

The University of Kansas
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES & ADVISING

AGENDA

NOVEMBER 11, 2008, 11:00AM
STRONG HALL – ROOM 210

- I. Approval of CUSA Minutes from October 28, 2008
- II. Chair's Report
- III. Dean's Office Report
- IV. CLA&S Student Academic Services Report
 - A. Student Senate Charge to University AP&P
- V. Subcommittee Chair Reports
 - A. Advising & Awards
 - B. Curricular Changes/Degree Requirements
 - 1a. Curricular Changes for Approval:
BIOL 360, GERM 218, JWSH 350, REES 492, REES 496
 - 1b. Curricular Changes Motion to File:
LA&S 101
LA&S 492
 - 2. Degree Requirements:
HL Principal Course Status for: JWSH 311, JWSH 327, JWSH 572
 - 3. Correction to previously approved deletion of a course:
HA 511
 - C. Academic Standards
- VI. Old Business
 - A. BGS Track 2
 - B. KUCE College Course Offerings Review and Approval
(Information provided at meeting)
- VII. New Business

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND ADVISING

Minutes of the Meeting for October 28, 2008

The committee met on Tuesday, October 28, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 210 Strong Hall. The following were present: Banwart, Blackmore, Bradley, Burright, Crosby, Cudd, Dickey, Dozier, Earnhart, Hayes, Kuczera, Ledom, Madden, Manning, McNeley, Mielke, Mukherjee, Roberts, Rudolph, Tucker

MINUTES A motion was made and seconded to approve the October 14, 2008 minutes of Committee on Undergraduate Studies & Advising with the following correction: ANTH 320/LING 320 and ANTH 321/LING 321 courses listed for approval were sent back to the subcommittee. The motion was approved unanimously.

CHAIR'S REPORT Professor Madden reserved the Chair's report for discussion of the new Bachelor of General Studies degree under Old Business.

DEAN'S REPORT Associate Dean Cudd reserved the Dean's report for discussion of the new Bachelor of General Studies degree under Old Business.

CLA&S STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES REPORT Dr. Kim McNeley provided input from the Committee on Graduate Studies (CGS) regarding the University Incomplete Policy currently under review by the University Academic Procedure and Policy Committee (AP&P). CGS endorsed the previous CUSA feedback but also recommended that a student's petition for extended time must include the support of the instructor of the course. Both CUSA and CGS feedback will be forwarded to CAC and provided to the University Academic Policy and Procedures Committee.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

A. ADVISING & AWARDS – No Report.

B. CURRICULAR CHANGES/DEGREE REQUIREMENTS—

EALC 586, GEOG 335, GEOG 352, GEOG 535, GEOG 538, GEOL 534, GEOL 535, GEOL 537, HIST 582, HIST 586, HIST 605, PSYC 598, PSYC 625, JWSH 311, REL 325

Approval of all curricular changes noted above occurred after a discussion of the review process to ensure that a new course receives input from multiple departments if there is a concern for redundancy or overlap between disciplines, appropriateness of upper-level prerequisite requirements.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL:

1. Non-Western Culture Status for HIST 582
2. Non-Western Culture Status for HIST 605
3. New Minor in Psychology
4. New Minor in Astrobiology

Professor Madden suggested changes to the New Minor in Psychology as “*Remaining* elective credits may include”, replacing “elective courses may include”.

Motions to accept degree requirements for approval with the suggested changes were moved, seconded, and approved.

C. ACADEMIC STANDARDS – No Report.

OLD BUSINESS

The discussion of the proposed Track 2 of the Bachelor of General Studies Degree (BGS) was continued from the previous CUSA meeting. The attached draft was provided to summarize the discussions from the previous CUSA meeting. This draft addressed the previous concern of the insufficient global/world component to this degree by including a World Culture requirement of 4 courses (proposed as any 4 courses in foreign language, linguistics, world religions, or foreign culture).

Dr. McNeley informed the committee that in the 1980's College requirements included a similar World Civilization and Culture requirement. This coding still exists and approximately 300 courses with the "W" designation are offered next term. While this approach would require the Curricular Changes Subcommittee to approve each course meeting the requirement, this option would allow an opportunity for students meet the requirements from a broader number of departments/disciplines.

Further discussion included:

Number of Principal Courses to Ensure Depth and Breadth of Study

Donna Tucker raised the concern that if the number of principal courses was reduced there would be many electives without any specification. She proposed an increase in electives from each division; Humanities, Natural Sciences & Mathematics, and Social & Behavioral Sciences, beyond the Principal Course requirements to ensure a true General Studies Track.

Transfer Student Issues

A good option for transfer students with an Associate's degree and a number of credits in certain areas.

Dr. McNeley expressed concern that transfer students experience difficulty meeting the current Principal Course requirements due their specific nature. Professor Earnhart suggested that it would help the transfer students to require more non-principal courses across the Humanities, Natural Sciences & Mathematics, and Social & Behavioral Sciences categories.

High Number of Elective Credits

Concerns were expressed by many members for the need to specify a certain number of credits in each of the three divisions instead of just stating 67 elective credits. The general consensus of the Committee was to allow no more than 16 credits or 4 courses in any one department, requiring a distribution across the Humanities, Natural Sciences & Mathematics, and Social & Behavioral Sciences categories.

Need for a Foreign Language Requirement

Professor Dickey moved to change the World Culture requirement to include two courses of a foreign language and have the Culture component met by the Non-Western Culture course. This change would reduce requirements by two hours. Professor Manning expressed concerns about staffing and budget cuts. She communicated that Spanish, in some universities, is not considered a foreign language and first-year Spanish does not satisfy the language requirement, only second-year Spanish courses would fulfill language requirements.

Professor Madden described one of the rationales for this General Studies degree as the online course offering and asked if it was possible to do an online foreign language course offering. Currently very few foreign languages courses are available through KUCE.

Professor Madden moved to carry the BGS discussion over to the next Committee session.

DEAN'S REPORT ON THE BGS:

Associate Dean Cudd indicated that Dean Steinmetz has said the BGS we now have is not really a general studies degree. He also stated that he will support new advisors for this purpose if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. McNeley opened the discussion with proposed changes to the Academic Misconduct Policy:

1. Adoption of the definition of academic misconduct appearing in the University Senate Rules and Regulations with the addition of "the offering of gratuities and favors in exchange for grade".
2. Addition of the following procedural requirements: cases alleging dishonesty in research must be immediately communicated to Research and Integrity; cases alleging sexual harassment must be communicated immediately to the Human Resources Department.
3. Change to the current deadline for filing charges of academic misconduct. Legal counsel suggests removing the current 10-Day deadline due to the need for additional time to collect information in very complicated cases.

The Committee recommended consulting legal counsel for wider options that would help assure prompt action by the faculty making the charge, but still allow extensions of time for proper collection of evidence.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

Bachelors of General Studies

Track 1 (Interdisciplinary Studies):

- Retain the existing BGS degree requirements – a good choice for students who want a major and a minor, but do not want to study foreign languages.

Track 2 (Non-Major):

- A degree for students who study broadly and have no major.
- A degree that students in Western Kansas could complete online or through distance education.
- **Draft Degree Requirements**
 - 124 credit hours, 45 of which are numbered 300+
 - Common Degree Requirements (unchanged 27 hrs)
 - English (3 courses)
 - Argument & Reason (1 course)
 - Mathematics (2 courses)
 - Western Civilization (2 courses)
 - Non-western Culture (1 course)
 - Principal Course Requirements (at least 18 hrs)
 - Humanities (2 courses, at least 3 credit hrs each)
 - Each course must come from a different category: HT, HL, or HR
 - Natural Sciences & Mathematics (2 courses, at least 3 credit hrs each)
 - Each course must come from a different category: NB, NE, NM, or NP
 - Social & Behavioral Sciences (2 courses, at least 3 credit hrs each)
 - Each course must come from a different category: SC, SI, or SF
 - World Culture Requirement (4 courses, at least 12 credit hrs)
 - Students would be free to take courses in any foreign language, linguistics, world religions, or foreign culture; need not be in the same culture.
 - In addition to the Non-western Culture requirement?
 - Already have W coding for a lot of these classes.
 - Elective Credits (67 hrs)

Should a student fail to have successfully declared a major following 60 hours of coursework they will be defaulted into Track 2 and will be notified of:

- What this means (a less prestigious degree)
- What they need to do to pursue a BGS Track 1 or a BA degree (declare and be accepted into a major)
- What courses they need to take to complete their BGS Track 2 degree.

1. Curricular Changes

a. Curricular Changes for Approval

BIOLOGY

CHANGE: NEW COURSE

BIOL 360 PRINCIPLES OF GENETICS, HONORS 3 N

The science of genetics aims to explain why individuals differ from one another and how these differences are inherited. Honors Genetics covers all core topics in fundamental genetics: Mendelian inheritance, meiosis and recombination, mutation, molecular genetics, population genetics, quantitative genetics and genomics. Special attention given to the practice of genetics and the complex relationship between genotype, phenotype and environment. A broader goal of Honors Genetics is to provide students a framework for understanding recent advances in medical genetics and the modern era of personal genomics. Prerequisite: Two semesters of college-level chemistry and BIOL 150 or BIOL 152, membership in the University Honors Program; or consent of the instructor.

GERMANIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

CHANGE: NEW COURSE

GERM 218 INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS GERMAN: DEUTSCH IM BERUFSALLTAG 3 H

A continuation of GERM 212. Structured grammar review, composition, conversation, and reading with the focus on the basics of the German business communication. Especially recommended for students planning to take GERM 352 and GERM 462. Three class meetings per week. Not open to native speakers of German. Prerequisite: GERM 212 or equivalent.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CHANGE: NEW COURSE

JWSH 350 CONTEMPORARY JEWISH IDENTITIES 3 H

This course explores the variety of ways in which American Jews create Jewish identities as individuals and groups. It traces the emergence of the various current divisions within Judaism: Reform Judaism (which by definition, implies Orthodoxy), then Conservative Judaism, and then the later development of Reconstructionist Judaism. The course also explores other contemporary options for being Jewish: cultural Jews, secular Jews, unaffiliated Jews, religious Jews, and gay or lesbian or transgendered Jews.

RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN & EURASIAN STUDIES

CHANGE: COURSE DESCRIPTION TITLE

REES 492 SEIMNAR IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES 3 H
(OLD) An interdisciplinary seminar. Each student will be expected to write an interdisciplinary seminar paper, involving the use of materials in an East European language and concentrated in the discipline of the student's special interest. A grade will be assigned only on satisfactory completion of REES 496.

REES 492 RESEARCH METHODS IN RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN, AND
(NEW) EURASIAN STUDIES 3 H
Development of interdisciplinary research skills and familiarity with resources and issues in the study of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. Preparation for REES 496.

CHANGE: COURSE DESCRIPTION PREREQUISITE TITLE

REES 496 SEMINAR IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES 3 H
(OLD) Continuation of REES 492.

REES 496 RESEARCH SEMINAR IN RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN, AND
(NEW) EURASIAN STUDIES 3 H
Interdisciplinary original research conducted using at least one REES language and resulting in a research paper. Prerequisite: REES 492.

b. Curricular Changes Motion to File

LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

CHANGE: NEW TOPIC

LA&S 101 LEARNING COMMUNITIES SEMINAR: LIVING-LEARNING-
LANGUAGES 1
In partnership with Foreign Language Departments and Area Centers, this Seminar offers students expanded interdisciplinary language and cultural experiences. Evidence of student learning includes surveys, portfolios, achievement in departmental coursework and tests, as well as persistence to the next course level in good standing.

CHANGE: NEW TOPIC

LA&S 492 SURVEY OF SANSKRIT 1.5
This course will provide a concise overview of the Sanskrit language: its grammar, structure, history and literature.

2. Degree Requirements for Approval

- a) HL Principal Course Status for: JWSH 311, JWSH 327, JWSH 572

New Course

JWSH 311 NARRATIVES OF JEWISH LIFE

DESCRIPTION:

Focuses on the narratives through which Jews made sense of their lives under the impact of the forces of modernity. The last two centuries were a time of profound changes for European Jews, many of whom eventually immigrated to the U.S. Modernity marked the beginning of a more complete acceptance of Jews into the wider society and culture. The goal is to analyze how the imagination of Jewish writers was captured by the changes in social structures such as new educational, residential and occupational opportunities, leading to increased interactions with the gentile society. Changes in cultural norms were also important in this process, such as the development of new ideologies including nationalist, Zionist and secular. The course begins in the "old world," and moves through the 19th century and into the 20th. Students read and discuss literary works based in the shtetl (by Sholem Aleykhem, I.L. Peretz and others), in revolutionary Russia (Isaac Babel, V.Grossman and others), and in America (such as the Sweatshop Poets; Philip Roth and others). We will also look at memoirs and letters written by ordinary Jews. All assigned texts will be in English.

JUSTIFICATION:

My charge in my new position here, as Robert M. Beren Distinguished Professor of Jewish Studies and Director of the Program, is to build our now small program that offers a minor into one that offers a major, and eventually, a graduate program. We have two new faculty members this year, myself and Renee Perelmutter, who is in Slavic Studies and has half of her teaching load in Jewish Studies. We are working (of course over time) to establish a curriculum of courses offered by Jewish Studies. The overarching theme that will unite our program will be a focus on how persons, communities and their material and cultural products, produce narratives that reflect their social and cultural context and shape identities. The course I am proposing for our first **Principal Course** is the new course Renee is proposing to offer in the Spring semester of this year, i.e, Spring 2009. (We are submitting a concurrent proposal to CUSA to review this course so we can add it to our roster.) Renee's new course is titled, "Narratives of Jewish Life." We expect this course to appeal to a variety of students across disciplines because people are often interested in stories and how they shape human experience. This course is focused directly on the themes that will, over time, unite the interdisciplinary faculty of Jewish Studies; therefore I think it is perfect for our first Principles Course.

New Course

JWSH 327 JEWISH SECULAR CULTURE

DESCRIPTION:

By examining the modern concept of Yiddishkeit (Jewishness), this course explores Jewish secularism as a set of modern intellectual, literary, and cultural practices that redefined the relationship between the secular and religious in literature, music, theatre, art, humor, and foodways. This interdisciplinary course draws on theoretical approaches from history, cultural studies, religious studies, folklore, and linguistics to examine the different secularizing cultural practices of the Jews in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as in North America.

JUSTIFICATION:

This course is a core content course (proposed also as a Principal Course) in Jewish Studies, which will count for the Jewish Studies minor and is intended to count towards the future major in Jewish Studies. Moreover, its addition to the curriculum corresponds to the focus in the Jewish Studies minor on Jewish secular identity. This focus on

secularization is supported by seed-funding from the Posen Foundation, which has co-funded the hiring of a new faculty member to teach this course.

New Course

JWSH 572 JEWISH FOLKLORE

DESCRIPTION:

Jewish folklore is extraordinarily rich and varied. From folktales to riddles, from legends about the exalted rabbis to irreverent jokes, folklore is central to the Jewish way of life. This course will trace the extent to which oral elements appear in traditional Jewish literary texts such as the Bible; read and discuss folktales, and examine minor genres such as proverbs, riddles and jokes. Topics will include the supernatural beings of Jewish folklore – dybbucks, seductive female demons, and golems. Students will acquire theoretical tools with which to analyze folklore (Jewish or otherwise), read stories, watch movies, and collect samples of folklore from informants.

JUSTIFICATION:

State reason for request in detail. This course is a core content course (proposed also as a Principal Course) in Jewish Studies, which will count for the Jewish Studies minor and is intended to count towards the future major in Jewish Studies.

3. Correction to previously approved deletion of a course

CHANGE: DELETE COURSE

HA **511** THE CELTS 3 H

A multidisciplinary study of over 2000 years of early European History (1200B.C-800A.D.) combining the approach of archaeology and anthropology, art history, and linguistics. Emphasis will be on the most important aspects of the growth and development of the arts, cultures, and languages of these Pan-European Peoples from their west-central European origins to their maximum expansion and their confrontation with Rome, The Anglo-Saxons, and the Franks. The survival of Celtic culture in the "Celtic fringe" of Western Europe and the "Celtic Revival" in the 19th and 20th centuries will be considered at the end of the semester. (Same as ANTH 511)

This is a correction to a previous approval to delete the History of Art course entitled "The Celts". The course number was erroneously submitted as HA 551, and appeared as such throughout the approval process. (although the course is still listed as "same as ANTH 511", ANTH 511 was previously deleted.)