

General Education Committee Annual Report 2001-2 A.Y.

Membership: Joe Arnold, Richard Deming, Jim Hofmann, Hilla Israely, Bob Emry (Chair), Patricia Szeszulski, Steward Long, Sandra Sutphen (Executive Liaison), Claire Palmerino (Academic Advisement Center), Sylvia Alva (Academic Program).

1.0 The committee members were extremely productive. We held seventeen two-hour meetings and met in subcommittee at least as many times.

2.0 The 2000-1 General Education Committee members began the review of courses in General Education Categories III. B. 1, Introduction to the Arts, and III B. 2, Introduction to the Humanities. The 2001-2 Committee finished the review of category of III.B.1 and nearly finish category III.B.2.

3.0 The 2001-2 committee members reviewed existing courses in General Education Category III. B. 3, Implications, Explorations, and Participatory Experiences in the Arts and Humanities. Courses were reviewed by one of three subcommittees: Subcommittee A (Joe Arnold, Richard Deming, Jim Hofmann), Subcommittee B (Hilla Isaely, Bob Emry, Patricia Szeszulski); Subcommittee C (Claire Palmerino, Sandra Sutphen, Stewart Long). Subcommittee A completed the review of all courses assigned to them.

Subcommittee B members did not complete their review of the following courses:

- English 323T - Cultural Pluralism in American Literature
- CL 380 - Introduction to Asian Literature
- FLPR 325 - Contemporary Brazilian Civilization
- Afro/CPRL 337 - American Indian Religion and Philosophy
- CPRL 347 - Hindu Tradition to 400 B.C.E.
- Music 183 - Voice Class for non-Majors
- Music 355 - Film Music

Subcommittee C's list of carried-over courses is pending. Committee member's work was made more difficult by faculty who submitted incomplete materials. Specifically, in many cases, course prerequisites were not listed or the writing assignment was not fully discussed. In other cases, learning goals and assessment strategies were inadequately developed. In still other cases, a complete syllabi was omitted.

4.0 The Committee reviewed and has recommended changes in review procedures outlined in "Review of General Education Courses: Working Guidelines."

- *Courses will be approved for only one G.E. category, with the exception of courses approved for category V (Cultural Diversity).* The committee amended this procedure to read "In practice, the committee encourages departments to recommend the inclusion of their courses in a single general education category (with the exception of cultural diversity). Exceptions will require a specific justification" (G.E. Minutes. October 19, 2001).

- *G.E. courses cannot be used on graduate study plans. Since UPS 411.100 defines 400-level courses as appropriate for graduate study plans, the G.E. committee will require that any 400-level course now in G.E. converted to the 300-level course.* The committee modified this statement to read “Recognizing that appropriate curricular content revisions may be necessary, the General Education Committee shall continue to encourage departments to redefine 400-level courses to 300-level. The committee shall retain the option to approve courses for general education at the 400-level under special circumstances including a satisfactory response ... (sic) to the general education review questions.” (G.E. Minutes March 8, 2002).
- *Courses designed for and primarily serving a department’s major normally will not be approved for G.E.* The committee advanced two changes to the above statement: 1. “...G.E. courses should not be restricted to majors during any part of the registration process...” and 2) “It is acceptable for G.E. course to be populated by a blend of majors and non-majors and that all students benefit from allowing this to happen” (G.E. Minutes, April 12, 2002).
- Based on UPS 411.201, *past committees have assumed that courses in Introductory G.E. categories are normally 100 or 200 level and may not be 300-level courses.* After discussions among the committee members and with Drs Flores and Russell the committee found this requirement premature and in need on additional discussion (G.E. Minutes, May 24, 2002).

4.0 The Committee members reviewed and approved 12 new courses as well as six upper-division seminars and one lower-division course from the University Honors Program for inclusion in General Education.

5.0 The committee recommends that the following language add to the appropriate University publications: “Honor students should be counseled not to take an Honors Seminar that is patterned after a course already offered by the student’s major department. If the student does take such a course, the student may not count the class for G.E. credit” (G.E. Minutes, April 12, 2002).

6.0 Patricia Szeszulski has recommended the committee determine whether or not all learning goals are met after a G.E. category has been reviewed.

9 page category lists in hard copy only (out of Sylvia Alva’s office)