28 credits rather than 26 credits. Some of the courses eligible for the minor were changed for semesters, but those changes were approved last spring.

**MOTION** (Frenier, Nylander): To approve the bulletin copy revisions for Women's Studies.

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor (11-0-0).

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## Common Experience Course Description

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Schuman noted that the course description for the common experience course is new. Who wrote it? Lee said the copy came from last year's committee work. Schuman said the description would have to be sharpened as the course is developed. Lee agreed that the description provided is rather general.

Korth said he was struck by the phrase "spectrum of ideas which flourish within the academic setting." Some courses look at ideas that did not flourish. *There was agreement to strike the words "which flourish" from the description.* Kissock said *the second sentence should begin with a capital letter.* McIntosh suggested that *each instance of "which" should be changed to "that."* Kissock suggested dropping the "to" before "sensitize." There was agreement on these suggestions.

McIntosh suggested that the course number be 1000. Mooney said the numbering standards say that courses ending with a "0" are reserved for repeatable courses. Lee wondered if the course could be numbered 1001. Mooney said yes. *Schuman said the course number should be changed to 1001.*

McIntosh wondered why human diversity is not mentioned as the focus for the course. Lee said it is not clear how long we will have human diversity as the focus for the course. We could add a statement that the focus for the first year will be human diversity, but this will appear in a two-year bulletin. McIntosh thought the campus had made a longer commitment to the focus. Schuman thought the focus should be in place for at least three years. McIntosh did not have a wording change to suggest. Farrell suggested changing the second sentence to say "Special emphasis is placed on themes, *including diversity*, that help sensitize students..." Kissock said he would like to leave the wording about the focus as it is. Farrell noted that the course does not really seem to be a "common" course and so one could argue about the title of the course as well.

**MOTION** (Kissock, Lee): To approve the course description for the common experience as amended.

**VOTE:** In favor--9; opposed--1; abstentions--1 (9-1-1).

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## REPEATABLE COURSE LISTS:

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Schuman asked CC members to refer to their course lists with the repeatable question answered. Mooney indicated that the lists looked just like the GER lists, with one page per discipline, but the question in the left column is "Is course repeatable?"

Mooney suggested that there be a standard answer to the repeatable question for all directed studies (DS) and senior honors projects (SHP). Thielke agreed. Korth also agreed and thought that those courses should be repeatable. Mooney asked if there should be any maximum credits on DS and SHP. Farrell said no; it would be too hard to keep track of how many DS each student has taken. Thielke said the faculty member could ask the student. Mooney said APAS would track it.

Schuman suggested that the policy should be that DS and SHP are repeatable, but disciplines have the option of delineating the maximum number of credits. The default would be that they are repeatable with no maximum. Korth assumed that meant that each level of directed studies, which has its own course number, would be repeatable. He wondered if most DS are taken in the discipline of the student's major. Farrell said not exclusively. Korth thought the

credits of directed study would be limited by the maximum of 40 credits in one discipline.

Motion (Korth, NO SECOND): To send to the disciplines the proposal that all directed studies and senior honors projects would be repeatable by default, but disciplines would be allowed to put a maximum number of credits on these courses. Note: each level of directed studies would be repeatable.

Lee commented that most DS are self-restricted because of the discipline limit. Schuman wondered what the CC would do if a discipline indicates that DS and SHP are not repeatable. Thielke said that would not be necessary because faculty have to sign each student's DS approval form. Schuman said that gives each faculty member the right to deny a DS, but not the discipline as a whole. Say, for example, that a student takes a DS from Garavaso in philosophy and another later from Haji. Would Haji know that the student had already taken a DS from Garavaso if there was a limit of one DS in philosophy?

Thielke noted that many students have to use DS to take courses while abroad. We encourage students to do that. It would be very difficult for APAS to allow exceptions to the repeatable limits.

Kissock said he liked the position that says all DS and SHP are repeatable, but let the disciplines put a limit on how many. Even within the "Ed" designator, a student could take all four levels of DS. To limit the repeatable credits to one repeat would give students eight DS courses. It seems to be a non-issue since no student is going to take eight DS courses.

The motion on the floor died for lack of a second. A new motion was proposed in its place.

**MOTION** (Kissock, Korth): To set a policy that all semester directed studies and senior honors projects would be repeatable.

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor (11-0-0).

Schuman then moved discipline by discipline through the repeatable course lists, asking for comments and concerns. Kissock asked about topics courses, which are not handled in the same way by each discipline. Mooney said her inclination was to make an editorial change for topics which said "no" for repeatability and say instead in the bulletin "repeatable when topic changes."

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Education, Elementary Education, and Secondary Education

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No comments.

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Wellness and Sport Science

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Mooney questioned the maximum credits for WSS 1201-1220, 1222. Should the maximum be 1 credit rather than .5 credit since each course is worth .5 credit? Kissock agreed that the discipline intended that the courses could be repeated once. Thielke wondered if varsity sports could be taken for five years rather than the four indicated on the sheet. Kissock said no, the limit is four years.

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Art History, Studio Art

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No comments.

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English

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Korth wondered how English would be able to limit the number of specific topics taken when each specific topic has its own number. Schuman wondered if the discipline really means to limit every student to two topics or if they really only intend that limit for majors. Thielke thought that they might be referring to the specific topics that can be repeated once

because the subjects would change. Schuman noted that the specific topic numbers were listed and said "no" for repeatability. Schuman suggested that the discipline coordinator should be asked what they really mean. The specific topics say they are not repeatable but the umbrella course says it is repeatable to 8 credits. Couldn't a physics major take all three specific topics?

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German, Music

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No comments.

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French, Humanities, Philosophy

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Schuman said the topics question for English also applies to Fren 4100, Hum 1000 and 1050, and Phil 4000, 4101, and 4131. Farrell thought the faculty were thinking about requirements for the majors. Schuman asked the Division Chairs to caucus the disciplines about maximum credits on umbrella topics courses. If the limits are meant for majors, it should be stated in the major requirements, not in the course description.

Schuman said the CC would continue the review of repeatable courses at the next meeting. The next item on the agenda is GenEdWeb. Should Bowers and McCannon be invited? Schuman said he would be able to give an update. There was agreement to listen to Schuman's update before inviting guests to a CC meeting.

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**NEXT MEETING:**

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The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, at 8:00 a.m. in the Behmler Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 a.m.  
Submitted by Nancy Mooney

[Send comments to Nancy Mooney](#)  
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