

**General Education Council**  
**Minutes**  
**February 25, 2013**  
**10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**  
**PAC 493**

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Present:

Steve Schnebly  
Samia Ahmad  
Peter Shapinsky  
Richard Gilman-Opalsky  
Patricia Byrnes  
John Martin  
Harshavardhan Bapat  
Tung Nguyen  
Karen Moranski

Absent:

Dorothy Hemmo  
Donna Bussell

- I. Announcements  
No new announcements

- II. Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2013

**ACTION: John Martin motioned to approve the minutes. Richard Gilman-Opalsky seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

- III. New Courses for Approval

- A. WGS 104: Harry Potter, Gender & Class – Freshman Seminar  
The section “The Minor in Women and Gender Studies” is to be removed. Per policy a freshman seminar course may not be used for a major or minor.

A discussion began about how students should be able to figure out their grades. This issue will be reviewed during the revising of the course syllabus template.

A request was made to work with the freshman seminar instructors during their training, to make sure they are going over the DARS reports and advising in their classrooms. Also to help them work these into their syllabi.

**ACTION: Peter Shapinsky motioned to approve WGS 104, Steve Schnebly seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

- B. PHI 317: ECCE: Asian Philosophy – Global Awareness

There were concerns about the level of this course. There is no theme when looking for a Global Awareness and there is no connection between Asian countries.

**ACTION: Samia motioned to deny this course, John Martin seconded the motion and all were in favor of denying the course. It was suggested to resubmit this course as a Comparative Societies.**

C. SOA 235: ECCE: Working USA & the 99% - U.S. Communities

This is a good syllabus except it lacks in some analytical clarity and economic theory. The instructor is strongly encouraged to change it to a 300 level instead.

**ACTION:** There was a consensus to make SOA 235 a 300 level, approve the course, say what the changes are and check to make sure the changes are made.

Samia Ahmad motioned to approve with clean up, Steve Schnebly seconded the motion and all were in favor.

D. MUS 291: ECCE: Musics of the World – Global Awareness

Since this is a survey course, it was stressed that these courses may not be ECCE. This course was proposed in the wrong category, but may fit into the VCP category.

Some of the concerns are the level, the content is too broad and needs to focus on theme, and the Council wants assurances that students don't leave the class without knowing the cultural responses.

**ACTION:** Samia motioned to deny this course, Steve Schnebly seconded and all were in favor of denying this course.

E. CAP 256: ECCE: Nationalisms in Secular Time – Global Awareness

This course was not signed by the Steering Committee.

**ACTION:** Deb Ply to contact Karen Kirkendall to see if this course has been through the steering committee yet and to get signatures.

IV. Changes to the Global Awareness Criteria – by subcommittee: Steve Schnebly, Peter Shapinsky, Karen Moranski

This item was tabled due to time.

V. ECCE and Advising Issues for Transfers

Karen Moranski described feedback from a recent Campus Senate Meeting.

A transfer student commented on challenges related to the advising around ECCE courses, particularly for transfer students. Students may not be aware that they can petition to use coursework from other colleges to meet ECCE requirements. Students may also not be aware that the ECCE courses count towards the 120 hours needed for graduation.

As a Council we need to continue to find ways to get faculty and students up to speed to make sure they know they do not have to pay for another 10 hours and that they can double dip with

a major. We have had training for faculty for years and still we cannot get past the advising issue. We are doing an online orientation project for fall, and will describe this there, but what else can we do?

Discussion: Other problems are that departments are not providing check lists for students. DARS seems to only count ECCE courses that are department specific and not counting courses from other areas of campus. They need to be petitioned instead.

This helps Karen to go ahead and begin the conversation.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply