

MINUTES
General Education Committee
April 27, 2023
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Montecito Room

Members present: Theresa Covich (Instructional Services Librarian), Steve Hodson (Professor of Music), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Tara Sturges (Assistant Registrar, Recording Secretary)

Absent: Andrea Gurney (Professor of Psychology), Michelle Hardley (Registrar), Felicia Song (Professor of Sociology & Anthropology)

Guests Present: Tim Van Haitsma (Professor of Kinesiology),

I. Prayer: Tatiana Nazarenko

II. The minutes from April 13, 2023

The committee members unanimously approved the minutes from April 13, 2023.

III. The GE Combined document modification by the Senate (on Google Drive): Tim Van Haitsma

Tim Van Haistma clarified the instructions on the GE Combined document for the GE Committee for evaluating course proposals and their appropriateness for fulfilling Common Inquiries (CI) requirements. Tim confirmed there is a mild or strong presumption that the committee will consult with respective departments depending on which departments have expertise in or are associated with specific Common Inquiries categories. If specific departments have expertise in a CI category, there is a strong presumption that the committee will consult directly with those departments when an additional course is proposed for fulfilling that category. If various departments are associated with a CI category, there is a mild assumption that the committee will consult with the appropriate departments before deciding on course proposals. Tim further recommends that approval must be determined per each category's criteria, and those departments who deny approval must provide a rationale for their denial based on the category's criteria alone. Also, Tatiana mentioned that this process is primarily for on-campus courses and that there is greater flexibility in approving off-campus/study-abroad courses as fulfilling various GE categories.

The committee also reviewed proposed language modifications to the current version of the GE Combined document, which encompassed introductory sentences to the

Thinking Globally, Thinking Historically, and Understanding Society descriptions to clarify and summarize the criteria of each. Tim suggested that the revisions be approved by the respective departments and that all categories be similarly revised for overall clarity and consistency. Tatiana will send Michael Everest the draft of these proposed revisions, which will be brought to the Senate/Faculty.

IV. IS-122 Syllabus; IS-122 Submission form; IS-122 Rationale

After reviewing the submitted documents and per the recommendation of Felicia Song, Sociology Department Chair, the committee unanimously approved IS-122 (as offered during Spring 2024 as an off-campus course in the Westmont in Europe program) to fulfill the Understanding Society Common Inquiries GE.

Tara confirmed with Michelle Hardley that the course number is appropriate.

V. Understanding Society update: Tatiana

Tatiana mentioned that the Understanding Society assessment would continue in Fall 2023. It was impossible to schedule an assessment meeting which would represent a quorum in Mayterm, so the assessment work could not be completed. Tatiana will collect the data from the faculty and disaggregate the data by the beginning of Fall 2023, wherein Carmel Saad will continue as the Understanding Society Coordinator. Upon the Mayterm data collection the decision will be made whether a second round of data collection is needed.

VI. NUR-175 and Thinking Historically

The committee reviewed the feedback received from Dr. Nathalie Confiac and determined that more details are needed for the committee to decide whether NUR-175 can be approved long-term as fulfilling the Thinking Historically requirement. Steve will email Dr. Confiac to ask which specific primary sources will be used, which library/librarian is assisting with historical research (Cottage Hospital and/or Westmont libraries), and whether continuity of implementing historical research skills exists throughout the course to support its approval as fulfilling the Thinking Historically requirement.

VII. Other Business

Working Artistically Assessment: A meeting is planned for May 10, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Sturges