

Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

Date: Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Alumni Conference Room, LSC, 14th Floor

Attendance: Ruben Anguiano, Sheryl Coffey, Deserai Crow, Andrea Falcone, Carol Golemboski (chair), Jeff Franklin, Nimol Hen, Antwan Jefferson, George Kacenga, Craig Lanning, Hans Morgenthaler, Gwen Persons, Candice Shelby, Mary Baitinger (recorder)

Agenda and Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from March 1, 2017 meeting

Vote: These were approved by the present 7 voting members.

2. Announcements/Updates

- FYS Course, PHIL 1111 *Why Follow the Laws: Obedience, Disobedience, and a Search for a Philosophical Response in Political Society*, was originally submitted as a FYS seminar course for fall 2017, but Christy Heaton, FYS Director and Jeff Franklin felt that the subject matter was too intense, and was not reviewed last month by the CCOC. The instructor was requested to revise and update. Carol reviewed the syllabus on behalf of the group due to its time sensitivity to upcoming new student orientations and approved it. This course does not impact the already established FYE budget.
- Behavioral Sciences Core Syllabi – Spring 2017 - Carol has completed and sent the correspondence to chairs, who will forward comments on to their individual instructors.
- On behalf of the CCOC, Carol approved a petition for Elisabeth Cypers, a CAM student who received a BA in 2001 and a JD in 2006. She matriculated into CU Denver Fall 2014, completed one course, and then left. She is now planning to return to CU Denver. Since she has been gone for less than five years, CAM would allow her to follow the 2014-2015 degree requirements. When advisor previously met with the student, he advised her that the Core requirements were waived, since this was in line with CAM policy at the time.
- An additional, last-minute petition was received prior to this CCOC meeting (and not on the official agenda). Carol, on behalf of the group, approved this petition for Devin Jackson. He is a CLAS student and transfer from CU Boulder. His petition requested to count a CU Boulder course, ENVD 4361 *Talking Walls: The Dynamic of Race, Power, and the Built Environment*, to fulfill his Cultural Diversity Core Requirement. He submitted the syllabus and paper he wrote, and the petition was supported by his advisor. The course meets the spirit of our Cultural Diversity requirement, and the advisor could have approved this transfer without contacting that CCOC.

3. Review of Student Petition for Sage Zimmerman

Carol provided the following background:

- The petition was submitted on behalf of the advisor in the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD).

- The student was given written approval by the advisor to count two study abroad courses towards Cultural Diversity Core requirement and the Biological/Physical Sciences Non-Lab Core but was advised incorrectly.

The group commented and discussed these thoughts related to the petition:

- The student should not be penalized for the misadvisement.
- The courses were transfer courses and missed the Office of the Registrar's usual review, due to the fact they were study abroad and did not fit the usual category.
- An effort should be made to ensure that similar mistakes by advisors do not occur as frequently as this committee has seen in the last few months.
- The Advisors Network will give advisors a refresher on the differences between cultural diversity and intercultural diversity.

Note: Sage Zimmerman's petition was approved by the present 7 voting members.

4. Review of Student Petition for Kathryn Fisher

Carol provided the following regarding the student's petition:

- The student is Business Major and would like her Semester at Sea course at the University of Virginia to count towards the Cultural Diversity Requirement. She argues that course covers Cultural Diversity topics, even if they were not explicitly stated in the syllabus.
- The student did not realize until this semester that the course wouldn't count as Cultural Diversity.
- When Carol received the petition, she informed the student that the course fits the International Perspectives requirement but not Cultural Diversity, as it needs to be in the United States. The student argued that if she had known, she could have planned her curriculum better.
- A letter from registrar states that the student found out about this situation too late in Spring 2017 to register for a Cultural Diversity course.
- The advisor supports petition and argues that the student's graduation should not be delayed based on the confusion surrounding her transfer courses.

The CCOC discussed the following related to the petition:

- The transfer courses did not show up on the student's academic record until the end of January 2017, yet it still gave her time to review if the outcome and options fulfilled the Cultural Diversity core requirement before the graduation paperwork had to be filed by mid-February (see next bullet).
- Given the multiple offices and conversations the student pursued to find an answer, does she deserve the benefit of the doubt? Two examples to support this: The student had applied for graduation in mid-February, was approved and then taken off the list. For her capstone course, she was told to withdraw and then to stay.
- Students should not wait up to the last minute (i.e., graduation) to receive an answer as to whether courses will count towards the core.
- Regardless of the decision voted on today, advisors should make students more aware of the CCOC and the petition process in general for similar cases like this. Nimol Hen will help promote this initiative.
- Student could walk in the spring (graduation), and then take a course to fulfill the Cultural Diversity requirement during Maymester.

- The first part of the syllabus looks like it could fulfill the Cultural Diversity requirement, but the latter focuses more on international diversity and not the United States.

Vote: Kathryn Fisher's petition was denied by the present 7 voting members.

5. Review of Core Course Proposal for HDFR 1000

Ruben Anguiano's School of Education and Human Development proposal would fulfill the International Perspectives area of the core curriculum. Ruben explained that the class content goes beyond western philosophy, and the readings reflect this. Critical thinking skills are explored and what they mean are explored in the context of the course. The CCOC found the proposal presented was very thorough and detailed.

Vote: The proposed HDFR 1000 course was approved by the present 6 voting members and 1 voting member recused.

6. Review of Core Course Proposal for HDFR 2080

Ruben Anguiano's School of Education and Human Development proposal would fulfill the Behavioral Sciences area of the core curriculum. Gender, culture and beliefs will be explored in the class. A suggestion was made to place the HDFR Learning Outcomes in Canvas, so that students are not overwhelmed with the amount of learning outcomes currently presented on the syllabus.

Vote: The proposed HDFR 2080 course was approved by the present 6 voting members and 1 voting member recused.