**ASCC Themes 2 Panel**

Approved Minutes

Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023 10:30AM – 12:00PM

Carmen Zoom

**Attendees:**  Conroy, Hilty, Kogan, Lin, Nagar, Parsons, Steele, Tanner, Vankeerbergen

Agenda

1. Approval of 4/18/23 minutes
   1. Kogan, Parsons; unanimously approved.
2. ENR and AEDE 2501E (new cross-listed courses requesting GEN Theme: Sustainability with Interdisciplinary and Integrated Collaborative Teaching High Impact Practice)
   1. TAG
      1. *Recommendation:* As with the non-“E” version of the course, the reviewing faculty recommend incorporating the language of “reinforcing” or “examining” rather than the language of “introduction” so that the syllabus emphasizes the advanced nature of Themes courses.
      2. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty note that pg. 27 mentions a final exam, though exams have been removed from this version of the course.
      3. Approved with *two recommendations* (in italics above).
   2. Themes
      1. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the departments update the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 15 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>.
      2. Parsons, Kogan; unanimously approved with *one recommendation* (in italics above).
3. Educational Studies 2189S (existing course with GEL Service-Learning; requesting GEN Theme Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations with Service-Learning High Impact Practice)
   1. TAG
      1. The reviewing faculty do not see this course as primarily focused on the goals and ELOs of the Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations Theme. They note that only 4 of the 8 planned topics for the seminars (weeks 1-4; syllabus pg. 14-15) appear to be connected to the topics of the theme, and that the content of the experiential learning component of the course (which makes up the majority of the course) will vary greatly from student to student based on the school environment and the mentor teachers/school professionals (among other factors). At this time, the syllabus and the GEN form do not sufficiently demonstrate how all students will meet the goals and ELOs of the category.
      2. No Vote
   2. Themes
      1. The reviewing faculty note the importance of the FEEP Program and Educational Studies 2189S in the overall curriculum of the College of Education and Human Ecology and for students outside of the College seeking to explore and experience the professional field of education. While they appreciate the work that has gone into this course change proposal, they are concerned that altering the course’s focus to align with a GEN Theme will fundamentally change the invaluable experience that is currently provided to students via this course. Should the unit wish to develop a 4 credit-hour, High-Impact Practice Service-Learning Themes course, the reviewing faculty strongly suggest developing a new course rather than retrofitting this important offering.
      2. The reviewing faculty note that this course is currently a pre-major course for students in education licensure programs within the College of Education and Human Ecology and is often taken by students in their first or second semester of study. In part because it is designed to be taken by students who require an introduction to the field, the reviewing faculty do not feel that it constitutes an advanced study of the theme or builds on previous collegiate level coursework and experiences. Should the department wish to re-submit the course, the reviewing faculty ask that more details about the advanced nature of the study of Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations be included in the course syllabus and in the GEN submission form.
      3. Should the department wish to re-submit the course, the reviewing faculty ask for further clarification regarding the service-learning nature of the course. Specifically, they would like to know how students will engage in service to the schools that they are placed in beyond the scope of the Service-Learning Project since, in its current form, the syllabus seems to focus on observation and shadowing (especially for international students, please see syllabus pg. 3) rather than serving an existing need in the community or partner schools.
      4. Per a requirement of all General Education courses, the reviewing faculty ask that the full and complete Goals and ELOs of the GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures and Transformation (as well as a short, student-friendly paragraph explaining how this course in particular meets the GEN Goals and ELOS) be included in the syllabus. This listing and explanatory paragraph should be included in place of the reproduced GEN Submission Form currently found on pgs. 3-7 of the syllabus. The Goals and ELOs of all GEN categories are available in an easy-to-copy/paste format here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/new-general-education-gen-goals-and-elos>.
      5. Should the department choose to re-submit the course, the Panel asks that a cover letter be submitted that details all changes made as a result of this feedback.
   3. No Vote
4. Theatre 5798.03 (new course requesting GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformation with Education Abroad and Away High Impact Practice)
   1. TAG
      1. Comment: The reviewing faculty note that it is clear from the syllabus that ELOs 3.1-3.3 are covered in the course, but they ask that, in future GEN submissions, the department provide concrete examples of assignments, readings, lecture topics or other activities that will be engaged with each particular ELO in their responses on the GEN submission form.
      2. Approved with one comment.
   2. Themes
      1. **Contingency:** Per a requirement of all General Education courses, the reviewing faculty ask that a short, student-friendly paragraph explaining how this course in particular meets the GEN goals and ELOS be included in the syllabus following the listing of the Goals and ELOs on pgs. 1-2 of the syllabus.
      2. *Recommendation*: The Panel recommends that the department update the SLDS Statement (syllabus pg. 12 under “Student Life Disability Services”). The most up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
      3. Kogan, Parsons; unanimously approved with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above).
   3. HIP
      1. Kogan, Parsons; unanimously approved
5. English 3161 (new course requesting new GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing) (return) NEEDS TO BE REVIEWED BY BOTH ASCC THEMES PANEL AND THE TAG
   1. TAG
      1. **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty ask that the department alter the title and course description in curriculum.osu.edu (under General Information - Course Title and Course Description) as well as the course title on the syllabus to make it clear that the topic of the course is substance abuse and addiction rather than health and wellbeing in general.
      2. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend providing a brief citation for the statistics provided in the “About this course” section of the syllabus (pg.1), as these statistics will change over time.
      3. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend including in the syllabus a “content warning” to support student well-being, as the course content may be challenging for some students to consume.
      4. Approved with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *two recommendations* (in italics above).
   2. Themes
      1. **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty ask that the department alter the title and course description in curriculum.osu.edu (under General Information - Course Title and Course Description) as well as the course title on the syllabus to make it clear that the topic of the course is substance abuse and addiction rather than health and wellbeing in general.
      2. **Contingency:** Given the course’s focus on addiction and substance misuse, the reviewing faculty request that the department obtain a concurrence from the College of Social Work.
      3. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends that the department include full bibliographic information for the readings outside of the required literary texts, so that students can better understand what kinds of texts (academic journals, popular press, short stories, etc.) they’ll be engaging with and plan accordingly.
      4. Comment – The panel offers a friendly observation that curriculum.osu.edu still lists the pre-requisite course as English 1110. While the department is welcome to keep this pre-requisite if they feel it is appropriate preparation for this course, changing the pre-requisite to “English 1110.xx, or completion of GEN Foundation Writing and Information Literacy Course” may open the course to a wider audience of students.
      5. Kogan, Parsons; unanimously approved with **two contingencies** (in bold above), *one recommendation* (in italics above) and one comment.
6. History 4706 (new course requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. Approved.
   2. Themes
      1. Parsons, Kogan; unanimously approved.