University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

4-22-2021

Curriculum minutes 04/22/2021

Curriculum Committee

UMN Morris Curriculum Committee
April 22, 2021, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #18
Zoom

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

Members Absent: Jennifer Deane

Others present: Roger Rose, Tim Lindberg, Sheri Breen, Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

In these minutes: Political Science Program Review, Gen Ed

#1 Welcome and announcements

#2 Approval of minutes
Motion and second (Franco, McPhee) to approve minutes from Meeting #17 - April 8, 2021. Motion passed (10-0-0).

#3 Academic Program Review: Political Science
Political Science faculty joined the meeting (Sheri Breen, Tim Lindberg, Roger Rose). Rose affirmed that all Political Science faculty were involved in the review. The data review was a challenge because the student response rate to the survey was low. Ericksen acknowledged that this was the case with many programs, but is the result of trying to reduce the burden on individual disciplines and standardize as many of the review components as possible. Any discipline may do more than the standard surveys to collect student feedback. The discipline used comparative schools to help guide what needed to be addressed. Faculty feel they are meeting course outcome requirements and student outcomes. They have offered more 2-credit courses and seen a rise in enrollment in them, especially in non-majors. Adding 2xxx level courses is new as well. Breen commented that she is able to add more diverse courses as 2-credit courses. All 2-credit courses are half-semester courses, some are connected to other half semester courses and some stand alone. Often, 3xxx level course students haven't taken the introductory course - it is recommended, but not required. Ericksen asked about how and when they talk to students about careers and future paths. Rose commented that in the lower-level Research Methods he talks about how their approach is used. Invited alumni also often speak to students. Breen added that in her advising she talks to students about careers in their junior or senior year. Ericksen suggested helping students understand what traits they will bring to any career. Constant connections to life occur in most courses. McPhee commented that getting survey data from alumni might really help, especially this discipline. Political Science does encourage internships, but don't require it because of the challenges that creates. Rose commented that students can get credit for a summer internship, but the cost of paying for those credits combined with a low paying internship often make it difficult.

#4 GenEd
The Dean's Office will take time to go over all the feedback and the working groups' progress, and then review this summer with the Division Chairs. A small group would then continue to work with the plans to make the plans more specific, including adding courses, and to prepare for further discussions in the fall. Ericksen asked for volunteers to do this work this summer.

Ng shared several versions of the SPT (document attached). Narvaez added that preference for removing Public Speaking was heard many times.

Aronson explained that their group met once and started their conversations, but ran out of time to produce any extensive updates. Ericksen noted that finding a single way forward is definitely challenging, and comments have been scattered, from why do we want to change to let's do something big and bold. McPhee commented that this proposal seems to have polarized the responses. The presentation of change--explaining why and how we should consider making any changes--will be very important going forward. Wittkop thinks that this proposal will likely be well received by admissions counselors. Aronson said that faculty asked if additional themes could be added. McPhee commented that half semester courses could radically change the approach and offer many more opportunities for courses.

Ericksen shared her thanks to all for a productive year.

Dear Curriculum Committee colleagues,

   This is my summary of what our group, SPT, has done and this is what I plan to share at the April 22, 2021 Curr Comm meeting as part of agenda Item 4, "GenEd: brief, informal reports from the working groups and discussion of next steps."

   The SPT subgroup has reviewed the feedback from all the campus fora and from the division meetings. We have met at least twice and below are the basic descriptions of all the SPT versions 2.x where x is any digit ranging from 1 to 4. Please recall that **SPT version 1.0** is the **one that VCAA&Dean Ericksen shared with the campus in her Feb 15, 2021** email just prior to the campus fora.

   Members of the SPT subgroup felt that we were beginning to get into the weeds with our discussions. Several versions are similar to SPT 1.0 except for a couple of permutations of requirements. We decided that we need to be clear on what the differences are before we start writing up mock-up catalog versions. For this reason, the details in the google docs under the below shared drives' folder have not been finalized.

Shared drives ⬛ UMM_Curriculum Committee ⬛GenEd proposals ⬛S2021 GenEd discussions⬛SPT-Skills,Pers,Themes-

   At this moment, we would like to share this Big Picture with the Curr Comm before we revise anything.

Thanks.

Peh…, on behalf of SPT group on Curr Comm.

SPT Version 2.1 – original SPT 1.0 but incorporate language from our CSLO – For instance:

   III. Liberal Arts Perspectives – Becoming Creative Problem Solvers through the Liberal Arts

   IV. Morris Mission Themes – Becoming Community Contributors through the Liberal Arts (8-16 credits) (This is the current Global Village section.)

SPT Version 2.2 – original SPT 1.0 with:

   a. explicitly include ARTS (i.e. the current FA and ArtP) to one of the requirements in HUM

   b. explicitly include HIST to one of the required courses from SS

   c. allows double **dipping** of 4 cr courses in the renamed Global and Local Community Connections, formerly known as the "Morris Themes" or currently known as the "Global Village" areas (eg HDIV and IP). **Clarification:** one such course can be counted for two categories in the Global and Local Community Connections, but it has to be at least 4cr.

SPT Version 2.3 - – original SPT 1.0 with:

a. . explicitly include ARTS (i.e the current FA and ArtP) to one of the requirements in HUM

b. explicitly include HIST to one of the required courses from SS

c. allows double **designator** of 4 cr courses between the Perspectives areas and the Global and Local Community Connections. **Clarification**: A course could be designated as SS and HDIV, but it can only be counted as SS or HDIV but not both in a student's APAS.

SPT Version 2.4 - – original SPT (1.0) with:

a. e explicitly include ARTS (i.e.the current FA and ArtP) to one of the requirements in HUM

b. explicitly include HIST to one of the required courses from SS

c. allows double **dipping** of 4 cr courses in the renamed Global and Local Community Connections, formerly known as the "Morris Themes" or currently known as the "Global Village" areas (eg HDIV and IP). **Clarification:** one course can be counted for two categories in the Global and Local Community Connections, but it has to be at least 4cr.

d. allows double **designator** of 4 cr courses between the Perspectives areas and the Global and Local Community Connections. **Clarification**: A course could be designated as SS and HDIV, but it can only be counted as SS or HDIV but not both in a student's APAS.

Rename Global Village – to Morris Mission Themes: Global & Local Community Connections