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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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10-22-2020

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## **UMN Morris Curriculum Committee**

October 22, 2020, 11:40 p.m. Meeting #8

Zoom

Members Present: Janet Ericksen (Chair), Stacey Aronson, Cameron Berthiaume, Barbara Burke, Rebecca Dean, Jennifer Deane, Simón Franco, Stephen Gross, Nic McPhee, Marcus Muller, Ben Narvaez, Peh Ng, Michelle Page, Shanda Pittman, Emily Wittkop

Members Absent: John Barber

Others present: Jayne Hacker, Emma Kloos, Sam Rosemark, Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

### **In these minutes: Catalog Review of Division of Humanities**

#### #1 Welcome and announcements

Ericksen announced that next week's extra meeting will be used to review IS catalog changes. If you are unable to attend, please review material ahead of time and share any questions with any member of the committee. Ericksen is attending an MCSA forum next week to discuss the writing requirement proposals, and discussion of them will also occur at next week's Campus Assembly.

#### #2 Approval of minutes

Motion and second (Franco, Ng) to approve minutes from Meeting #6 - October 8, 2020. Motion passed (12-0-0).

Motion and second (Franco, McPhee) to approve minutes from Meeting #7 - October 15, 2020. Motion passed (12-0-0).

#### #3 Catalog changes - Humanities

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for Art History, second by Franco. No new courses, four courses seeking regular approval (2 IC courses). Major/minor requirements modified. Minor changes to course descriptions. Mostly changes in elective options, but no change to the number required. Two courses are being deactivated. Motion passed (12-0-0).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for CMR, second by Franco. No new courses. A few title changes. Program changes to make the major more transfer friendly. Fifteen deactivations due to faculty retirement. One course reactivated and seeking regular approval. Edits to PSLO's came from previous work with Rebecca Dean. Franco asked about the impact of fifteen deactivations to students. Aronson assured the committee that accommodations will be made if the reduction does affect students in the program. Burke commented that the distribution of available courses will make a shift since not there are not as many rhetoric courses. Franco acknowledged that CMR can't do more with the faculty they have, but hopes that future budgets could accommodate adding staff. Motion passed (8-0-1).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for English, second by Narvaez. One new course, ENGL 2162 - Careers for Writers. This is primarily designed for English majors in

response to student demand. Faculty felt it would not be appropriate for a 1xxx level course. It includes a Hum GenEd designator. Dean added that Anthropology has a similar 2xxx level course for students in the major. Burke shared that this course didn't receive anonymous approval. Narvaez commented that he doesn't believe the 2xxx level is problematic, just indicates that it should be a student with some college experience. Aronson commented on the division level voting and did check with the parliamentarian about the number of abstentions. Squier shared her concern about it being a HUM GenEd class and members agreed it doesn't meet the description. Not all courses need to have a GenEd designator, and a course shouldn't be pushed to carry one. Wittkop asked about the intended audience for the course. McPhee asked that the description be modified to be more inclusive of non-majors if the instructor intended to allow non-majors. Deane felt this course is one that could be helpful to McNair students. Burke commented that her read of the description is for writing many things, but not necessarily academic writing. After much discussion, the committee agreed to ask English to revise this ECAS and to remove it for now from the vote on the remaining changes from English. Three courses are changing course level, all down one level. McPhee asked about prerequisites now not requiring WLA and asked about how writing will be adjusted in these courses. Squier commented that many English courses removed the WLA requirement so students could more freely take these courses, especially in their first year; students seemed to perceive 2xxx courses as not for first-years. She also noted that no links can be included in PCAS so the description will need to be adjusted (form B). Motion passed (11-0-0).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for French, second by McPhee. No new courses, but updating 23 courses. Program changes include allowing 1002 to count towards the major and 4 credits from outside of French. Ten courses are being deactivated. Squier brought up that the summary doesn't acknowledge a change that up to eight credits can be S/N. Aronson commented that she believes this change may be to attempt to increase their numbers in the major. That change and the rationale for it needs to be included in the summary and on form A. Ericksen asked if the S/N change could be to accommodate study abroad courses from other institution; Squier noted that all U of M student abroad courses must be taken A/F. Narvaez expressed concern about the overall outcome of allowing 1002 and more S/N in the major--does doing so risk lowering the proficiency and competitiveness of our graduates? Aronson offered to get more explanation and bring it back. McPhee concurred on the request for further explanation on the eight credits of S/N and allowing 1002 to count toward the major. S/N and 1002 pulled from motion. Motion passed (11-0-0).

Motion from Humanities to approve catalog changes for German Studies, second by McPhee. German is incorporating PSLOs. To allow the sole German language faculty member in the discipline to cover a sufficient range of courses, several requirements are being compressed from sequential courses into a single course. Other courses have been deleted and other courses have been shifted to electives. The elective courses are now in two categories (half offered in German and half offered in English). Ericksen commented that students can now more easily also take some courses from other campuses, which can give students even more options. General agreement that this is a significant improvement for the major. No new courses, but one reactivation and one seeking regular approval. HIST 3209 is added to the major requirements. Three courses are being deactivated. Motion passed (11-0-0).

Remaining Humanities disciplines will be presented at next week's meeting.