

MINUTES
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Zoom

January 23, 2024

Voting Members Present:

Liz Peters, Andrea Riffel, Lindsay Masten, Sarah Southwick, Charles Lohman, Stacey Hilton, Kathie Peterson, Jacqueline Mench, and Cassi Gibson

Non-Voting Members Present:

Leslie Sparkman, Diana Dowling, Emily Peek, Douglas Berry, Ustadza White, Irina Del Genio, and Kelsey Rumsey.

Guests:

Robyn Bryce, Andrew Winters, Philip Reid, Perry Baker Meghan Paquette

Absent:

Mark Muchna and Tiffany Kragnes,

- I. Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2024
 - a. Motioned and seconded to approve the minutes with attendance corrections; vote taken; motion approved.
- II. New Business
 - a. New Course Proposals: PHI 203, 219, 224, & 277
 - i. Stacey initiated the discussion by highlighting the current count of 57 general education courses and emphasized the need for a one-in, one-out approach.
 - ii. Irina advocated for increased involvement of deans in the complete curriculum process, expressing concerns about fluctuating enrollment. She suggested hearing perspectives from advisors in student affairs.
 - iii. Diana echoed Stacey's concerns, emphasizing the challenges of expanding the general education curriculum without eliminating existing courses. Kelsey shared similar worries, particularly regarding class viability.
 - iv. Andrew addressed the committee, sharing his approach of consulting students for input, citing his experience with the Life, Sex, and Death

course. He clarified that the proposed courses would follow a rotational schedule.

- v. Kelsey expressed concerns about the impact on both students and advisors.
 - vi. Charlie raised a concern about humanities (HUM) students enrolling in PHI courses and the potential impact on HUM enrollment.
 - vii. Liz inquired about the existence of a 90/30 plan at YC and emphasized the importance of clarifying this aspect for the record.
 - viii. Lindsay shared information about NAU's 90/30 program and said NAU's 90/30 is very vague. <https://nau.edu/statewide-campuses/90-30-degree-completion-programs/>
 - ix. Vote take; 1 yea; 7 nay; 1 abstention.
- b. New Course Proposals: REL 102, 207, 261, & 270
- i. Liz initiated the discussion, stating that the General Education (Gen Ed) committee agreed to all proposed courses, except REL 102, which was provisionally approved.
 - 1. A motion was made to separate and discuss REL 207, 261, and 270 together.
 - a. Lindsay expressed concerns about universities, particularly NAU, wanting courses to exist before transfer approval. Liz clarified that provisional conversations are facilitated on the curriculum form, but universities typically review courses only once they are in the catalog. Gen Ed contacts universities to address these issues..
 - b. Emily raised the question of whether the focus is on YC or transferability. Kelsey shared advising concerns, emphasizing worries about enrollment and the abundance of general education courses. Sarah highlighted REL's better transferability and the higher likelihood of a 1 to 1 transfer for 100-200 level courses compared to 300 level.
 - c. Andrew explained the differences between "Sex, Life, and Death" and "Death and Dying," emphasizing the relevance of religious studies in healthcare. The courses are recommended for those entering hospice and mortuary science.
 - d. Stacy suggested it could be a larger general interest class.

- e. Charlie inquired if the course must transfer to two universities, and it was clarified that a 1:1 transfer is not mandatory.
 - f. A vote was passed on the combined discussion of REL 207, 261, and 270
2. REL 102
- a. Sarah expressed concerns about transferability but acknowledged its high-level interest. Liz mentioned positive feedback from nursing, while Andrew emphasized its relevance to AJAX.
 - b. Leslie expressed concerns about low enrollment leading to the removal of a similar EXW course.
 - c. Charlie was worried about the course's religious perspective.
 - d. Lindsay questioned if REL 102 is a survey course, to which Andrew confirmed yes. He said he was to be a tour guide as students looked through a gallery of religions.
 - e. Emily asked if he found other similar courses at another university. Andrew responded that it would be transferable just not as a 1:1.
 - f. Leslie reiterated that a similar course was removed due to low enrollment
 - g. Vote takes; 1 yea; 6 nays.
- c. New Program and Courses: MXR 110, 210, 220, & 230; Media and Extended Realities Certificate
- i. Robyn provided a brief overview of the Media and Extended Realities Certificate along with the associated courses: MXR 110, 210, 220, and 230.
 - ii. Sarah advised monitoring the curriculum map for project management, and Lindsay pointed out that the program outcomes needed further clarification.
 - iii. Meghan shared that the proposed certificate program amounts to 33 credits. Discussion ensued about the possibility of reducing it to 24 credits by adjusting the distribution of credits across the courses. Sarah emphasized the necessity of all courses, and Liz mentioned that the summer session serves as the capstone.
 - iv. Vote approved

IV. Discussion

a. Curriculum Proposal Originators (Continued)

- i. Liz raised a concern regarding the absence of administrative or staff input in the current discussion. Liz requested that relevant information be sent to her for review.
- ii. Lindsay shared that she has received input at the administrative level, emphasizing the importance of subject matter expertise over status. Lindsay suggested that the focus should be on subject matter expertise and that it should be given more weight in the discussion.

b. Bachelors of Science vs. Bachelors of Applied Science vs. Bachelors of Arts

- i. Discussion on the need for the definition.

V. Adjournment