

University General Education Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2020
2:30 p.m.
HCC 111

Present: Nicole Crowder (CAS; chair), Kelly Perkins (CAS), Farhang Rouhani (CAS), Michael Reno (CAS), John Marsh (COB), Courtney Clayton (COE), Brooke DiLauro (CAS); Tim O'Donnell (ex officio), Brian Ogle (ex officio), Debra Schleef (ex officio)

Not Present: Rita Dunston (ex officio), John Morello (ex officio)

Meeting began at 2:33pm.

1. Minutes from November 20, 2019
Minutes were approved.

2. New Gen Ed proposals

The committee discussed the resubmission of certain proposals. In the previous meeting, the committee decided to accept revisions of proposals that did not provide adequate justification of inclusion of the new learning outcomes only. The committee will reach out to these individuals regarding proposal resubmissions. Resubmissions will be accepted by Tuesday, January 21st; the committee will vote on proposals as they arrive.

3. Gen Ed transition plan

The list of approved courses will be published. (And should be double-checked.) Edits may be needed to be made from revised proposals and new considerations from the Digital Intensive working group.

Students will need to be advised on what does and does not count under the new system.

Faculty advisors will also need to be educated prior to informing students so that they will be able to advise students considering switching to the new system.

Students wishing to transition to the new system will have one opportunity to do so and must complete a declaration form.

4. Language substitution policy

ODR asked us to review the list of courses that are available for language substitutions. The committee agreed to cull the list for any courses that had not been taught in the last three years.

The committee also agreed that the total number of courses a student is required to take should be reduced from 4 to 3 in light of the smaller foreign language requirement. Similarly, students using these substitutes should take one course from each of the three categories: Understanding of Languages, World Literatures, and World Histories and Cultures.

The committee reviewed the three categories and identified the first “an understanding of language” as a study of the morphology and syntax of language, the second “world literatures” as a study of foreign literature (regardless of the language of delivery), and the third “world history and culture” as a study of world cultures.

Department chairs will be contacted, sharing the current list and soliciting any courses they have that meet the learning outcomes for languages for inclusion.

The committee discussed hybrid situations where a student does complete some language courses and then applies for the substitution – and whether the prior language courses not on the substitution list should still count. The committee agreed that students with no language courses should complete one course from each of the three categories. Students with one existing language course and two remaining should complete two substitute courses from two different categories. Students with two existing language courses and one remaining should complete one substitute course from any category.

The committee will draft a proposal of the discussed structure and review it with ODR before soliciting input from chairs on appropriate courses, prior to final committee approval.

5. The committee adjourned at 3:48pm.