

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Curriculum Committee

9-27-2010

Curriculum minutes 09/27/2010

Curriculum Committee

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/curriculum>

Recommended Citation

Curriculum Committee, "Curriculum minutes 09/27/2010" (2010). *Curriculum Committee Minutes*. 299. <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/curriculum/299>

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Curriculum Committee at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Curriculum Committee Minutes by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

UMM CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
2010-11 MEETING #3 Minutes
September 27, 2010, 12:00 p.m., 2200 Science

Present: Cheryl Contant (chair), Molly Donovan, Janet Ericksen, Mark Fohl, Tara Greiman, Sara Haugen, Michael Korth, Pareena Lawrence, Leslie Meek, Ian Patterson, David Roberts, Gwen Rudney, Jeri Squier, Elizabeth Thoma, Tisha Turk

Absent: Clare Dingley

Visiting: Terri Hawkinson, Nancy Helsper, Heather James, Jeff Ratliff-Crain

In these minutes: Social Science Division catalog changes.

Contant introduced the newest member of the committee, Molly Donovan, first-year student now serving on the committee. Committee membership is now complete with a full contingent of student members at four.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 16, 2010

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the September 16, 2010 minutes. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote, with corrections.

2. SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION CATALOG CHANGES

ANTHROPOLOGY (Anth)

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the anthropology discipline course changes.

Lawrence presented the changes for the anthropology discipline. Six courses have modifications, an Anth capstone course is dropped and two courses will substitute. One of them will move from a 3xxx level to a 4xxx level. One of the courses is being cross-listed. Ethnography is required by the American Indian studies major (it is an elective in the minor) and is being cross-listed with a new course in AmIn studies that will be brought forward with the interdisciplinary studies programs.

Anthropology is requesting regular approval for two provisionally-approved courses:

Anth 3701-Forensic Anthropology (SCI-L; 4 cr)

Anth 4501-Archaeological Fieldschool (SS; 4 cr)

The changes to some 3xxx-level courses involved removing the final exam. Ericksen asked if the students will be required to do a final paper instead. Lawrence answered that they will do a series of papers and a final paper rather than a final exam.

Thoma asked if the cross-listed course of Anth/AmIn 3402 could count for both AmIn and Anth majors if a student has both majors. Lawrence answered that the student should be able to count either course in both majors, although they must register for the course in one discipline or the other.

Motion passed (12-0-0)

ECONOMICS (Econ)

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the economics discipline course changes.

Lawrence presented the changes for the economics discipline. Two provisionally-approved courses are seeking regular approval. One course that has provisional approval has a course description change and is seeking regular approval, three courses are being deactivated, and one new course is being added.

Ericksen asked why the required number of credits in the major is increased from 45 to 47, when most majors require 40. Lawrence answered that the senior capstone used to have 2 credits. Students were treating the 2-credit course as a course that did not require much time and effort. So, now the requirement is 4 credits of 4xxx courses. Ericksen stated that her concern is

that it might diminish the liberal arts if more credits are required in the major. Lawrence answered that the discipline had not addressed that concern.

Rudney asked why Econ 1951 was not successful. Lawrence answered that students came into it having only taken one economics course, Econ 1112-Principles of Macroeconomics, and were not prepared for the level of skills required in doing the research project. They struggled with the course. Thoma agreed that as a student who took it after having taken one economics course, she was not prepared to discuss the materials in the depth that was required. She stated that she was happy to see the proposed change.

Korth asked for clarification on the capstone course, and asked if the senior seminar was no longer required. Lawrence answered that the capstone consists of 4 credits of any 4xxx-level coursework. Students are expected to do research and write a paper. Students have the option of taking a 2-credit senior seminar toward the 4-credit requirement. Donovan asked for clarification on the difference between a capstone and a senior seminar. Lawrence explained that a senior seminar is like a forum where seniors, juniors, and faculty get together for presentations, and the capstone is conducted more like a class. Ericksen added that a capstone does not have to be a course. She asked if all majors are required to have a capstone or if the committee only discovered that almost all of the majors did have them. Contant answered that the committee developed text for the next catalog that states that all of the majors do have capstones. It does not say all of our majors *must* have them. Lawrence stated that the social science major does not have a capstone.

Motion passed (12-0-0)

GEOGRAPHY (Geog)

MOTION (Thoma/Greiman) to approve the geography course changes.

Lawrence explained that there is no major or minor in geography. The change brought forward is simply an addition of the course Geog 3501, required by the environmental science major and an elective in the environmental studies major. Korth asked if it was approved as a requirement for environmental science. Contant answered that there was an old geology course that was approved by Campus Assembly a couple of years ago. Korth stated that the environmental science group has not accepted the course. Lawrence explained that she was told that environmental studies was looking for a GIS course. Meek stated that the instructor has been working with people in the Science Division to develop the course. The instructor attended meetings of the environmental studies group. Contant added that there has been a recurring need for someone to teach the GIS course. The major was approved at Campus Assembly with the course required for the major and it is no longer offered. This will fulfill that requirement. Lawrence stated that there must have been miscommunication regarding this course and she would be happy to send the proposal to Korth to have the environmental science group discuss it. If they disapprove, she would like to know why the course would not meet the GIS requirement. Contant added that he should make it clear that unless a course is approved the students won't be able to fulfill the requirements for the major. Korth stated that it wasn't quite true. Disciplines can waive major requirements when necessary. Lawrence asked Roberts why he voted against it. He said that he heard informal complaints about the software, they wanted discipline approval, and it wasn't clear whether that approval has been obtained.

Motion passed (10-2-0)

HISTORY (Hist)

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the history discipline course changes.

Lawrence stated that history has significant changes. The major is inactivating two intro-level world history courses (Hist 1101 and Hist 1102) and combining those courses into one new course, Hist 1111. Hist 1501 has changed its GER from IP to Hist. The course qualified for the IP designator but since only one designator can be assigned, they chose to change it to Hist. Eleven courses went from the 3xxx level to the 2xxx level to make courses accessible to more students (they are not "dumbing down" the courses). In addition, because of a new hire, four new courses have been added and 4 provisionally-approved courses are going forward for regular approval. History is requiring Hist 2001 and changing it to be offered every year to better prepare students for their capstone project. The senior seminar will be a regular class of 4 credits.

Turk stated that if the courses that are going from the 3xxx-level to the 2xxx-level are not being "dumbed down," there appears

to be no difference between the two levels of courses. Lawrence answered that the discipline looked at which courses they could make more accessible for freshmen and sophomores and other 3xxx-level courses require more research than these. Thoma agreed that the courses require a bit more reading and more research. Turk stated that she thought the changes were great and solve an issue with advising, but she is wondering why the courses were at the 3xxx-level in the first place. Lawrence answered that the discipline hadn't had the discussion before, but when they sat down and looked at the syllabi and consulted faculty, it made sense to change them to the 2xxx-level. After carefully examining each course, some were kept at the 3xxx level. Turk asked if the 2xxx-level courses will count as electives in the major. Lawrence answered that they will. PCAS will automatically add them when the courses are approved. Squier added that the system was designed to approve the courses first and then the programs.

Motion passed (12-0-0)

LIBERAL ARTS FOR THE HUMAN SERVICES (LAHS)

Contant stated that this major has absolutely no changes in it. Lawrence added that changes will occur automatically because it relies on changes in other disciplines.

MANAGEMENT (Mgmt)

MOTION (Thoma/Greiman) to approve the management discipline course changes.

Lawrence presented the changes for the management discipline. Three courses are being inactivated, three provisionally-approved courses need regular approval, and four courses have small changes. There is a significant change in the program. Management had three tracks students could take. Two tracks, financial management, and organizations and human resources, are being combined into one sub-plan, general management. The global business sub-plan has also been revised. Calculus was not required, but now it is part of a group of electives including public speaking that students can choose from. General management has Calculus as a requirement and has dropped the public speaking requirement (previously required of the HR subplan). Also, students are being required to take at least four credits of 4xxx-level courses to fulfill their capstone.

Rudney asked if calculus would be a prerequisite. Lawrence answered that it would be a prerequisite for two of the required courses in the general management track.

Motion passed (12-0-0)

POLITICAL SCIENCE (Pol)

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the political science discipline course changes.

Lawrence stated that the changes in political science are relatively minor. Four courses are being inactivated, because the faculty member who taught them is no longer at UMM. Three courses have been added in international and comparative politics to match faculty expertise, and three courses have been changed to focus on increased areas of interest. One provisional course requires regular approval.

Motion passed (12-0-0)

PSYCHOLOGY (Psy)

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the psychology discipline course changes.

Lawrence stated that there are four new courses (two with provisional approval), and nine courses with revisions and updates.

Rudney asked why the lab in Psy 1051 had been eliminated and if it had been eliminated for a while and was just now impacting the course. Ratliff-Crain answered that a demo component was incorporated into the course itself.

Rudney stated that in Psy 3503 the word “basis” should be changed to “bases” if it is meant to be plural. In another discussion, the word “bases” was used.

Motion (Greiman/Thoma) to amend “base” to “basis” in the course description of Psy 3503.

Vote: (2-4-6) Motion failed.

Contant stated that it is an editorial change. Lawrence can check with the instructor and consider any change to the word as editorial.

Original motion passed (12-0-0)

SOCIOLOGY (Soc)

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the sociology discipline course changes.

Lawrence stated that twelve courses have revised course descriptions and Soc 4991 is being reactivated. Two courses (Soc 4901 and 4902) are collapsing into one 4-credit course. New intellectual community (IC) courses were not moved on from the discipline because they aren't owned by the discipline. Rudney and Ericksen stated that they didn't have ECAS forms for the IC courses in their divisions either. Ericksen asked if Squier could submit them with the interdisciplinary studies (IS) courses. Contant stated that they are not IS courses and should have been submitted with the discipline curriculum. Ericksen stated that they were approved in the divisions last spring and she thought they were approved by the Curriculum Committee then. Lawrence agreed that was her understanding as well and must have been a common misunderstanding. Contant stated that they received provisional approval last spring and will need regular approval this fall. She asked that divisions bring their IC courses to the wrap-up meeting on October 21, folding them into each discipline's full proposals. Rudney stated that Education will include them in their curricular changes at the October 11 meeting. Meek asked if the courses are going to change frequently and if they will be taught by different people. Contant answered that she did not know the answer to that question. This is a new GenEd category and will need courses populating it. It would be nice to have a pool of courses already approved to populate that GER. Lawrence asked if all IC courses would need to be reflected on each discipline's Form A. Contant answered that the committee should not go back and undo what has been passed. It would just be easier for Campus Assembly to not have a separate conversation about IC courses. They will be dealt with at the wrap-up meeting and the forms will be modified for Campus Assembly.

Motion passed (9-0-0)

Adjourned 12:46

Submitted by Darla Peterson