**ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel**

Approved Minutes

Thursday, February 4th, 2021 8:30AM – 10:00AM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees**: Coleman, Guada, Hilty, Kline, Piperata, Valle, Vankeerbergen, Vasey, Vu

1. Approval of the 01/21/2021 Minutes
   * Piperata, Coleman, **unanimously approved**
2. Political Science 3245 (new course)
   * **The Panel kindly requests that International Studies be contacted and asked for a concurrence for this course, as they feel there is overlap between that program and this course in which a concurrence would prove beneficial.**
   * **The Panel would like to see additional information regarding the course assignments, as found on pages 3 and 4 of the syllabus. Specifically, they would like further explanation and breakdown of the exams, the cumulative project and, especially, the case studies.**
   * *The Panel recommends itemizing all required readings for the course into a section within the syllabus so students know, explicitly, what is expected of them for the duration of the course.*
   * *On page 4 of the syllabus, under Grading Scale, it mentions the OSU standard grading scale. The Panel recommends removing that language, as there is no standard grading scale for The Ohio State University.*
   * *On page 4 of the syllabus, under the Missing an Exam section, the Panel noted that students are only able to reschedule one of the three required exams for the course. They kindly recommend that this policy be reexamined, as it could possibly be unnecessarily punitive to students.*
   * *On page 6 of the syllabus, Kellie Brennan is mentioned as the Title IX Coordinator. The Panel recommends removing her name and updating that language as Kellie Brennan is no longer the Title IX Coordinator. The updated language can be found on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website at* [*https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements*](https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements) *.*
   * Coleman, Vasey, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *four recommendations* (in italics above)
3. Political Science 3280 (existing course; request to change number from 4280, title, course description, course content, and campus)
   * The Panel could not help but wonder if this course would achieve its goals better, or best serve students, if it had a prerequisite, given that, based upon the provided curricular map, it is designated as an advanced course. Therefore, they would like to pose this as a question to the Department to consider as they move forward with this course.
   * *The Panel recommends removing all references to PS 4280 within the syllabus, such as on page 4 of the syllabus.*
   * *The Panel recommends adding additional information and clarity to the Debate Memos assignment and the format of the course exams as found in the course schedule on page 3. They feel as these assignments do not have clear expectations set out in the syllabus and worry that students may become confused.*
   * *On page 7 of the syllabus, Kellie Brennan is mentioned as the Title IX Coordinator. The Panel recommends removing her name and updating that language as Kellie Brennan is no longer the Title IX Coordinator. The updated language can be found on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website at* [*https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements*](https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements) *.*
   * Coleman, Piperata, **unanimously approved** with one comment and *three recommendations* (in italics above)
4. Sociology 5608 (course number change from 6608) and Sociology 5649 (course number change from 6649)
   * The Panel feels as if they cannot currently evaluate these course change requests as they need to see the 6000-level course syllabus in order to compare the changes in the requested 5000-level syllabus. Additionally, the Panel would like to ask for a rationale for why undergraduate Juniors and Seniors can take this course, how it will prove beneficial to them, and how the course will cater to both undergraduates (for whom this will be an advanced course) and graduate students (for whom this will be an introductory course) equally.
   * **No Vote**
5. Psychology 3310 (existing course requesting 100% DL)
   * *The Panel recommends providing more explanation and clarity surrounding the Knowledge Appraisal activities as found on page 5 of the syllabus.*
   * Piperata, Coleman, **unanimously approved** with *one recommendation* (in italics above)
6. Psychology 3312 (existing course requesting 100% DL)
   * *The Panel recommends providing more explanation and clarity surrounding the Knowledge Appraisal activities as found on pages 5 and 7 of the syllabus.*
   * *The Panel recommends changing the format and style of the course schedule found on pages 13-15, as they found it to be confusing to read and worry that students may also struggle when deciphering the schedule.*
   * *On the course schedule (found on pages 13-15), there are supplemental readings mentioned but it is not clear what these readings are. The Panel recommends adding these supplemental readings to the course reading lists for the sake of clarity.*
   * Coleman, Guada, **unanimously approved** with *three recommendations* (in italics above)
7. Psychology 3513 (existing course requesting 100% DL)
   * *On pages 5 and 6 of the syllabus, a response paper assignment is mentioned. While the Panel recognizes that these assignments are meant to be vague to allow for individual instructors to create assignments that fit their course, they still see value in providing more detail into what these assignments look like. The Panel recommends providing an example for these assignments for better clarity within the syllabus.*
   * *On the course schedule (found on pages 13 and 14), there are due dates for “Assignment 1” and “Assignment 2”. The Panel recommends clarifying what these assignments are and input them directly into the course calendar for the sake of clarity.*
   * *On the provided in-person, current syllabus, in the prerequisites section found on page 1, the courses under the quarter system before the semester conversion are mentioned. The Panel recommends removing that information, as it is unnecessary.*
   * Guada, Coleman, **unanimously approved** with *three recommendations* (in italics above)
8. Psychology 5620 (existing course requesting 100% DL)
   * *The Panel noticed that there was no reading list provided within the syllabus and recommends one be added.*
   * *The Panel recommends providing a default grading scale within the syllabus, as currently the syllabus (on page 5) mentions that the grading scale will be adjusted to reflect the difficulty of the exams. They believe this will become confusing to students without at least a default grading scale provided.*
   * *On page 2 of the syllabus, it mentions that students may schedule asynchronous meetings with the course instructor. The Panel recommends clarifying what this means or correcting this language if it is a typo.*
   * Guada, Piperata, **unanimously approved** with *three recommendations* (in italics above)
9. Communication 3160 (existing course requesting greater or equal to 50% distance learning) and Communication 3163 (existing course requesting greater or equal to 50% distance learning)
   * *The Panel recommends further and fuller descriptions in each weekly recitation section, as they currently find them too vague.*
   * *The Panel recommends additional information surrounding lab descriptions to promote clarity.*
   * Vasey, Guada, **unanimously approved** with *two recommendations* (in italics above)
10. Communication 4558 (existing course requesting 100% DL)
    * Guada, Piperata, **unanimously approved**
11. Communication 3628 (existing course requesting 100% DL)
    * **The Panel would like to see the extra credit assignment found on page 4 reworded, as they find it confusing and unclear, and do not believe that students would be able to clearly understand the expectations of them for the assignment.**
    * **The current grading scale, found on page 5, mentions that a 60%-62% is a D-. This is not a possible grade to assign to a student. The Panel would like to ask the grading scale be updated accordingly.**
    * *The Panel would like to recommend clarifying all language used regarding assignment descriptions found on pages 3 and 4. They feel as if the current descriptions could prove confusing to students.*
    * *The Panel recommends adding a table within the syllabus that shows exactly how many assignments per assignment type and the point value assigned to each individual assignment as a way of clarifying student expectations.*
    * *Under the “Required equipment” section on page 10 of the syllabus, it is suggested that “Windows 7+” be changed to “Windows 10+” as Windows 7 is no longer a supported software.*
    * Guada, Piperata, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *four recommendations* (in italics above)