

Minutes of the University Curriculum Committee
September 14, 2007
217 Koldus

Members present: Robert Knight (Chair), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Tim Scott (Vice-Chair), College of Science; Jim Kracht, College of Education and Human Development; Lale Yurttas, Dwight Look College of Engineering; Vatche Tchakerian, College of Geosciences; Pamela Matthews, College of Liberal Arts; Bill McMullen, Texas A&M University at Galveston; Kristin Harper (for Martyn Gunn), Undergraduate Programs and Academic Services; Laurie Jaeger, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Guests: Fidel Fernandez, Department of Biomedical Engineering; Arul Jayaraman, Department of Chemical Engineering; Mike Stephenson, Department of Communication; Claude Gibson, Department of English; David Vaught, Department of History; Chuck Kenerley, Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology; Sam Feagley and Mark Hall, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences; Claudia Nelson, Women's Studies Program.

The University Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the following:

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair. The committee elected Dr. Robert Knight as Chair and Dr. Tim Scott as Vice Chair of the University Curriculum Committee to serve through August 2008.
2. The minutes of the July 13, 2007 meeting.
3. New Courses

AGRO 420. Brazilian Agriculture and Food Production Systems. Credit 3 to 6.

Comparison and study of Brazilian and U.S. agriculture and culture related to soil, water, and forest conservation and management in Brazil; tour and learn about Amazon River, rain forest, Brasilia, farm, ranch, and floral production systems, agricultural cooperatives and research, sugar and alcohol production, phosphate mining and production; visit points of interest. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

ANTH 439. Gender, Ethnicity and Class in Archaeological Research. (3-0). Credit 3.

Exploration of theoretical and methodological issues in engendering archaeology; ideological biases in the interpretation of roles attributed to women, men, and underrepresented groups in the past; the impact of cultural transformation on underrepresented groups and gender relations; and the formulation of research questions concerning these issues. Prerequisites: ANTH 202, ANTH 210, WMST 200 or WMST 207; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. Cross-listed with WMST 439.

BESC 204. Molds and Mushrooms: The Impact of Fungi on Society and the

Environment. (3-0). Credit 3. Introduction to the fungi and the impact these organisms have on society and the environment; topics discussed will include: life cycles of fungi; classification schemes, pathogens of plants, animals and humans, fungi in food production; toxic fungi and the law, and others.

BESC 320. Water and the Bioenvironmental Sciences. (3-0). Credit 3.

Critical understanding of salient issues relating to fresh water as a limited and important bioenvironmental resource. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

CHEN 282. Engineering Biology. (3-0). Credit 3. Application of engineering principles to biological function at the molecular and cellular level. Prerequisite: Admitted to major degree sequence. Cross-listed with BMEN 282.

COMM 411. Representations of Motherhood. (3-0). Credit 3. Examination of understandings of motherhood from a humanities perspective and over a variety of cultures and time periods, as reflected in written, media and/or oral texts. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. Cross-listed with WMST 411.

ECON 436. Environmental Economics. (3-0). Credit 3. Economic theory and public policy as applied to environmental problems; role of market failure in explaining the existence of pollution; alternative strategies for pollution control and environmental management; global environmental issues. Prerequisites: ECON 323; Economic majors only.

HIST 357. Africa and the African Diaspora. (3-0). Credit 3. History and cultures of the peoples of the African Diaspora from the fifteenth through the nineteenth centuries; social, political, and economic impact on the Americas and Europe; emphasis on race, gender, identity, and migration. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

HIST 408. Central Europe During the Long Nineteenth Century. (3-0). Credit 3. Examination of Central European history from the era of the French Revolution to the outbreak of World War I; rise of nationalism; political, economic, social, and cultural developments; ethnic, class, and gender relations; local and regional identities. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

HIST 475. Empire and History. (3-0). Credit 3. Survey of empire in a wide historical and comparative framework using a case study approach; themes of a given case study include changing social, economic, and cultural politics of imperialism, resistance in colonial environments, colonial and post-colonial identities, and race and gender relations. May be taken 3 times for credit. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

WMST 411. Representations of Motherhood. (3-0). Credit 3. Examination of understandings of motherhood from a humanities perspective and over a variety of cultures and time periods, as reflected in written, media and/or oral texts. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. Cross-listed with COMM 411.

WMST 439. Gender, Ethnicity and Class in Archaeological Research. (3-0). Credit 3. Exploration of theoretical and methodological issues in engendering archaeology; ideological biases in the interpretation of roles attributed to women, men, and underrepresented groups in the past; the impact of cultural transformation on underrepresented groups and gender relations; and the formulation of research questions concerning these issues. Prerequisites: ANTH 202, ANTH 210, WMST 200 or WMST 207; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. Cross-listed with ANTH 439.

4. Withdrawal of Course

ENGL 236. Introduction to Creative Writing: Poetry.

5. Change in Courses

AGRO 428. Turfgrass Culture.

Course Title

From: Turfgrass Culture.
To: Advanced Turf Ecology and Physiology.

Credit Hours, Lab Hours

From: (2-2). Credit 3.
To: (3-0). Credit 3.

Course Description

From: Description, adaptation, use, establishment, and culture of turfgrasses to achieve the maximum functional, recreational, and aesthetic benefits to man, especially as related to lawns, parks, sport fields, golf courses, cemeteries, and roadsides.
To: Examination of how environmental stresses, genetics, and cultural management practices influence the growth, development, and physiology of turfgrasses; exploration of how turf communities function within urban landscapes; introduction to environmental, social, and political issues encountered when managing these areas.

ANTH 302. Archaeology of North America.

Prerequisites

From: None.
To: ANTH 201, 202, 205 or 210.

ANTH 303. Archaeology of the American Southwest.

Prerequisites

From: None.
To: ANTH 201, 202, 205 or 210.

ENGL 235. Introduction to Creative Writing: Prose.

Course Title

From: Introduction to Creative Writing: Prose.
To: Elements of Creative Writing.

Course Description

From: Initiation into the craft of prose fiction writing; extensive reading in the genre; peer workshops. Prerequisite: ENGL 104.
To: Initiation into the craft of creative writing in prose and poetry; extensive reading in the genres; peer workshops. Prerequisite: ENGL 104.

ENGL 347. Writers' Workshop: Prose.

Prerequisite

From: ENGL 235.

To: ENGL 235; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

Course Description

From: Production of advanced, complete stories; peer workshops; extensive reading.

To: Production of advanced, complete stories; peer workshops; extensive reading. May be repeated 1 time for credit.

ENGL 348. Writers' Workshop: Poetry.

Prerequisite

From: ENGL 236.

To: ENGL 235; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

Course Description

From: Production of advanced, complete poems; peer workshops; extensive reading.

To: Production of advanced, complete poems; peer workshops; extensive reading. May be repeated 1 time for credit.

6. Change in Curricula

College of Education and Human Development

Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture

B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies

Early Childhood-Grade 4 Generalist Certification

Middle Grades Certification: Mathematics/Science Specialist

Middle Grades Certification: Language Arts/Social Studies Specialist

College of Liberal Arts

Department of Economics

B.A. in Economics

B.S. in Economics

Department of English

B.A. in English with Middle School Certification in
English, Language Arts and Reading

Department of History

B.A. in History

7. Special Consideration

College of Liberal Arts

Department of Economics and Bush School
Five-Year Joint Degree Program
B.A. or B.S. in Economics and MPIA

B.A. or B.S. in Economics and MPSA

College of Science

University Studies Degree
Area of Concentration – Science for Secondary Teaching

Department of Mathematics
University Studies Degree
Area of Concentration – Mathematics for Business

Area of Concentration – Mathematics for Pre-Professionals

8. The following items were tabled:

New Course

HIST 465 – need letter from Department of Geography.

Change in Course

BIMS 452 – submit cross-listed course GENE 452 together with BIMS 452.

Other items discussed:

- Dr. McMullen from TAMUG attended meeting via TTVN.
- The need for a style guide for course descriptions was mentioned; will follow-up on this request.
- Dr. Knight will not be attending the October 2007 UCC meeting.