ASCC Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity Panel

Approved Minutes

Monday, January 23rd, 2023 12:30-2:00 PM

Carmen Zoom

Attendees: Abrams, Fletcher, Ponce, Pradhan, Steele, Vankeerbergen

**Agenda**

1. Approval of 11-14-22 minutes
   1. Ponce, Abrams; unanimously approved
2. History 2046 (new course requesting GEN Foundation REGD)
   1. **Contingency:** The Panel requests that the department alter either the syllabus (pg. 1 under “Prerequisite”) or the Course Request Form (pg. 1 under “Prerequisites and Exclusions”). Currently the Course Request Form states that *either* English 1110.xx *or* another WIL course is a pre- *or* co-requisite, but the syllabus only allows for English 1110.xx and does not say that taking the courses concurrently is an option.
   2. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department expand the descriptions of the assignments, especially the short papers and the exams (syllabus pg. 3-4, to better demonstrate to students how REGD topics will be a focus of these assignments.
   3. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department update the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 12 under “Your Mental Health”), as there is a new phone number for the National Crisis/Suicide Hotline. The most up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
   4. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department use the most up-to-date version of the Student Life Disabilities Services statement (syllabus pg. 12 under “Accessibility Accommodations for Students With Disabilities”). An up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
   5. Abrams, Ponce; unanimously approved with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *three recommendations* (in italics above).
3. Spanish/Comparative Studies/WGSS 2381 (new cross-listed courses requesting GEN Foundation REGD)
   1. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department consider re-formatting/re-organizing the explanations of how the course meets the GEN goals/ ELOs (syllabus pg. 2-4). Though the Panel appreciated the units’ thoughtful and detailed explanations of each goal/ELO, some Panel members felt that it would be difficult for students to consider the Goals and ELOs as a group when they are spread out over the course of 2-3 pages. They note that having the goals and ELOs grouped together at the beginning of the section (with explanations following,) and/or making the explanations more succinct might help this to feel more student-centered.
   2. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department include titles/topics for each class meeting, week, or unit on the course calendar (Syllabus pg. 14-18) so that the course’s focus on REGD topics is more apparent to students. They note that class topics or themes are not always apparent from the assigned readings/viewings, especially for non-Spanish speakers.
   3. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends changing the header on the first page of the syllabus, which reads “Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures”.
   4. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department update the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 13 under “Your Mental Health”), as there is a new phone number for the National Crisis/Suicide Hotline. While the most up-to-date statement for the Columbus campus can be found here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>, the department is encouraged to consult with the appropriate office on the campus of offering for their most up-to-date wording.
   5. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department use the most up-to-date version of the Student Life Disabilities Services statement (syllabus pg. 13-14 under “Accessibility Accommodations for Students With Disabilities”). While the most up-to-date statement for the Columbus campus can be found here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>, the department is encouraged to consult with the appropriate office on the campus of offering for their most up-to-date wording.
   6. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that all courses seeking approval in the GE Foundations: REGD category include a Land Acknowledgement. A sample Land Acknowledgement, information about the purpose of such a statement, and further action steps can be found here: <https://cbsc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>.
   7. Ponce; Abrams; unanimously approved with *six recommendations* (in italics above).
4. Psychology 1375 (new course requesting GEN Foundations: REGD)
   1. The Panel was excited to see a course from the Department of Psychology being submitted for inclusion in the REGD category, and they invite the proposing unit and/or the instructor/author of the syllabus to reach out to the Panel Chair (Dr. Richard Fletcher.161) regarding the Panel’s feedback.
   2. The Panel was glad to see the coverage of implicit bias in the course and applauds the department for including this important topic.
   3. The Panel asks that the department include a stronger focus on REGD topics, especially early in the course. They note that the introductory weeks of the course define and explain the basics of the study of psychology without any discussion of or introduction to the intersectional study of race, gender and ethnicity.
   4. The Panel finds that there is some coverage of race and racism as well as gender in the weekly topics, but they struggled to see any direct engagement with ethnicity. While courses in the REGD category do not need to be strictly equal in their coverage of topics (i.e., some courses may have a stronger focus on gender; others may focus more on ethnicity, etc.) all areas must be substantively addressed, and the coverage of these topics (as well as the lived experiences that result from their intersection, as noted in ELO 1.3) should be clear to students when reading the syllabus.
   5. The Panel asks that the department adjust the assignments so that they are more clearly focused on and engage more meaningfully with REGD topics. Specifically, they note that some of the course assignments (sample journal prompts, the scientific study report) could be completed without engaging at all with ideas about race, gender, ethnicity or their intersectional nature. Additionally, the Panel found that several of the REGD-focused studies/papers that are referenced as a part of the GE submission form (Crocker, Voelkl, Testa, & Major, 1991 or Yu et al., 2018, for example; GE Form pg. 3), the sample journal questions (Betz & Sekaquaptewa, 2012; syllabus pg.26), and the sample exam questions (Krosch & Amodio, 2014; syllabus pg. 22) do not appear on the reading list (syllabus pg. 17-20).
   6. The Panel requests that the course description (syllabus, pg. 2) be amended to clarify the course’s focus on race, gender, and ethnicity.
   7. The Panel asks that the box on the bottom of pg. 13 of the syllabus be moved to the top of pg. 12, as it is unclear to a sequential reader that the goals and ELO’s listed on pg. 12 and 13 are for the Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity category and not course goals or objectives.
   8. The Panel recommends that all courses seeking approval in the GE Foundations: REGD category include a Land Acknowledgement. A sample Land Acknowledgement, information about the purpose of such a statement, and further action steps can be found here: <https://cbsc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>.
   9. No Vote
5. History 3641 (existing course with GEL Historical Study & GEN Historical and Cultural Studies; requesting GEN Foundation REGD)
   1. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends more clearly communicating that the course fulfills the GEN Foundation: Historical and Cultural Studies category on pg. 3. Though the Panel understands that the course need only fulfill the Historical Study Goals/ELOs for that category (and not the Cultural Studies Goals/ELOs), clearer labeling, such as “Historical Studies Goals (for the Historical or Cultural Studies GEN Foundation)” might help students to better discern that this course will meet the requirements of that entire category, as well as more clearly separating it from the Legacy GE Historical Study category that follows.
   2. Pradhan, Ponce; unanimously approved with *one recommendation* (in italics above).
6. Anthropology and NELC 2241 (existing course with GEL Cultures and Ideas, GEL Diversity-Global Studies, and GEN Foundation: Historical and Cultural Studies; requesting GEN Foundation REGD)
   1. Tabled for time.
7. Sociology 1101 (existing course with GEL Social Science—Organizations and Polities, GEL Diversity—Social Diversity, and GEN Foundation Social and Behavioral Sciences; requesting GEN Foundation REGD)
   1. Tabled for time.