## Curricular Affairs Committee Weds 15 October 2014 Minutes 3-4 pm Reich 300

present: Brian Cook, Catherine Hanks, Dennis Moser, Rainer Newberry, Rob Duke, Todd Radenbaugh (remote), Jayne Harvie, Alex Fitts, Casey Byrne, Holly Sherouse, Libby Eddy, Linda Hapsmith,

## I. Approved minutes of Oct 1 meeting

## II. Old business: what to do about C/O/W??

Rainer sent GERC a memo outlining problems with the proposed 'C' and suggested solutions. GERC met Tues 14 Oct. Leah Berman, GERC chair sent results of that meeting by email. These are listed below.

- (0) There seemed to be consensus in the room that 2 C courses would be ok (albeit not ideal), rather than 3. This addresses some concerns that currently, in many disciplines, it is possible to meet the W/O requirement via two courses that are each W + O/2, or one WO course and one W course. Note that there's an implicit assumption that more than likely, departmental Capstone courses would be written in such a way as to satisfy the C requirements.
- (1) We think it is important that the C courses integrate at least two forms of communication. (That is, we are choosing to not simply reformulate/revise the current W and O requirements.)

In particular, we want to require that C courses include x% writing component, y% oral component, and z% other mode, where x > 0, y > 0, z >= 0, x > y, and the minimum allowable for x + y + z is in the ballpark of 60%. (The particular percentages have not been discussed, really. Numbers bandied about were 35% writing, 15% oral, 10% other, say, but I'm totally making those numbers up. Note the `other' category \*would not be required\*.)

The y% oral component could be in modes other than in-class presentation; they might also include synchronous video presentation (e.g., Skype), asynchronous video presentation (video/slides with narration), etc., to allow for the development of C courses offered via distance. The z% "other communication" might include websites, blogs, prezi/powerpoint slides (without voiceover) etc.

- Here, I think that these percents are probably "portion of the assessed work of this type that contributes to the grade" a la the current "W courses must have 50% of the assessed work be written" or what the current W guidelines say. Anyway, the point is that the committee thinks it's important that the C courses emphasize more than just writing but rather more forms of communication in a single course.
- (2) It's important that the C courses focus on communication within the discipline; that is, that C courses take audience/genre into account.
- (3) It is important that requiring human feedback on the C components of the course is baked into the guidelines for determining whether a course satisfies the requirements for a C.
- (4) We are going to try to steal/modify language from the current W and O course descriptions when drafting the proposed guidelines for C courses.
- (5) We are committed to providing options for C/2, but we need to determine what that would look like. (e.g., could a C/2 course \*just\* do some writing, or \*just\* some oral communication? Or would it need to do both, just less? We didn't have a chance to discuss this.)

### III. New business GERC's proposed changes in Core requirements.

(Background: Pres. Gamble indicated to David Valentine that he'd approve any changes in UA regulations RE GERs and would even be willing to suspend regulations as needed. Dave's opinion: might as well get to work on revising UAF's core requirements, and assume that UA regs would be changed as needed.)

To that end we 9bd.9.

BA F323X, COMM F300X, JUST F300X, NRM F303X, PHIL F322X, PS F300XEthics	An additional social science, humanities, or Arts course
1 Math + 2 lab natural science lab courses	1 Math + 1 Nat Sci lab course + an additional Math or Nat science course

There would be merit in making our new GERs as similar as possible to those of UAA and UAS, so as to get closer to the BOR mandate of 'common GERs'.

## Below are copies of UAS and UAA's GERs

# What strategies should we employ in moving towards modifications to 'CORE'? a. Should individual departments create lists of appropriate 100 and 200-level courses? b. What to do about History? (Suggestion: ask them if they'd be willing to change to 'Humanities')

```
ENGL
         S261
                  Introduction to Creative Writing
HIST
         S105
                  World History I* 3
                  World History II* 3
HIST
         S106
HIST
         S131
                  History of the U.S. I*
                                              3
HIST
         S132
                  History of the U.S. II*
                                              3
HUM
         S120
                  A Sense of Place: Alaska & Beyond
                                                       3
         S101
JOUR
                  Introduction to Mass Communication
                                                       3
                                                        3
PHIL
         S101
                  Introduction to Logic and Reasoning
PHIL
         S201
                  Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL
         S301
                  Ethics
                  Elementary Russian I
RUSS
         S101
RUSS
         S102
                  Elementary Russian II 4
SPAN
         S101
                  Elementary Spanish I
                                              4
SPAN
        S102
                  Elementary Spanish II
```

#### Social Sciences 6-9 Select a minimum of two from the following from two disciplines:

```
ANTH
        S101
                 Introduction to Anthropology 3
ANTH
         S202
                 Cultural Anthropology
ANTH
         S211
                 Fundamentals of Archaeology
                                                     3
ECON
        S100
                 Introduction to Economics
ECON
                                                     3
        S201
                 Principles of Economics I:Macro
ECON
        S202
                 Principles of Economics II:Micro
GEOG
        S101
                 Introductory Geography
GOVT
        S101
                 Introduction to American Government 3
GOVT
        S102
                 Introduction to Political Science
GOVT
        S230
                 Introduction to Political Philosophy
GOVT
        S251
                 Introduction to International Relations 3
                  World History I*
HIST
         S105
         S106
                 World History II* 3
HIST
HIST
         S131
                 History of the U.S. I*
                                            3
HIST
         S132
                 History of the U.S. II*
PSY
         S101
                 Introduction to Psychology
PSY
         S250
                 Lifespan Development
SOC
         S101
                 Introduction to Sociology
SOC
         S201
                 Social Problems
```

Select one from the remaining humanities and social science courses (3 credits).

## Mathematics & Natural Sciences 10-12 Select one from the following (at least 3 credits):

Mathematics and Statistics

MATH S106 Concepts and Contemporary Applications of Mathematics 3 MATH

<sup>\*</sup>History courses can be used as humanities OR social science requirements, but not both.

## **UAA vs UAF vs UAS General Education Requirements**

