

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

AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 8, 2009, 11:00AM
STRONG HALL – ROOM 210

- I. Approval of CUSA Minutes from August 25, 2009

- II. Chair's Report
 - Prioritizing CUSA Issues

- III. Dean's Office Report

- IV. CLA&S Student Academic Services Report

- V. Subcommittee Chair Reports
 - A. Advising & Awards

 - B. Curricular Changes/Degree Requirements
 - 1. Curricular Changes for Approval: CEAS 200, CEAS 500, EVRN 371, GEOG 371

 - 2. Degree Requirements for Approval:
 - a) HL Principle Course Status for ENGL 315, FMS 200, FMS 311, FMS 314, THR 106, THR, 215, THR 404
 - b) Change to Existing Film and Media Studies BGS Major

 - C. Academic Standards

- VI. Old Business
 - Sunset Date for Previous Admission to Major Requirements

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND ADVISING
Minutes of the Meeting for August 25, 2009

The committee met on Tuesday, August 25, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 210 Strong Hall. The following were present: Banwart, Blackmore, Bradley, Burright, Comer, Cudd, Dozier, Earnhart, Fischer, Krzysztof, Ledom, McCrea, McNeley, Mielke, Phillips, Roberts, Rudolph

Also attending: Interim Dean Greg Simpson

The meeting was called to order by Associate Dean Ann Cudd, who reported that Chair Dr. Patricia Manning was ill and unable to attend. Dr. Cudd welcomed all the members of CUSA and introduced herself, then Dean Simpson and the rest of the attendees introduced themselves.

DEAN'S CHARGES FOR THE 2009-2010 ACADEMIC YEAR

Dean Simpson began with the approval of the Non-major BGS that was officially approved by the Provost, and suggested the Committee consider changing the name, possibly to "Bachelor of General Studies in Liberal Arts and Sciences."

He would like the Committee to consider some admission criteria to this degree and mentioned that Dr. McNeley would be speaking about that at this meeting.

Dean Simpson asked the Committee to consider, with encouragement from the Board of Regents, increasing capstone courses in the College. Forty-six percent (46%) of 2007-08 graduates completed a capstone experience as it has been defined by CUSA in the past. CUSA's definition of a capstone course is a course requiring students to synthesize the knowledge, principles, and theories presented across the curriculum of a particular discipline; and/or to complete an advanced project through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to a new setting and/or a complex problem. The Board of Regents desires a higher level of participation in the University, and the BOR Performance Agreement set goals of a 2% increase per year. One of the ways to increase that may well be to add a capstone course/experience to the admission requirements of the Non-major BGS degree.

A question was raised of whether or not Non-major BGS students would have a "home department" and, if not, who would be responsible for the administration and design of a capstone course for these students. It was noted that there currently exists a Liberal Arts and Sciences course that assists students to find an internship of their choice but applies the core Liberal Arts and Sciences skills and perspectives into a wide variety of internships. This course is taught online through Career Services. A comment was made that this type of clarification should continue to be discussed by CUSA in future meetings.

Dean Simpson then mentioned that KUCE and the College have been approached regarding an interest in developing an online degree program. The first two years of courses would be taken at a community college, and the last two years online with KU courses. Dean Simpson mentioned that Dean Steinmetz had offered some incentive funding to develop online courses and Dean Simpson would like development of many more, with an additional 20 online courses developed this year. Twenty courses would be the minimum that a student would need given this scenario. Dean Simpson pointed out that the new BGS seems made for this kind of program, and he will be encouraging and offering some incentives to faculty to develop these courses. He clarified that these courses would be developed as regular 16-week courses that follow the same semester schedules as on-campus courses.

Things for CUSA to consider would be possible logistical problems with students who are not part of this online program enrolling in these courses, and whether or not departments would be able to increase the number of principal courses they offer, as well as upper-level courses, for online offerings.

Dean Simpson also mentioned that there is departmental interest in development of certificate programs and he asked CUSA to develop criteria that clarifies the standards under which a Dean's certificate would be approved for transcript notation, as opposed to departmental acknowledgement of an area of focus of study. Something to consider is whether there should be a special name for such a transcript notation.

A question was asked about what KU's philosophy is regarding online degree students and whether any kind of transcript notation would be made indicating that degree was obtained online. It was pointed out that students currently can earn quite a bit of credit with online courses, and no indication currently is made on transcripts specifying that these were online courses. A comment was also made that it has been an administrative desire to serve Kansans and this may be a way to allow more access to a University education for students, particularly in Western Kansas, who are not able to come to Lawrence to attend courses.

There were no further questions and Dean Simpson again thanked the CUSA members for their willingness to serve, and left the meeting.

CLA&S STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES REPORT Assistant Dean McNeley

- A. 2010-2011 Undergraduate Catalog
Dr. McNeley noted that departments and CUSA members in those departments soon would be receiving packets with their catalog copy, and reminded members that KU is moving toward an online catalog that will be updated annually. There will be templates developed for degree requirements, as a suggestion for consistent notation throughout the College departments to assist in better and clear communication of requirements to students.
- B. BGS Non-Major Administrative/Advising (*see Attachment 1 to 8/25/09 CUSA Minutes*)
Dr. McNeley noted that there already is strong interest in this degree option and went over each of the proposed Declaration of BGS Non-major Degree Option Administrative Requirements. Discussion ensued, and there was a short break to allow members to eat lunch, and the meeting resumed. After additional discussion, a motion was made to vote on this proposal. A question was raised about whether or not the vote could include the first three requirements, but table the fourth requirement, "Completion of an advising document confirming student understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of this degree option," until the Advising and Scholarship subcommittee could develop that advising document. It was agreed that would be fine, and CUSA could vote separately on the fourth proposed requirement after the advising document was finalized by the subcommittee. A motion was made to approve and endorse the first three requirements to administratively record the pursuit of this degree option as currently named. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The Admissions and Scholarships subcommittee members agreed to discuss development of the advising document at their next meeting.
- C. Undergraduate Coordinators' Update
September 9, 9:00-11:00, Pine Room, Kansas Union
September 10, 1:00-3:00, Pine Room, Kansas Union
Dr. McNeley brought these meetings to the members' attention and invited them to attend if they would like to.
- D. Majors Fair – September 22, Kansas Union
Dr. McNeley briefly described this event and noted the College hoped each of the departments would have a representative available.

MINUTES A motion was made and seconded to approve the May 12, 2009 minutes of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies & Advising with no corrections. The motion was approved unanimously.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

- A. ADVISING & AWARDS – No report.
- B. CURRICULAR CHANGES/DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
 1. Curricular Changes for Approval: REES 485, REES 512, REES 513, REES 573, REES 574, REES 685, SLAV 512
Dr. Mielke presented for the subcommittee, and briefly mentioned the courses submitted for approval. A question was raised concerning the prerequisite of three years of Russian for the REES 685 course, and discussion ensued about whether or not it is appropriate for one course to list as a prerequisite courses taught in another department. The majority of members felt that since the department offering the courses listed as prerequisites had approved the proposal, and it would impose no hardship on students since the course was not required but elective, CUSA should also approve the proposal. A motion to approve all the courses listed above was made and seconded, and the curricular changes were approved with one dissent.

2. Degree Requirements for Approval

a) Change to Existing Non-Western Culture Status for REES 512 and REES 513

Clarification was made that REES 512 is the same as SLAV 512 which already had Non-Western Culture status and had just been approved for deletion. Upon that clarification, a motion was made and seconded to approve both REES 512 and REES 513 for Non-Western Culture status, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. ACADEMIC STANDARDS – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Subcommittee assignments were handed out to the committee members and noted that the assignments are based on departmental representation.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

**Declaration of BGS Non-major Degree Option
Administrative Requirements**

The following requirements have been developed to encourage:

1. Satisfactory completion of all Math and English General Education Requirements.

Courses:

ENGL 101, 102, and 3rd English (ENGL 203, 205, 209, 210, or 211)

MATH 002 (if required), 101, and 2nd Math (MATH 105, 106, 111, 115, 121, 141, 365, or BIOL 570)

Rationale: To encourage a strong foundation of basic skills early in the curriculum.

2. Satisfactory completion of courses from 15 departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Rationale: To encourage full exploration of potential major/area of interest.

3. Good Academic Standing, KU cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better.

Rationale: To maintain advising support for students in academic difficulty.

4. Completion of an advising document confirming student understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of this degree option.

Potential document developed by the Advising and Scholarship Subcommittee.

1. Curricular Changes for Approval

CENTER FOR EAST ASIAN STUDIES

CHANGE: NEW COURSE

CEAS 200 TOPICS IN EAST ASIAN STUDIES: _____ 1- 3 U

An introductory interdisciplinary topics course addressing contemporary issues related to one or more East Asian countries. Format and content will vary. Does not count toward the EALC major or minor requirements unless otherwise indicated by EALC in the Schedule of Classes. LEC

CHANGE: NEW COURSE

CEAS 500 SEMINAR IN EAST ASIAN STUDIES: _____ 1- 3 U

An interdisciplinary seminar addressing contemporary issues related to one or more East Asian countries. Prerequisites to be determined by instructor(s) on the basis of course content. Does not count toward the EALC major or minor requirements unless otherwise indicated by EALC in the Schedule of Classes. LEC

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

CHANGE: NEW CROSS-LISTED COURSE

EVRN 371 ENVIRONMENTAL GEOPOLITICS 3 S

This course examines how human relationships with the biophysical world are politicized. Examines key contributions to debates surrounding environmental security, resource conflicts, and related issues, as well as geopolitical assumptions on which these debates build. (Same as GEOG 371) LEC

GEOGRAPHY

CHANGE: NEW CROSS-LISTED COURSE

GEOG 371 ENVIRONMENTAL GEOPOLITICS 3 S

This course examines how human relationships with the biophysical world are politicized. Examines key contributions to debates surrounding environmental security, resource conflicts, and related issues, as well as geopolitical assumptions on which these debates build. (Same as EVRN 371) LEC

2. Degree Requirements for Approval

- a) HL Principle Course Status for ENGL 315, FMS 200, FMS 311, FMS 314, THR 106, THR, 215, THR 404

Existing Course

ENGL 315

STUDIES IN BRITISH LITERATURE

DESCRIPTION:

For students enrolled in the annual summer Study Abroad program, an interdisciplinary program conducted with other humanities departments. British literature is studied in the context of visits to relevant sites such as London, the Lake District, and Edinburgh. Prerequisites: Prior completion of the freshman-sophomore English requirement or its equivalent.

JUSTIFICATION:

As part of the British Summer Institute in the Humanities, English 315 satisfies the Humanities/Literature general education requirement because it requires that students study a range of genres and provides an introduction to methodology in the discipline of literary studies. While it is a part of a study abroad program, it draws students from a number of majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The Department would endeavor to expand the number of spaces available in our other three HL courses to accommodate the students who wish to cover their HL requirement on campus through the English Department.

A previous proposal to make this a principal course was denied by CUSA. However, at the time English already had 4 upper-level principal courses. Since the proposal to

remove the English 308 principal course designation was approved, we only have 3 HL courses. It was suggested that the course could be taught as ENGL 309 The British Novel. However, ENGL 315 is not a novel course, so this would not be an appropriate alternative.

Existing Course
FMS 200

FILM AND MEDIA AESTHETICS

DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to film and media aesthetics, including basic film/media theories and their practical applications. Students will be introduced to the concepts of time, space, composition, movement, editing, light, color, and sound. A key feature of the course will be a practical emphasis on learning how to see creatively by applying elements of design, camera lens and sound recording principles. Examples of these aspects of film and associated media will be examined and discussed in depth. Should be taken before or concurrently with FMS 275 or FMS 276.

JUSTIFICATION:

This survey course is an introduction to ways of seeing. It is an introduction to how films are made with an emphasis on composition, framing, and the histories of film and media aesthetics both internationally and nationally. The course is a primer about the history and applications of visual culture.

Existing Course
FMS 311

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN SOUND FILM

DESCRIPTION:

A study of the artistic, economic, and sociological development of the American sound film with emphasis on the studio system, major directors, genres, and the impact of television. Analysis of selected films.

JUSTIFICATION:

This history course will engage students in a humanistic view of American film. It is a history of film production, exhibition, and reception from U.S. film's inception to the present day. The course focuses on the studio system, but also explores the meanings and ideologies that various films responded to in the time they were made. It is a humanistic inquiry into the history of American cinema, suitable for all undergraduates.

Existing Course
FMS 314

HISTORY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN IMAGES IN FILM

DESCRIPTION:

A history and critical assessment of the diverse images of African-Americans in American cinema and the impact of those images on American society. Screenings of feature and independent films, including those by African-Americans.

JUSTIFICATION:

This is a broad survey course that introduces students to the evolution of U.S. films that have depicted African-Americans from film's inception to the present. This course helps students critically analyze the signification of images and provides the tools to understand how visual culture is coded and repeats familiar stereotypes over time. This course is suitable for all undergraduates and is taught from a humanistic angle.

Existing Course
THR 106

ACTING I

DESCRIPTION:

Fundamental techniques in acting. Practice in character creation, body language, and effective stage speech.

JUSTIFICATION:

This course on the fundamentals of acting is geared toward not just the experiential practice of acting, but to the dissection of the craft. Students will gain a significantly stronger knowledge of what an actor does, how the actor makes choices, and will be able to better judge the critical analysis of acting on stage, screen, and new media.

Existing Course
THR 215

APPROACHING DESIGN

DESCRIPTION:

Conceptualization and visualization of the elements involved in creative design for theatre, dance, television, and film.

JUSTIFICATION:

This is the first course students take in design for theatre, covering all the basics of design (drawing, set, costume, lighting, prop) including principles not only for the theatre but for how to “think” about design and use your creative imagination. Students learn practical as well as theoretical approaches to design. Students will gain a stronger understanding of how design functions in everyday life.

Existing Course
THR 404

CHILDREN AND DRAMA

DESCRIPTION:

Exploration of forms, methods, and materials appropriate for development of elementary-age children in dramatic arts.

JUSTIFICATION:

This course engages students in dramatic play with local children so they may understand the organic basis of all forms of theatre on a visceral level. We apply theories of imagination, drama, and child development to the practices of theatre by improvising stories and creating imaginary worlds that capture the same artistic methods involved in creating theatre. This course also challenges students to question their stereotypes about children’s dramatic imaginations to better prepare them as future parents and educators.

b) Change to Existing Film and Media Studies BGS Major

PROPOSAL:

Change the BGS in Film and Media Studies to list FMS 530 Classical Film/Media Theory rather than the old course number of FMS 583.

JUSTIFICATION:

The request for the new BGS in Film and Media Studies was submitted in January 2009 incorrectly listing the old number for the course. This request is to correct that error. The rubric (FMS) and name (Classical Film/Media Theory) are correct.