



General Education Committee
Minutes

October 12, 2017

Present: Bernie Quetchenbach Melinda Tilton
 Jim Barron Berni Mirra (c)6 (c)4 (e)1 (n)w(e)1 (n)4 (b)4 (s)1 (a)17 (e)17 (s)16 (d)1 (t)677 (rro)-3 2
 Brenna Beckett (student) Tara Haupt (ex officio)
 Matt Redinger (ex officio)

Absent: Tien Chih* John Roberts*
 *excused

Jim Barron called the meeting to order at 2:00 in McMullen 305.

The minutes of September were accepted as presented.

I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Proposal Guidelines for Study Abroad Courses in the Cultural Diversity Category

Scott Harris put together a draft document (attached to these minutes) instructors proposing trips abroad be allowed to count that credit as Gen Ed credit in the Cultural Diversity Category. The form includes the Gen Ed outcomes for the category, and will likely need some kind of minimum requirement for the 3 credits.

It was noted that International Studies has begun offering a course with the rubric LANG 490 something, which is a companion course to be counted in Gen Ed. The students traveling abroad would take whatever courses, be they art or business, and also register for the LANG course. The students are then required to submit documentation, such as a journal, detailing everything they did on the trip. The International Studies Faculty Advisor, currently Tom Regele, reviews the documentation and, working with the Admissions Office, the student is awarded credit in the Gen Ed Cultural Diversity category. It's just like a faculty advisor substituting a course, which all advisors are allowed to do.

- Motion by Matt Queen, seconded by Leanne Gilbertson to accept the document (attached) as the governing document for a study abroad course to be considered appropriate for the Cultural Diversity category in Gen Ed.

It was noted that a description of the number of hours must equate to 45 class hours for 3 credits. A description of what kind of documentation the student should provide would also be helpful. The Committee will review and edit the document over the next week, and hold a second reading of the final version via email.

- Motion carried.

II. ASSESSMENT UPDATE

- Script and Introductory Video for ETS Testing
- Testing Freshmen Fall 2017 (outside classtime) and Spring 2017 in A&SC 111
- Testing Requirement for All Students Completing Gen Ed

The video turned out great! It was very entertaining.

The video was sent to all the A&SC 111 instructors, who showed it in their classes. We also sent it to all instructors of Gen Ed courses this semester. We had 12 students show up, which is not enough to get valuable data. As for the A&SC 111 instructors administering the test in Spring 2018, the data is still being analyzed.

IV. VICE PROVOST REPORT

Dr. Redinger arrived and noted that we definitely won't be able to implement a testing requirement for all students by Spring 2018. Also, the Provost would rather use a sample group than test all students. Instead, we should move to discussing other kinds of assessment, such as portfolios. If we move to using portfolios requiring students to submit artifact from each Gen Ed course as well as write a short reflection a committee will need to review those portfolios, and there would be funding to pay faculty to do that. It was noted that if we choose to go with the portfolio option, we will have to mandate that all Gen Ed instructors require their students to submit the artifact and reflection. It was noted that the schools who do this kind of assessment a majority of their students take the portfolio seriously as an assessment of their Gen Ed.

V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Check-Off for Study Abroad Experiences to Qualify as Coursework in Fulfillment of the MSUB Cultural Diversity General Education Requirement.

The MSUB catalog states the rationale for the General Education Cultural Diversity requirement: