

University General Education Committee Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2022

4:00p

Virtual Meeting conducted via Zoom

Present: Robert Rycroft (CAS, chair), Leslie Martin (CAS), Michael Reno (CAS), Debra Schleef (ex officio), Marc Williams (CAS, secretary)

1. Meeting began at 4:01p
2. Nicole Crowder, Professor of Chemistry, and Rita Dunston, Registrar, were in attendance.
3. Approval of minutes
  - a. Minutes from November 17, 2021 meeting were **approved as submitted**.
4. Special order of business: Nicole Crowder answered questions from the committee regarding the most recent revision to the general education program
  1. It has been the committee's understanding that VA community college classes can count as Foundations classes, while Connections classes generally do not. Nicole says some Writing and Speaking Intensive are permitted to count as WI or SI at UMW per articulation agreements but the Gen Ed Revision Committee felt the Connections components should be completed at UMW. However, there is precedent for allowing individual exceptions through student-initiated appeal.
  2. Foundations courses were intended to be 100 and 200-level courses because these were intended to be lower level. The revision committee's position was that Foundations courses should not require prior knowledge and if a course does not require prior knowledge, it should probably be designated with a 100 or 200-level number.
  3. Writing Intensive/Speaking Intensive. The committee asked if the requirement is for students to have a *total* of four WI classes or if the requirement is for students to have three WI classes *outside of a major*. This question has caused confusion in advising students with two majors—are these students intended to take 5 WI classes and 2 SI classes total as a result of double-majoring? UFC discussed this issue during the December 2021 meeting and requested this committee's comment. The committee's discussion expressed support for permitting the WI/SI component of a

second major to apply toward the general education requirement of 3 WI courses and 1 SI course. Robert Rycroft will discuss the UFC request with Kristin Marsh and report back to the committee.

5. Update on student appeal
  - a. The committee approved this student appeal over winter break via email vote.
6. The committee reviewed course proposals
  - a. Community Engagement
    - i. FSEM 100, Our Everyday Lives: Interactions between Humans and Animals. The committee approved this proposal as submitted.
  - b. Global and Diverse Perspectives
    - i. HIST 122, History of Western Civilization II. The committee approved this proposal as submitted.
    - ii. HIST 366, Modern China. The committee approved this proposal as submitted.
  - e. Arts and Literature
    - i. MUPR 254, Chamber Choir. The committee approved this proposal as submitted.
7. The committee discussed student reevaluation requests for General Education credit
  - a. Proposal 1. The committee did not approve this request.
  - b. Proposal 2. The committee did not approve this request.
8. The meeting adjourned at 5:11p. The next Gen Ed committee meeting will be February 23 at 4:15p.