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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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2-10-2022

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## **UMN Morris Curriculum Committee**

February 10, 2022, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #8

Zoom

Members Present: Peh Ng (Chair), Stacey Aronson, John Barber, Barbara Burke, Rebecca Dean, Jennifer Deane, Stephanie Ferrian, Simón Franco, Kiel Harell, Rachel Johnson, Nic McPhee, Vanessa Mora, Marcus Muller, Michelle Page

Members Absent: Jade Allard, Ben Narvaez (on leave)

Others present: Tammy Berberi, Lisa Bevevino, Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

### **In these minutes: French Academic Program Review, Course approvals**

#### #1 Welcome and announcements

Ng welcomed the French Program's Faculty as guests to the Curriculum Committee.

#### #2 Minutes from January 27, 2022

Zoom poll to approve minutes from Meeting #7 - January 27, 2022. Motion made by Page, seconded by Burke. Minutes approved (10-0-1).

#### #3 Academic Program Review: French

Ng reviewed the Academic Program Review's process and the reason for having Program Review presentations at Curriculum Committee meetings.

Bevevino shared the strengths of the program first. They have regularly offered study abroad and exchange opportunities. They offer experiential learning and community engagement learning. Berberi has worked with Spanish faculty to develop community interpreting for the public school and the community. The French program has diversity and inclusion and interdisciplinary programming. There is a lot of enrollment in the career readiness program. Adhere to CSLOs, following outcomes, and have broadened the major to align with COPLAC schools. The program is very nimble in adapting to student needs. Berberi added they would like to build on collaborations and add English. Low enrollment is the largest challenge. High schools are not providing introductory courses. French is now including 1002 in the major, similar to other COPLAC schools. Hoping to increase learning abroad. They have already started working on catalog changes to incorporate their goals. Berberi mentioned that advising could be broadened to include language study.

McPhee asked if the discipline could benefit if GenEd requirements were more interdisciplinary in their nature. Berberi responded that interdisciplinary learning is beneficial for all disciplines and favors an interdisciplinary approach. Bevevino commented that they are open to a French in translation major, but that it would be sad to have students not learn a world language. It does set our students apart. Deane asked about where the strongest opportunities are and what more could be done to link languages to other disciplines. Berberi responded that there is a high need for people with language skills. More work could be done to connect with alumni. Internships are labor intensive and a campus approach could be very valuable. Berberi shared information about the career readiness course they offer. She worked closely with the Career Office. Ng expressed interest in what the outcomes of the course are. French has a strong acceptance rate at TAPIF (teaching assistant program in France) and the program has been extremely beneficial for students. Berberi shared an example of an alum who

was in the program and is employed with a Swiss company. The career prep course includes creating application materials and an interview in the target language.

#### #4 Course Approvals

Humanities: ArtH 2111 proposal is a new course from Priyanka Basu and should work well with the sustainability program. ArtH 2501 does have provisional approval and was taught by Jimmy Schryver this fall in Brunnenberg. French 3608 is new from Sarah Buchanan. Philosophy 2115 is also new from Mark Collier. Theater 2223 course has been provisionally approved twice and needs full approval. Ng commented on the Philosophy course possibly being part of the Data Science minor. Philosophy is working on sub plans. Ng reminded that subplans need Board of Regents approval. Motion from Humanities, seconded by McPhee - approved (11-0-0).

IS: Three IS courses were reviewed. Burke asked why the Honors course was only 2 credits, she felt the course could have enough content for 4 credits. Aronson responded that it was proposed that way, probably due to timing. Motion from Humanities, seconded by Franco - approved (11-0-0).

Science and Math: Two upper level electives and a new IC course for fall. Biology elective fits in well from a new faculty. Motion from Science and math, seconded by McPhee - approved (9-0-0).

Social Science: IC course from psychology. It has been taught previously. Motion from Social Science, seconded by Barber - approved (10-0-0).

#### #5 Gen Ed discussion

Comments from campus discussion and Google form were shared as links on the agenda. Page commented that she appreciated the idea of embedding experiential learning into majors and suggested that work could be done in the future to enhance the programs. Shifting attention to programs and not General Education could continue to set UMN Morris apart and keep us transfer friendly. Aronson agreed that it bears consideration. She recalled work done in the past that did put more work into the programs. Work has been done in the past thinking about including high impact practices in the majors. Dean agreed that a lot of things could be incorporated into programs. Likely that would also run into the same barriers. Franco commented that there still remain misconceptions about experiential learning. He sees mistrust in the comments about EL. It is disappointing that comments also seem to reflect that if it's not credit bearing, it's not important. Ng stated that the transcript can reflect additional comments. McPhee commented that requirements at the discipline level would potentially not be an equal response.

Ng asked for comments on the first year experience. Burke asked about sections of WLA courses and IC. Ng responded that details are not available yet. She asked for an informal response of preference or priority given these options:

Cut IC - keep IS and WLA separate: 2

Combine IC & WLA in one course, keep IS separate: 1

Combine IC and IS, keep WLA separate: 10

Keep current option - all separate: 0

Ng asked about committee reaction to the Themes and the naming of Social Justice to Social Responsibility and Ethics. Ng has also heard from others separately. The question becomes about what requirements are being replaced with the new theme. Dean commented that combining the current E/CR with the current HDIV requirement would definitely change the focus of the "Social

Justice” theme and dilute the human diversity requirement. She suggested that the Global Village categories be the themes as this tracks well to the MN transfer requirements. Ng talked about problem solving being incorporated into perspectives. Deane commented that HDiv has created difficulties. Ng talked about allowing crossover. Deane commented that they need to stay connected to the Morris mission.

Ng has requested an additional community hour time from the Steering Committee so that April 7 is not the last committee meeting.