

# Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

**Date:** Thursday, September 15, 2016

**Time:** 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Meeting Location:** Alumni Conference Room, LSC, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Attendance:** Ruben Anguiano, Andrea Falcone, Jeff Franklin, Carol Golemboski (chair), Nimol Hen, Christine Martel, Hans Morgenthaler, Mary Lee Stansifer, Gwen Persons, Tammy Stone, Gregory Walker, Mary Baitinger (recorder)

## Agenda and Minutes

### 1. Announcements/Updates

The Social Sciences Core syllabi will be reviewed by the CCOC during the fall semester. Mary Baitinger will have syllabi and instructions prepared and everything ready at the October, 2016 meeting. Standards are listed at the CCOC website. The writing component has not yet been settled, even though it will be a prominent feature in the syllabi that are reviewed.

Because there is not a quorum of voting members at today's meeting, Carol Golemboski will solicit Craig Lanning for his input and votes to ensure any approved items have the correct school/college representation.

### 2. Approval of minutes from April, 2016 meeting

**Vote:** These were approved by the 6 voting members and one abstaining (Walker is new to the CCOC).

### 3. Discussion of GT Pathways

This item was tabled, as conversations are currently occurring at the GE Council. Once any decisions are made, John Lanning will inform the group of any updates. The State is not reviewing courses at this time. The committee will want to consider if it wants to continue to have all CU Denver Core courses approved for gtPathways and what processes it will adopt for preparing Core courses for gtPathways review or re-review. The CCOC discussed how CU Denver limits its core classes in an attempt to emphasize quality rather than quantity.

### 4. Review of Core Course Proposal for RLST 3120 and RLST 3400

Carol provided background on the Religious Studies request. Because it is a minor, they can only submit two Core courses, and they will be cross-listed with philosophy. Carol worked with Sharon Coggan on the drafts before submitting the paperwork to the CCOC. Discussion points included:

- These courses have been taught previously and are not brand new.
- There are no religious studies Core courses in the International Perspectives category. There are two in Humanities.
- The textbook listed in one of the syllabi is from 1974. If this were updated, the syllabus might be approved.
- The international perspectives is addressed by having the first half of the course focusing on the historical aspects and the second half is interpreting the information through current events. A contemporary/modern section should be added to the syllabus.
- The Islam component should focus not only on the United States but internationally as well.

- Learning goals and outcomes should be addressed in the syllabus.
- More articulation of contemporary international issues should be present in both syllabi.

**Action Item:** CCOC requested clarification of both syllabi, based on the points listed above. Carol will contact the submitting faculty and resubmit to the CCOC for final approval.

5. Review of exception request and proposals for PHYS 2311 and PHYS 2331

There are already four physics courses in the sciences, and the department would like an exception for a total of six courses. The new courses would be calculus-based and more challenging than the existing algebra-based Core physics courses. If accepted, these courses would be counted towards gtPathways. Within the two courses themselves, the CCOC noted that Learning Outcomes are not addressed, a statement is needed that signifies they are Core courses, and a rewriting of the syllabi so that they have the attributes of an exemplary science syllabus.

**Vote:** The request for an exception to the limit of number of Core courses in a Knowledge Area was approved by 7 voting members, permitting Physics now to have six total courses in the Natural & Physical Sciences Core Area.

**Action Item:** CCOC requested clarification of both syllabi, based on the points listed above. Carol will contact the submitting faculty and resubmit to the CCOC for final approval.

6. Review of Core course proposal for INTS 2020

This proposal, if accepted, will count towards the International Perspectives area. The guidelines attached to the proposal provides the requirements for the writing component but not how to teach it. International Studies does not have its own academic unit, but the syllabus is thorough and focused.

**Vote:** INTS 2020 was approved by the 7 voting members.

7. Review of Core course proposal for PUAD 1001

This proposal, if accepted, will count towards the Social Sciences Knowledge area and will only be offered online. The question rose as to whether the title or class number needs to be changed. The Learning Outcomes were addressed in the approval form but as Course Objectives in the syllabus. This should be changed. Critical thinking questions should be reworked and more explicit. Assignments should be linked to LOs. Policies or guidelines should be listed regarding writing assignments, which is not clear. If assignments were attached to the syllabus, this would give a clearer understanding of the instructor's objectives.

**Action Item:** CCOC requested clarification of the syllabus, based on the points listed above. Carol will contact the faculty member and resubmit to the CCOC for final approval. Gwen Persons will check to see if any changes need to be made in the Registrar's Office for the course.

8. Review of core course proposals for FINE 2600 and FINE2610

These proposals, if accepted, will count towards the Humanities Knowledge area. They were originally in the Core before 2006 but now are not currently there. Art history is sometimes taught in Classics, but these courses are better suited for Humanities area. With their reintroduction back to the Core, both syllabi provide an excellent way of teaching this subject matter and content.

**Vote:** FINE 2600 and FINE2610 were approved by the 7 voting members.