

2020 SUMMER COURSES ONLINE: FEEDBACK PROVIDED BY THE DISTANCE AND BLENDED LEARNING COMMITTEE

4/14/20

To Whom It May Concern:

Before the UFC April 15, 2020 meeting, the members (voting and ex-officio) of the Distance and Blended learning committee got a chance to go over the Google Document listing all the courses to be taught during Summer 2020 (Sessions I and II), and how each professor was planning to teach his/her course online. The following sections are our suggestions to promote a smooth transition to the online format so that both professors and students can make the best of this teaching/learning option.

We would like to begin this document with some general suggestions for all courses. After they have been approved by the UFC, it is recommended that they are shared with all professors who completed the Google Document. These general suggestions are as follows:

- (1) Please consider an alternative to *only* synchronous meetings – especially over the summer. Students are going to be working, have internships, various family needs, etc. This is going to be exacerbated over the summer when students do not have expectations about face-to-face class schedule times. If you want to use synchronous meeting times, that is one tool that you can use, but please consider other things to help students who might not be able to attend all synchronous meetings. These options might include recording synchronous meetings and making them accessible later, PowerPoint voiceover slides, podcasts, screencast-o-matic or Loom lectures, etc.
- (2) In addition, please do not have a large portion of a grade be dependent on synchronous meeting attendance. An easy way to get people to engage is to at least give them the chance to contribute to a discussion board (an asynchronous option) and then you can review the discussion board during synchronous meetings.
- (3) In terms of accessibility, a good recommendation might be for professors to send out a survey 1-2 weeks before the course starts to check-in on accessibility issues – internet access, bandwidth, etc. When the professor checks in, it would also be a good time to start to set up expectations for what the student will need for that particular course. This way, students can make sure they can meet the expectations.
- (4) Please consider providing students with a course schedule with specific due dates when the course starts. This will help students with organization and planning.

We would also like to share some suggestions with regards to library use during our Summer Session/considerations, and also from the Center for Teaching and Digital Learning (we encourage professors to include these suggestions as part of their syllabi).

(a) **From the Library:**

1. *E-books and online resources:* The members of the DBLC strongly encourage the faculty to contact the library to see if we can acquire the digital versions of any assigned books, chapters, or articles
2. *Academic support details:* The members of the DBLC strongly encourage the faculty to put contact information about the academic support units (Library, Help Desk, ODR, Writing Center). It is often assumed that students are already aware of these services, but in this current environment, it would be beneficial if we give the students too much information rather than too little. The library continues to operate online, and the library would like to get that message across to students as much as possible.

(b) **From the Center for Teaching and Digital Learning Support:**

1. The Center for Teaching and Digital Learning Support are available to help you move your in-person class to online delivery. We can provide consultations, techniques, tools, best practices, models and things to consider when delivering instruction online. Please contact Victoria Russell (vrussel3@umw.edu) in the Center for Teaching and Jerry Slezak (dls@umw.edu) in Digital Learning Support with any questions or concerns you have. We look forward to assisting you!

Below you will find the committee's comments on the proposals submitted via the Google Doc proposal form.

Name of faculty member	Course number and title:	Summer Session	DBLC feedback
Ana Chichester	Spanish 202: Intermediate Spanish	J1	<p>APPROVED. The committee was pleased to learn about all tools for students to use. Suggestion: please some informative videos or how-to tips so they understand and aren't overwhelmed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The committee liked the idea of short sessions one-one-one with students once/week. We would recommend making them optional with a back-up plan for those who can't—or express this requirement in the course description.- Include captioning or script for videos- Also consider some asynchronous tools for engagement (like discussion boards) <p>APPROVED. Team activities (good idea; the committee also recommends having a plan for if team members don't participate)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Suggestion: please check with ODR on things such as captioning videos and making items available in various formats.
Stephen Davies	CPSC 240	10-week session	<p>-APPROVED. Good idea to have zoom for a run through and have intro discussion board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Suggestion: request info on assistance with accommodations
Teresa Kennedy	Engl 207 SI Literature in Performance	June/July	

Clarence W. Tweedy III	ENGL 386: The Graphic Novel CPRD 104: Meditation and Contemplative Practices	First Summer Session	APPROVED. Good considering student access may vary and being willing to adapt. Mentioned throughout submission. - The committee has happy to learn about different ideas provided (how modules are broken down, short video lectures, PowerPoint with voiceover) for the course. APPROVED. Could also consider the discussion board for students sharing their research and feedback (or a Google Doc)
Angela Pitts		Summer I 2020	APPROVED. – The committee was wondering whether there is an e-version of book available; it is something worth considering, or having a back-up if a student isn't able to get their mailed copy of the book in time with all of the disruptions - interesting idea to tell them when lecture should be viewed. Suggestion: it is encouraged that the instructor explain this schedule during the first week so students can decide if they can handle it for the summer. - The committee had a question about the synchronous meetings/daily discussions, specifically, whether they are optional or not. The committee recommends making them optional or putting the requirement in the course description APPROVED. See comments for CPRD 104
Holly Schiffrin	Psyc 322 - Mentoring Children at Risk	This course is off cycle and meets July 20 - Aug 2 Summer Session I 2020	
Angela Pitts	CLAS 202: Tragedy		APPROVED. The committee was happy to learn about the peer led instruction: please make sure to give students details on how to handle leading class via an online platform (or plenty examples before their turn) - The committee had questions about the regular zoom meetings, whether they are optional or not. The committee recommends making them optional or putting the requirement in the course description APPROVED. The committee suggests considering general requirements like captioning videos. Suggestion: although the proposal discussed how to connect or communicate with students, it didn't really explain how that will translate to engagement. The committee recommends keeping that in mind—needing connection between student and professor (and between students) but also need them engaged in the course. APPROVED. The committee recommends to check if captioning is available with readily available videos, check to see if captioning is available - working on a similar course now during spring, so gives good practice - Good idea to offer both asynchronous and synchronous options for students
David Rettinger	PSYC 273 Cognitive Psychology	First	
Warren Rochelle	English 302A: Introduction to Creative Writing	First Session	
Kyle T. Schultz	EDCI 530: Mathematics Methods for Elementary School	May 18 - July 10	
Deborah O'Dell	BIOL 384 Human Anatomy 53630 SPAN 102 M1 Beginning Spanish II/ 53632 SPAN 202A M1	June/July	APPROVED APPROVED
Marisa Martinez-Mira	Intermediate Spanish II	Summer Session I	

Lynne Richardson/Kimberly Young	GBUS 521 Leadership and Organization Behavior	8 weeks	APPROVED. The committee agreed that the course needs something more than synchronous Zoom meetings; needs to check that the cohort at Dahlgren does not have accessibility issues while working at home (i.e., they are no longer at or meeting on the Dahlgren campus, so we cannot assume that they will not have accessibility issues).
Jose A. Sainz	SPAN 201, Intermediate Spanish	Summer Session I	APPROVED. The committee suggests to contact other colleagues teaching SPAN classes to discuss/share friendly recommendations about practice and utilizing the breakout rooms for pairs in Zoom, but then also using other ways to keep students engaged
Rod Wood	PHYD 130	2nd Summer Session	APPROVED.
George Foster	CPSC 470A7 - Design Patterns	M1	APPROVED.
Laura Mentore	ANTH 101: Intro to Sociocultural Anthropology	June/July (last session)	APPROVED. The committee suggests rethinking the policy of 20% of the grade being attendance and participation in synchronous Zoom meetings. There are a lot of other interesting ideas for assignments that students could do and those could perhaps be worth more points (and thus reduce the attendance grade, especially when considering that for some students it might be challenging to meet synchronously).
Teresa Coffman	EDCI 580 Introduction to Research	8 Week Stafford	APPROVED.
George Foster	CPSC 220 - Computer Programming and Problem Solving	10-week	APPROVED.
Andrea Cordray & Paul Binkley	IDIS 191: Liberal Arts and the World of Work	2nd 5-week session (June 22-July 23)	APPROVED.
Varun Makhija	PHYS 101 General Physics 1	May-June	APPROVED. The committee had some concerns with regards to the need for a learning assistant and the heavy reliance on Zoom in regards to accessibility. Suggestion: please consider other options (e.g. asynchronous teaching/activities) to make sure students can complete the course requirements.
Kevin Good	EDSE 531: Survey of Special Education: Characteristics and Legal Issues	10 Week Session Summer	APPROVED.
Anand Rao	COMM 209: Argumentation	Session 2 (tentative)	APPROVED.
Melissa Jenkins	EDEL 539: Special Education Leadership in Schools	8 week session - May 18 to July 10	APPROVED.
Robert Wells	MUPR 305A (Private Piano)	10-week summer session	APPROVED.
Swati Agrawal	Biology 132 – Organism Diversity and Function	June/July session	APPROVED.

John P. Broome, PhD	EDUC 385: Managing the Secondary Classroom	First 5 weeks	APPROVED.
John P. Broome, PhD	EDUC 386: Elementary Social Studies Methods	First 5 Weeks	APPROVED.
John P. Broome, PhD	EDUC 388: Managing the Elementary Classroom	First 5 weeks	APPROVED.
Scott M. Powers	FREN 205: Intensive Intermediate French	2nd	APPROVED.
L. Ashe Laughlin	Drawing I - 53685 - ARTS 120 - J1	2nd/ Jun 22, 2020 - Jul 23, 2020	APPROVED. The committee would like to see more discussion on how assignments will be adapted to the new online format. In addition to this, "accessibility addresses only connectivity. Suggestion: make sure ODR is connected here.
L. Ashe Laughlin	Design Principles - 53551 - ARTS 105 - J1	2nd/ Jun 22, 2020 - Jul 23, 2020	The committee also recommends that since class is designed to run synchronously, this must be communicated clearly well before the term begins since summer students are often balancing jobs. APPROVED. Please see comments above for ARTS 120
Marisa Martinez-Mira	SPAN 202 Intermediate Spanish	Summer Session I	APPROVED. Please keep in mind that Canvas classes have limited capacity of audio/visual; Suggestion: have DLS increase your class capacity and also prepare to link students to tutorial on uploading video to YouTube so it is housed outside of Canvas
Surupa Gupta	PSCI 351	First session	APPROVED. The committee wants to emphasize Professor Gupta's thoughtful adaptations of activities to the online format. Suggestion: Please keep in mind that Canvas classes have limited capacity of audio/visual; Suggestion: have DLS increase your class capacity and also prepare to link students to tutorial on uploading video to YouTube so it is housed outside of Canvas
Ken Machande	ACCT304, Cost/Managerial Accounting	M1	APPROVED. • The committee wants to emphasize Professor Machande's solid adaptations of activities to the online format. Suggestion: Please consider Canvas Modules as another way to pace the class with lectures and assignments; they can be scheduled to publish when you wish also.
Melissa Martinez	PSCI 101 Introduction to Political Science	Summer 1 (May/June)	APPROVED. Good balance of synchronicity and availability for all.
Adria Goldman	COMM 340: Intro to Rhetoric and Communication	Summer Session 2	APPROVED. Course ready to go.
Varun Makhija	Phys 102 - General Physics 2	June-July 5-week term	APPROVED. Since the class is designed to run synchronously, this must be communicated clearly well before the term begins since summer students are often balancing jobs. The committee supports Professor Makhija's great plans for meaningful interaction. Suggestion: since this instructor indicates an uncertainty about accessibility, the committee highly recommends to contact ODR as soon as possible to discuss accessibility options.
Elizabeth Johnson-Young	COMM 206	Summer 2	APPROVED. Course ready to go

Mary Becelia/Bianca Hightower/Kelsey Whitacre	IDIS 193 Personal Development for Life and Career EDUC 311 (Literature and the Arts in Elementary Classrooms) and EDUC 373 (Language Development and Literacy Instruction--Intermediate)	Starting June 22	APPROVED. The committee believes that although this class seems adaptable to the online format, the information provided is still rather vague. Suggestion: since the instructors indicate an uncertainty about accessibility, the committee highly recommends to contact ODR as soon as possible to discuss accessibility options. APPROVED.
Melissa Wells		Summer 1 one course for the May/June term and one for June/July.	APPROVED.
Miriam (Michelle) Newton-Francis	SOCG105, The Social World		APPROVED.
John Marsh	FINC-301 Principles of Finance	M1 (1st session)	APPROVED.
John Marsh	MGMT-490 Strategic Management	J1 (2nd session)	APPROVED.
Justin Wilkes	EDUC. 101: How to Succeed in College, Pt. I	Summer II	APPROVED.
Justin Wilkes	EDUC. 102: How to Succeed in College Pt. II	Summer II (Will be taught concurrently with EDUC. 101)	APPROVED.
Emily D. Crosby	53596 - COMM 205: Public Speaking	session 1	APPROVED.
Andrew Wolfenbarger, Ed.D.	INDT 545: Organizational Leadership in Educational Technology	05/18/2020 - 07/10/2020	APPROVED.
Jonathan Levin	ENGL 202L	1st 5 week term	APPROVED.
Sarah Smith	Chem 111, General chemistry 1 with lab	May/June session	APPROVED.
Sarah Smith	Chem 112, General chemistry II with lab	June/July	APPROVED.
PATRICIA OROZCO WATREL	SPAN 105-M1 (53683) Intensive Beginning Spanish	May-June Summer session	APPROVED.
Bruce H. Middle	MUPR-335 Private Guitar Lessons	Summer 2020	APPROVED. Although it is stated that "Students with physical disabilities which inhibits motion from their arms, hands and fingers, should not consider this course," the committee would like to have some general guidelines as to how the professor would adapt the course to students with other disabilities (i.e vision or hearing issues) if they were interested in taking it. APPROVED.
Venitta C. McCall	EDUC 420 The Professional Teacher and Critical Issues in Education	Summer I	

Jesse Stommel	DGST 301	8-week and/or Second 5-week term	APPROVED.
Davis Oldham	CHEM 112	10-WEEK TERM	APPROVED.
Gary Richards	ENGL 385: Contemporary American Fiction	M1 May 16-24	APPROVED. The committee was not too clear about the information regarding doing quizzes by phone: not clear whether it meant individually for each student during class time (different quizzes per students)? The committee also suggested to consider Canvas quizzes instead.
Margaret Ray	53526 Teaching Economics and Personal Finance Using the New Virginia Online EPF Course	Professional Development course (12 contact hours/1 credit)	APPROVED. The committee would also like to suggest the use of Zoom or Blue Big Button for teachers' group discussions.
Jose A. Sainz	Spanish 315: Spanis Civilization	Summer Session II	APPROVED.
Rachel Graefe- Anderson	FINC 471C: Financial Crises and Origins	First 5 weeks	APPROVED.
Xiaofeng Zhao	DSCI 353 Analytics II: Optimization Models	M1	APPROVED.
Brooke Di Lauro	FREN 105 Intensive Beginning French	Summer Session 1	APPROVED.
Zach Whalen and Brenta Blevins	DGST 395: Applied Digital Studies	June/July	APPROVED.
Zach Whalen	DGST 301A: Creative Coding	June/July	APPROVED.
Beverly Epps	EDCI 531 Science Methods in Elementary Science	10 wks 2020	APPROVED.
Marcelo Fajardo- Cardenas	Intensive Intermediate Spanish - 53684 - SPAN 205 - J1 FREN 336 – French and Francophone Literature in Translation (I plan to teach Art & Literature in Nineteenth Century France)	Second Session	APPROVED. The committee would like to see more clarification with regards to how the different assignments are going to be implemented onto the course, since there are hints about what to do, but not much is said about implementation.
Brooke Di Lauro		Summer Session I	APPROVED. The committee would like to have a little bit more information as to how the professor is planning to have her students complete those creative projects within the online environment. Suggestion: maybe using Loom lectures or Flipgrid to work on their project presentations.

Thank you to all members of the Distance and Blended Learning committee (voting and ex-officio members) for their help and support preparing this document.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'María-Isabel Martínez-Mira', written over a horizontal line.

María-Isabel Martínez-Mira

Chair, Distance and Blended Learning Committee, 2019-2020