College Curriculum Committee Meeting
11:00am, March 13th, 2013
Pugh 160

Members Present: Deborah Amberson, Wind Cowles, Gail Fanucci, Lilian Guerra, Selman Hershfield, Tanya Koropeckyj-Cox, Peter Sin

College Resource Dean: David Pharies

Meeting called to order at 11:00am

I. Minutes from two previous meetings (February 13th 2013 & February 27th 2013) were approved.

II. Discussion Items

Psychology: Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience Specialization – APPROVE

Proposed Change to Philosophy Major Requirements – RECYCLE

The committee expressed a concern regarding the legality of compelling students to agree to participate in a survey in order to graduate. As such, we would recommend that you consult the IRB-02 regarding potential legal complications.

III. Resubmitted UCC2s

IDS2338 Rethinking Citizenship – DENY

The committee felt that the use of the term “superheroes” risks trivializing the important topic of civic engagement.

African-American Studies Internship – CONDITIONAL APPROVE

Following minor changes required:

1. Syllabus page 1, General Course Requirement point 4: change “student must be minoring in African American Studies” to “student must be majoring or minoring in African American Studies”
2. Explain rationale for change from AFS to AFA, i.e. AFS is the prefix for African Studies rather than African American Studies.

IV. New UCC1s carried over from last meeting

ANG5XXX Collection and Analysis of Visual Data in Anthropology – TABLE

The Committee made the following comments:

1. Pre-requisites: Please consider inserting “Graduate Status or permission of instructor”
2. UCC1 form, rationale section: “visual data and it’s analysis” should read “visual data and its analysis”
3. Course Description on UCC1, first line: would you consider inserting “representations of” before “creative people”? Texts and films, whether declaredly fictional or biographical/autobiographical, can do no more than present a particular representation or narrative of the creative individual.
4. The committee also felt that points raised in our previous reviews had not been addressed (our request for approximate contact hours and our request for a rationale for the planned
online program). We would make this request again as a decision cannot be made until all requested information is provided.

RUT3XXX Russia’s Struggle with Nature – CONDITIONAL APPROVE
Minor issues with “term paper” section of syllabus: 1. the link is not working and 2. the designation “Gordon Rule” has now been replaced with “Writing Requirement”

AFA3XXX African American Religion – RECYLE
The Committee made the following comments:
1. UCC1 form: rotating topic: please select only one option
2. UCC1 form: course description could be improved. Please consider the following: “Explores the African American Religious experience from the beginning of the African sojourn here in North America until the present”
3. UCC1 form: rationale: Change “the African American studies minor” to “the African American Studies major and minor”
4. Syllabus: grade distribution inconsistent. For example, page 2 states that the “reaction papers” are worth 40% of final grade, while page 3 reduces this to 30%
5. Syllabus: class participation counts for 10% of the final grade yet you provide no detail as to what is expected in terms of participation. Please indicate what might distinguish “A” quality participation from “C” quality participation.
6. Syllabus: typographical error in “Excused absences” section: “it is in you interest” should be “it is in your interest”
7. Syllabus, Attendance section: Attendance policy is inconsistent. You state that students are allowed 2 unexcused absences without penalty and then you say that any unexcused absence after their first will impact their grade negatively.
8. The committee also asks that you consider renaming “reaction paper” as “reflection paper.” It was felt that this might allow students to understand that more thoughtful work is expected.

V. Resubmitted UCC1s

FRE1134 Accelerated French Review – APPROVE

VI. New UCC1s

PHI3XXX Medicine and Philosophy – RECYLE
The Committee made the following comments:
1. Academic Honesty section of syllabus seems a little severe in tone. This is particularly the case with paragraph 3 where even the content is somewhat obscured by the complicated nature of the situation described. We would recommend a more neutral or factual tone.
2. Attendance policy: telling students not to bother attending class if they are more than ten minutes late seems somewhat excessive. Moreover, it also seems to suggest that students attend class only to be counted at roll call rather than because of genuine interest in subject matter
3. Cell phone policy: because UF uses student cell phones to transmit emergency messages, we are not allowed to request that students turn off cell phones but only that they put them in silent mode.
4. Grade determination/Assignments: please provide details concerning the nature and expectations for each of the assignments that make up the final grade as this is a required element of every syllabus.
5. Makeup policy is not provided. Please add this section as it is a required component of every syllabus.

6. External consultation with sociology/anthropology: although the college committee was entirely convinced as to the philosophical nature of the course content, we felt that we should inform you that an external consultation might be requested at a later stage of the new course approval process.

PHI3XXX Though Experiments – RECYLE
The Committee made the following comments:

1. Attendance and extensions section of syllabus: the syllabus states that attendance will not be checked but that participation will be recognized in the final grade. Please provide some detail as to your expectations regarding participation. Indicate what might distinguish a low scoring participation from a high scoring participation.

2. Attendance and extensions section of syllabus: the syllabus states that extensions will be granted to those students with “good cause.” Please include UF link to excused absence here as “good cause” is a little vague.

3. Makeup policy is not provided. Please add this section as it is a required component of every syllabus.

4. A “topical outline” is a required component of every syllabus. Please consider changing the title of your “readings” list to “topical outline” and providing here some detail as to the expected time period dedicated to each text/topic. In short, please try to make this reading list look more like a course calendar, including provisional dates for the papers etc.