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UMM CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

2010-11 MEETING #15 Minutes

March 9, 2011, 8:00 a.m., 113 Imholte

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

Absent: Molly Donovan, David Roberts

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

In these minutes: Honors Program catalog changes, and course approvals in Honors, Humanities, Science and Math, and the Social Sciences

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES March 2, 2011

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the March 2, 2011 minutes. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. HONORS PROGRAM 2011-2013 CATALOG CHANGES

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the Honors Program changes.

Discussion: Contact explained that instead of a four-course elective requirement, there will be an eight-credit elective requirement. The changes are the result of an Honors Program review. There were concerns that students had difficulty getting the eight credits in a short period of time with so few choices to take. Another concern was the difficulty faculty had in fitting the two-credit Honors courses into their schedules. To allow faculty and student more flexibility in the program, elective credits may now be earned through a combination of two- and four-credit courses, with the possibility of earning two of the eight elective credits by writing a paper about a co-curricular experience. The following course changes were proposed:

Deactivated Courses

IS 3207H – Honors: Utopia(s) (HUM; 2 cr)

IS 3208H – Honors: Totalitarianism: Imagination, Theory, and Experience (SS; 2 cr)

IS 3231H – Honors: Drama, Philosophy, and Politics in Classical Greece (HUM; 2 cr)

New Courses (provisionally approved)

IS 3215H – Honors: Sagas before the Fall: Culture, Climate, and Collapse in Medieval Iceland (ENVT; 2 cr)

IS 3216H – Honors: Perspectives on Disability in Contemporary American Life (HDIV; 2 cr)

IS 3235H – Honors: Politics and Film (HUM; 2 cr)

Ratliff-Crain asked if there were any four-credit course planned. Contant answered that a call for proposals has gone out from the new Honors director soliciting courses for next year, and the EDP process includes a preference for Honors courses. It was a scramble every year to try to populate honors courses, so offering the addition of four-credit courses will allow faculty members to put two-credit and four-credit courses into a rotation, resulting in some regularity in the Honors courses offered.

Korth stated that the Honors program has always been questioned by some faculty. Why do we do it, and is it worth doing on our campus? It has been tweaked a number of times since its creation, always in a struggle to make accommodations to make it work in a practical sense, without better achieving its objectives. The proposed changes are more of an attempt to make it function more smoothly, by possibly weakening it, rather than an attempt to better achieve the objectives of what an Honors program should be. Contant answered that other non-curricular changes were proposed to revitalize the program and better engage the faculty. The Honors Program review committee reported that the program is a valuable addition to the campus that needed to be strengthened. Rudney asked if the Curriculum Committee will be able to see the report. Contant answered that she will provide the committee members with a one-page summary of the results of the program review.

VOTE: Motion passed (9-1-0)

3. HUMANITIES COURSES

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the course changes in the Humanities Division.

Reactivated Courses

CMR 3342: Visual Journalism (HUM; 4 cr)

ENGL 2171: Topics in Writing: Editing and Proofreading (HUM; 4 cr)

Revised Courses

DNCE 2311: Dance Composition (ART/P; 2 cr)

MUS 1044: Class Piano for the Non-Music Major (ART/P; 1 cr)

MUS 1411: Vocal Performance Workshop (ART/P; 1 cr)

MUS 4901: Senior Project & Portfolio (1 cr)

PHIL 3162: The Scottish Enlightenment: Markets, Minds, and Morals (IP; 4 cr)

New Courses

ENGL 4032: Research Seminar: Transnational Theory and Literatures (HUM; 4 cr)

IS 1805: Myth: From the Page to the Stage (IC; 2 cr)

LANG 1064: Preparing for the American Liberal Arts Classroom (3 cr)

PHIL 1802: Philosophy and Pop Culture (IC; 4 cr)

PHIL 2161: Philosophy and Film (HUM; 4 cr)

PHIL 3112: Free Will (HUM; 4 cr)

Discussion: Ericksen stated that the changes largely reflect sabbatical replacements and topics course changes. One of the courses was brought forward before the division had decided to change the course designator. IS 1805 is now going to be HUM 1805. It was originally IS because it was a First-Year Seminar course. It now would be appropriate to change it to a HUM course. Squier asked if history would be bringing a title change forward as well, since it is double-listed with Phil 3162. Lawrence stated that it hadn't been brought to her attention.

VOTE: Motion passed (10-0-0)

3. SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS COURSE

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the new course in the Science and Mathematics Division.

New Course

CSCI 4511: Theory: Artificial Life (M/SR; 2 cr)

Discussion: Korth stated that the rationale for the new course is self-explanatory.

VOTE: Motion passed (10-0-0)

3. THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

MOTION (Thoma/Patterson) to approve the new course in the Social Sciences Division.

New Course (same as AMIN/ANTH 3402)

HIST 3402: Representations from the Field: American Indian Ethnography and Ethnohistory (HDIV; 4 cr)

Discussion: Lawrence noted that this course will be triple-listed with ANTH 3402 and AMIN 3402. Rudney asked why

the separate courses aren't listed with the option to choose from them. Lawrence answered that the course is taught by an historian but has enough of an anthropological perspective to count as an anthropology course. It started out initially as an anthropology course because it was taught by an anthropologist. The American Indian Studies discipline would like more AMIN courses, and the course content also fits that major, so a decision was made to triple-list it.

VOTE: Motion passed (10-0-0)

4. UPDATES

Intellectual Community (IC) courses

Contant announced that IC courses have been scheduled with 452 seats in the fall and 36 seats in the spring planned. That may be too large a number of seats, but in addition to being optimistic that there will be a large freshman class, it is easier to remove a section than to add one at the last minute. Contant added that five or six courses that were taught last fall are not scheduled to be taught next year. Hopefully they can be included in an IC course rotation in the future. Dingley noted that the scheduled times include some very popular class times that will conflict with other classes, creating complications for students. Korth suggested that students should pick a section that fits their schedule. Ratliff-Crain noted that LANG 1063 was listed last year only as a one-time provisional IC course. Contant asked Squier to administratively remove the IC designator from the course.

Study Abroad

Seven proposals were submitted for courses for study abroad programs during calendar year 2012 (January, March, May, and July). A review committee will review the proposals, with a charge to look at curricular and logistical issues, as well as potential marketability. Two members from the Curriculum Committee are needed to serve on the review committee. Greiman and Meek volunteered to serve on the review committee.

Course Catalog

Contant announced that changes have had to be made to "year of offering" of courses. The "year of offering" must be determined by the year of the fall semester of the academic year. For example: a spring 2012 course should be listed as being offered on odd years. What makes it especially confusing is that the University's fiscal year will be the opposite of the academic year. This spring we are in fiscal year 2011 and academic year 2010. Dingley stated that it made perfect sense to her and has to be that way because of the Graduation Planner.

Contant stated that a printed version of the catalog will include only the degree programs and courses. The information in the front portion of the catalog will be available online in a PDF searchable document. The printed copy will not include changes made this semester, since it will not have gone through the full approval process in time to make the printed deadline. If approved, it will be included in the online version of catalog. Meek stated that she would like to see a move to only an online catalog.

Other

Dingley announced that the Twin Cities campus is moving toward PCAS matching APAS exactly. If APAS matches PCAS the degree will be posted automatically.

Helsper reminded division chairs that catalog edits are due to her by end of day.

Contant stated that the next meeting, March 23, will include a report from the General Education Review Subcommittee.

Adjourned 9:09 a.m.

Submitted by Darla Peterson