**ASCC Themes Panel**

Approved Minutes

Thursday, November 18th, 2021 3:30PM – 5:00PM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees**: Baker, Conroy, Cravens-Brown, Daly, Ferketich, Fredal, Heldman, Hilty, Kogan, Lanno, Leikes, Odei, Parkman, Soland, Steele, Vankeerbergen, Weiner

1. Approval of 10/28/2021 Minutes
   * Ferketich, Soland, **unanimously approved**
2. Discussion about High Impact Practices (including 3+1)
   * The Panel and represented Theme Advisory Groups held a robust discussion surrounding the creation of 3 credit hour courses with an additional 1 credit hour High Impact Practice, weighing on the advantages and disadvantages of these types of submissions. Ultimately, the discussion ended with the Panel and Theme Advisory Groups recommending that units that wish to develop such courses reach out to Jim Fredal, faculty Chair of the Themes Panel, Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Assistant Dean for Curriculum and other associate members of the Panel and Theme Advisory Groups.
3. Anthropology 3050 (new course requesting new GE Theme: Sustainability, with Research & Creative Inquiry High Impact Practice)
   * Consideration for GE Theme: Sustainability
     + The reviewing faculty wish to express their excitement for this course, as they find this course to be extremely well-considered and very ambitious and are excited to see such a course be offered.
     + **The reviewing faculty request that the GE language (as found on page 1 of the syllabus) be corrected to the proper GE Goals and ELOs, which can be found on the Office of Academic Affairs website at:** [**https://oaa.osu.edu/ohio-state-ge-program**](https://oaa.osu.edu/ohio-state-ge-program)**.**
     + Themes Panel:
       - Ferketich, Kogan, **unanimously approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above)
     + Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
       - Letter, **unanimously approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above)
   * Consideration of High Impact Practice
     + The reviewing faculty did not find enough evidence to support inclusion to the Research & Creative Inquiry High Impact Practice and ask that the course engage students directly in the research process rather than simply conducting a literature review. They do not find evidence that students will be conducting research themselves but rather reviewing previously established research and conducting a review.
       - The reviewing faculty invite the course proposer to either allow the course to be approved as a three credit hour Theme course, or resubmit using the feedback above for the High Impact Practice. If the course proposer wishes to submit as a three credit hour GE Themes: Sustainability course, then the reviewing faculty request that the contact hours be revisited to fit the scope of a three credit hour course.
       - **No Vote**
4. Communication 2596 (existing course with GE Cross-Disciplinary Seminar; requesting new GE Theme: Sustainability)
   * The reviewing faculty were not supportive of this proposal for inclusion within the GE Theme: Sustainability as they did not find evidence that the course will speak to sustainability. While they find that the course has relevance to sustainability, they are concerned that “environment” is too often a substitution within the syllabus There is no acknowledgement of the theme ELOs, and the concept itself is not listed as a goal or topic of the course. The only acknowledgement of the theme is with sustainability sciences noted as part of a list of perspectives of communication. They recommend engaging more closely with the GE Theme: Sustainability ELOs.
   * The reviewing faculty request that a reading list be added to the course syllabus.
   * The GE Theme: Sustainability Goals, ELOs and a statement describing how the course will fulfill the GE ELOs is required within the syllabus. The GE Theme: Sustainability Goals and ELOs can be found on the Office of Academic Affairs website at: <https://oaa.osu.edu/ohio-state-ge-program>.
   * The reviewing faculty request that the most up-to-date disability statement be added to the course syllabus, which can be found on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website at: <https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
   * The reviewing faculty request that the course schedule be further developed to include a day-by-day breakdown of course topics and assignment due dates.
   * The reviewing faculty request that the letter grade of “F” be replaced with “E” in the grading scale, as the Ohio State University does not award the letter grade of “F”.
   * **No Vote**
5. Philosophy 2340 (existing course with GE Cultures and Ideas; requesting new GE Theme: Sustainability)
   * The reviewing faculty were supportive of this course, and see a lot of potential, but request some additional clarification:
   * **The reviewing faculty request additional clarity surrounding the course’s weekly assignments and ask for additional framing to be a more cohesive fit with the GE Theme: Sustainability. They suggest adding distinct prompts or focus questions that would help students relate the assignments to the Theme category.**
   * **The final video assignment needs a more direct and explicit link to the Themes. The reviewing faculty recommend having the students engage with the question of “what can I do as a career to help the future of humanity be more sustainable?” within the final project, as this would allow students to reflect on key issues around Sustainability being solved, such as climate change and other important issues.**
   * Themes Panel
     + Approved via e-vote with **one abstention** with **two contingencies** (in bold above)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
     + Letter, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above)
6. Sociology 3200 (existing course with GE Diversity – Social Diversity in the U.S.; requesting new GE Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World)
   * **Add the GE Goals, ELOs and a statement explaining how the course satisfies the GE ELOs.**
   * *The grading scale contains the letter grade of “F” while the Ohio State University does not award the letter grade of “F” and therefore the syllabus should be amended.*
   * Themes Panel:
     + Approved with **one abstention** with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World
     + Soland, Parkman, **unanimously approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics)
7. AAAS 3450 (existing course requesting new GE Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World)
   * The reviewing faculty are very excited about this course, and strongly supportive of its inclusion within the Theme, but request further clarification surrounding how the course relates to Citizenship. Specifically, there are concerns that the connection to Citizenship is not fully developed within the course syllabus, and would like more of the information in the GE Theme submission forms displayed within the course syllabus and ask that the syllabus contain more of this information.
   * The reviewing faculty ask that further articulation of how weekly topics and readings connect to the GE Theme: Citizenship be provided within the course syllabus.
   * The reviewing faculty request clarification around the provided reading list, as it was unclear which readings were assigned for which week or when students would be expected to complete the readings.
   * **No Vote**