

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

April 28, 2010

Wednesday, 11 am-1:30 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307

Present: Holly Cordova (NSTF Rep), Pam Hunt-Carter (Registrar, *ex officio*), Jimin Lee, Roxanne Monnet (Staff), Matthew Palm (SUA Rep), Justin Riordan (SUA Rep), Eric Porter, John Tamkun (Chair), Peter Young, Eileen Zurbriggen.

Absent: Cormac Flanagan, Deanna Shemek (Provost Rep).

Guests: Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Elaine Kihara (Academic Preceptor Designee), Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE), Barbara Love (Articulation Officer), Michael McCawley (Associate Director of Admissions).

I. Announcements.

The consent agenda of general education (GE) proposals from last week was accepted. The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) has now acted on 464 of ~700 proposals. It is anticipated that most will have been reviewed by at least two members by the next meeting. Members were asked to be explicit on the spreadsheet on what next action is needed. 135 proposals have been flagged for staff attention.

Feedback was received to the draft response on the Commission on the Future initial recommendations. The letter will be finalized by email. Members are against the “flagship” model where UCB and UCLA are put before the other campuses. Concern about UC access for AB540 students was raised as was moving to the three-year degree model. Faculty are willing to explore blended instruction with some on-line/some face to face instruction but not fully on-line degree programs.

CEP reaffirmed that no transfer student should accept an offer to attend UCSC based on the belief that they could have the Community Studies major. However, if there should be some small amount of space in course offerings that would allow for a small number transfer student admits to the major, CEP would not be against it. There simply is not enough data on continuing student need for this major at this time to make a definitive decision as to whether any transfer students may be admitted to the degree. The department expects to submit their teach-out plan by Friday.

The recent Senate Meeting was reviewed for CEP. The legislation to make narrative evaluations optional for undergraduates passed.

SUA Representative Justin Riordan reviewed the data from the recent on survey on course availability. VPDUE Ladusaw indicated that the survey was very helpful for curriculum capacity and that something akin to this should happen regularly, perhaps quarterly.

CEP has learned that there will not be a proposal forthcoming to suspend the Legal Studies Major. The recent meeting with VPDAAGalloway was successful. They have identified a faculty director for the degree program.

II. FTE transfer.

CEP reviewed the request to transfer one faculty FTE from the Social Sciences Division (Anthropology Department) to the Physical and Biological Sciences Division (EE Biology Department). The Committee supported the request. CEP did note that there was some inconsistency in the documentation as to who would teach the Human Functional Anatomy course in the future. However, whether it be the transferring faculty member or a qualified lecturer seemed fine to CEP since the course is not required for any degree, nonetheless it is a strong pre-professional course and should continue to be offered.

III. Disciplinary Communication and catalog topics.

It was noted that a number of the Disciplinary Communication (DC) requirement proposals contained vague statements. In such cases, CEP may ask for template text to be used for all syllabi to ensure consistency. In other cases it may be necessary for specific individual courses to be reviewed for approval.

Feminist Studies (FMST): CEP considered the FMST DC proposal. One way that these majors may fulfill the requirement is through a senior seminar (FMST 194). CEP decided to ask for template text to be added to the syllabi to ensure consistency. The section to satisfy the FMST DC would be through FMST 195 which may involve creative projects such as in film, performance, poetry, or fiction. CEP decided that creative writing did not seem to fit what the DC intends for the core writing of 18 pages and it was not clear that in all cases there would be at least 18 pages of analytical writing. The project may count in lieu of the writing above 18 pages. The requests were tentatively approved, based on the assumption that students will meet the minimum writing requirement in all offerings of the DC courses. Final approval will be dependent on the submission of an acceptable template syllabus that illustrates how FMST 195 senior thesis courses will satisfy the DC requirement. FMST also asked to remove the Student Directed Seminar (SDS) option from the ways by which Feminist Studies majors may satisfy their senior comprehensive requirement. CEP approved the request.

History: CEP has reviewed the Disciplinary Communication (DC) proposals submitted by History. For the general History Major, the proposal was approved based on the assumptions that both instruction in disciplinary communication and the evaluation of students' writing will occur throughout the term in the DC courses, and that all offerings of the courses would satisfy the minimum writing requirement in all future offerings.

For the Classical Studies Major, before CEP approved the proposal, the Committee wanted more information about the individual courses that would satisfy the DC requirement. They will ask the department for course-specific information, including details on assignments, instruction in disciplinary communication, and how courses will meet the cumulatively expectation (writing not all clustered toward the end of the course, not allowing time for students to respond to feedback). Alternatively, the department may provide a single "generic" syllabus that illustrates the instruction in disciplinary communication and writing assignments common to the proposed courses. CEP will also require confirmation that students will do enough writing in all proposed DC courses.

For the German Studies Major DC, again, CEP wanted more information about the individual courses and will ask for either course-specific information, including details on assignments, instruction in disciplinary communication, and how courses will meet the cumulativeness expectation or that they provide a single generic syllabus to illustrate the instruction in disciplinary communication and writing assignments common to the proposed courses. CEP also wanted confirmation that students will do enough writing in all proposed courses. Additionally, the statement that there is "normally at least one [relevant] senior seminar per year" offered by History or Literature gave CEP pause. The Committee will request that history provide documentation showing that the Departments of Literature and History are committed to ensuring that one of these courses is taught each year. The Committee supported the request to remove the oral exam option from the ways by which students may satisfy the German Studies comprehensive requirement. For some students there will be one additional course requirement since not all students took a senior seminar in the past.

East Asian Studies: Since this is a Minor, there will be no DC requirement. The proposed changes to the test for the catalog will be reviewed by the relevant CEP subcommittee.

Jewish Studies minor: No changes were proposed to the degree requirements of the Jewish Studies Minor that require full committee discussion. There is no DC requirement.

Language Program: The proposed changes to the catalog text seemed reasonable. The text will be reviewed by the subcommittee. The program may want to consider adding a statement regarding the Spanish placement exam requirement and something about changes to Hindi and Urdu.

Linguistics and Language Studies Majors: After answering questions, VPDUE Ladusaw recused himself from the discussion. LING 101 and 112 were proposed for the DC for Linguistics Majors. These two courses plus LING 111 were proposed for the Language Studies Major. Linguistics was found to be a writing intensive major. The writing in syntax is often 4-5 pages daily. When the work is based on homeworks, students have options to revise their writing. The courses offer more than the minimum required writing and instruction. The request was approved. For the program statements, the Committee approved the request to reduce the number of language course requirements from 6 to 5 for the Linguistics BA and from 9 to 8 for Language Studies BA for Chinese and Japanese. The request to reword the senior comprehensive requirement language to reflect that the course options have been expanded to allow more flexibility for students to meet the requirement was approved, as was removal of the text regarding concentrations. The renumbering of courses 52 and 55 to numbers 112 and 111 respectively was also approved, and the associated changes in the catalog copy. The proposal for a BA/MA will be considered at a later meeting.

Literature: The department submitted no program statement requests that required review beyond the subcommittee. Although LIT 101 seemed an excellent choice for fulfilling the DC requirement, some offerings of this course appear to fall short of the minimum writing requirement. The proposal indicated that some instructors substitute journal writing for one of the required papers in LIT 101. CEP decided to treat journal writing as an alternative form of disciplinary communication that reduces the formal writing requirement from 25 to 18 pages. Before approving the proposal, CEP wanted confirmation that students will satisfy the minimum writing requirement in all future offerings of LIT101.

Philosophy: For the DC, it is proposed that majors take two of PHIL 100A/B/C. The syllabi provided demonstrated ample pages of writing, feedback throughout the course, and the option to revise the work. The request was approved. For the program statement, CEP supported the request to allow PHIL 195A and 195B toward the options for the Philosophy of Religion concentration and to allow that some of the Religious Thought requirements be satisfied with lower-division courses, while never allowing a degree fall below 40 upper-division credits.

Theater Arts: The department proposed that all majors take THEA160 and a Theater Arts senior seminar course (THEA 185) to satisfy the Theater Arts DC requirement. The documentation showed that there is writing at most class meetings, some of which receives peer feedback. Instructor feedback is also provided. Course 160 has ~20 pages of writing and there is at least 10 in THEA 185. The combination of the two courses clearly meets the minimum writing required. The description and the sample syllabi did not match what was described in the proposal. CEP assumed that syllabi will be modified to reflect what was submitted in the DC proposal. Since the DC will be satisfied through the THEA160/185 combination, there is no reason for 159, an elective, to be considered. CEP will ask for generic syllabus text to be provided to illustrate how the senior seminar courses would satisfy the disciplinary communication requirement in all future offerings.

For the catalog program statement, CEP supported the request to change the prerequisites for declaring the major from four courses to three which will allow students to declare the major earlier. If any of these courses must be taken at UCSC, the department needs to ensure that the courses are available to transfer students. CEP also approved the requests to drop the diversity course requirement and is glad to know that diversity content exists in other courses offered for the major. With regard to the request to replace the current requirement to take three 100-level courses with lower-division courses with THEA 61B and 61C, CEP finds it unfortunate that departments need to make such decisions in light of the current budget. However, the request was approved in light of the confirmation that the relevant material will be covered in THEA 61B and 61C. With the proposed changes it would appear that the major just meets the minimum required 40 upper-division credits.

CEP found the catalog text of the existing lower-division requirements to be a little confusing. Toward the end it is listed that students take one lower-division elective, after which six credits of course 50 is listed as required. It is not clear whether THEA 50 is the one elective being referred to. If it is, perhaps the reference to taking one elective should be removed and THEA 50 listed above in numeric order.

Music: There was nothing proposed for the program statement that required full committee discussion. MUSC 101B/C/D are proposed for the requirements of the DC for Music Majors. Limited information was provided and no syllabi. The proposal states that in MUSC 101B students write a 10 page paper which is submitted near the end of the course. In the other two courses the writing is done in earlier stages of the research process. In MUSC 101 C & D, there are 4 papers that are 4-5 pages long. Based on the proposal, the amount of writing seems fine. However, it appears that there are only 1-2 opportunities for feedback in the quarter and no peer feedback to augment the amount of instructor feedback. The DC proposal was approved on the assumption that all students will meet the 25 written page requirement and that they will receive the feedback on their writing necessary to prepare the final drafts of their papers.

Film and Digital Media (FDM): No program statement requests needing full committee discussion. FILM 120 was proposed for the DC for FDM Majors. This class includes several short pieces plus 2, 5-page essays and an in class essay exam. The amount totaled 26 pages without the exam. CEP approved the request without considering the exam toward the minimum required writing.

Sociology: SOCY 103B was proposed for the DC requirement for Sociology Majors. This is a seven-credit essay course. Students receive feedback to their writing exercises from either the TA or the instructor. This course was also proposed for the combined major with LALS which will require confirmation of consultation with that department. Pending confirmation with LALS, the DC was approved for these two majors. For the program statement the request to remove the course cluster reference was approved, while not changing the number of required courses. Discussion of the change to the GPA for admission was carried forward to a future meeting.

Legal Studies: No program statement changes were submitted for Legal Studies that require full committee discussion. CEP's overall impression of the Legal Studies Major DC proposal was positive. The Committee appreciated the frank comments about course LGST 196--the required senior capstone course that will satisfy the DC requirement--and the challenges posed by the lack of TA support for this class. However, some of the comments led CEP to wonder if the course provides adequate instruction in disciplinary communication to satisfy the DC requirement. The proposal seems to be based on the assumption that students will receive formal instruction in disciplinary communication prior to enrolling in LGST 196. The program may wish to formally acknowledge this assumption by placing one or more pre-requisites on LGST 196 (in addition to satisfaction of the C2 writing requirement as noted on page 3). The proposal indicated that the research-intensive nature of LGST 196 "requires instructors to go over certain conventions (depending on the exact topic of the 196) about the use of legal sources"; this statement seemed to suggest that some offerings of LGST196 will provide limited instruction in this area. CEP was also concerned that the lack of TA support in LGST 196 will prevent instructors from providing feedback on complete drafts of papers. Before approving the proposal, CEP required confirmation that all future offerings of LGST 196 will meet the minimum writing requirement; will provide at least some instruction in disciplinary writing; and will provide the feedback required for students to prepare the final drafts of their papers. CEP would also like a copy of a representative (or template) syllabus that illustrates how future offerings of LGST 196 will satisfy the DC requirement.

Politics: For the Politics Major students take one course from 4 different subfields. Because the DC requirement is limited to being contained within 3 courses, 3 of the 4 from the subfields are proposed for the DC for Politics Majors. The DC would be satisfied differently for each subfield. Politics is recognized as a writing-intensive major. The department is working on standard evaluation guidelines. Cumulativity is sufficient over the series. The minimum writing requirement is more than met. There could be a redundancy in writing instruction since no one course is to be taken first. However, since each discipline will bring different forms of disciplinary writing into the class, it may not matter. The proposal was approved.

So attest,

John Tamkun, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy