**Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee**

Approved Minutes

Friday, April 21st, 2023 9:00AM – 11:00AM

Bricker 385

**Attendees:** Bitters, Dwyer, Fletcher, Fredal, Gold, Hambach, Hamilton, Hilty, Jenkins, Kaizar, Levin, Martin, Nagar, Ottesen, Pradhan, Podalsky, Richard, Romero, Staley, Steele, Steinmetz, Thomas, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen

1. Revision to the Chemistry M.S. (guests: Dr. Christine Thomas and Jennifer Hambach)
   * Natural and Mathematical Sciences Letter: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel reviewed a proposal to revise the Chemistry M.S. program to create a new graduation track and update the program to align with current practices and standards. To accomplish this goal, they have created a non-thesis M.S. path that a student can complete to allow them to graduate after successfully completing their Ph.D. candidacy exam. This will put the Chemistry M.S. degree in line with peer institutions. Additionally, the department has altered course number listings for departmental seminars to reflect current course offers, removed the requirement for placement exams, as they were discontinued in 2020, removed the option for selecting a primary research advisor outside the department, as this has not happened in over 15 years, revised and clarified the timeline for finding a new research advisor if a student leaves a research group or resigns from that relationship, removed the requirement for students to take first-year oral examinations in their first-year of study for students who committed to the M.S. thesis pathway, and provided formalized learning outcomes for the degree program. The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel approved the revision and advances the proposal to the full Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
   * Thomas: The main change, allowing students to graduate without writing a thesis should they complete candidacy, is to help students who decide to exit the program before writing and defending their dissertation not leave without receiving any credit for their work. Currently, we have students decide they do not wish to pursue the Ph.D. after candidacy, but then they are forced to write a thesis, which is oftentimes too big of an ask. This was happening prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the department noticed this was especially amplified with those particular challenges and decide now was the time to make this change. The other items in the revision are housekeeping items and codifying the practices we are already doing.
   * Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel Letter, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**
2. Revision to the Screenwriting Minor (guest: Dr. Erica Levin)
   * Arts and Humanities 2 Letter: The Arts and Humanities 2 Panel reviewed a proposal to revise the Screenwriting minor. The revision will reduce the current 18 credit hour minor to 15 credit hours by removing the current “Advanced Film Studies Course” requirement. The rationale for this being reduced is to place the Screenwriting minor in-line with similar programs within the College of Arts and Sciences and to assist in facilitating degree completion. By eliminating the Advanced Film Studies Course requirement, this will free up space within the Film Studies major program for those students to take those courses, as the Film Studies major program is rapidly growing and expanding. The Arts and Humanities 2 Panel approved of this revision and advances it to the full Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
   * Levin: This revision was the work done by Dr. Angus Fletcher, who was unable to attend this meeting this morning as I am the head of Film Studies. These fields, both screenwriting and film studies, are incredibly popular and growing programs. This change will be a benefit to all of our students and also our faculty currently teaching the advanced film studies courses.
   * Committee Member question: Can you clarify if the Advanced Film Studies course is a particular course, or is it rather just referencing any upper-division course in Film Studies?
     + Levin: The removed requirement of an Advanced Film Studies course was simply taking an upper-level or upper-division course in Film Studies. It was not a specific course in particular.
   * Arts and Humanities 2 Letter, Fletcher, **unanimously approved**
3. Approval of 04/07/2023 Minutes
   * Kaizar, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**
4. Informational Item: Update to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics BA (Brad Steinmetz)
   * Steinmetz: The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics BA major program (PPE) has made minor changes since its rapid growth from 20 students in 2018 to over 200 current students. These changes include substituting Philosophy 2540 for Philosophy 5540 in the formal methods category, the addition of Political Science 3500 to the formal methods category, renumbering Political Science 4280 and 4380 to Political Science 3280 and 3380 respectively, and the addition of Political Science 4381 to the political economy category. Additionally, the PPE major has four concentrations with lists of courses approved for each. All concentrations have had a number of courses gradually added to these lists, including five for the Choice and Behavior concentration, nine to the Justice and Moral Reasoning concentration, fourteen to the Global Cooperation and Conflict concentration, and seventeen to the Law, Policy and Governance concentration.
5. Election for Chair of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (Andrew Martin)
   * Martin: As a reminder, at the final meeting of this body in two weeks, there will be an election to determine the next chair of the full Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee. If you are interested, there is a stipend for this role and Brad Steinmetz, current Chair of the full Committee, has said he is willing and able to chat with you about the additional responsibilities. Please feel free to reach out to me or Brad with questions or to nominate yourself or someone else for the position.
6. Informational Item: Update to Crossover Policy for Certificates (Andrew Martin)
   * Martin: As I had mentioned to this Committee a few meetings ago, the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) has now officially approved the proposal to allow certificate programs to have 100% overlap with degree programs. Randy Smith, Vice Provost of Academic Programs, is forming a small group for implementation of this new policy, but two items have come up while implementation is being considered. First, will this mean all certificates automatically have 100% overlap with degree programs? The answer is no, there will be a formal process where departments and units can apply to have their certificate programs fall within this new policy. I will reach out when I have more information surrounding this process. Second, there was a question from the advising community regarding if students can apply this policy retroactively and what that would look like. I spoke with Randy Smith, and he indicated that he, generally, is not supportive of retroactive policies. While I do not have a definitive answer to this question, I do expect to have a final answer for everyone soon.
   * Committee Member question: Going forward, can we tell our colleagues who are developing certificates that they can choose this new overlapping option when they develop new certificate programs?
     + Martin: Yes, I believe that would be appropriate at this point. The policy was approved by CAA.
7. Podium Pilot Program for Summer 2023 (Andrew Martin)
   * Martin: The Office of International Affairs (OIA) was approached by a private company named Podium that operates online and virtual combination internships and study abroad programs. These programs allow students to work with a range of organizations and companies around the globe to develop tech skills and intercultural competencies. There was interest from the College of Arts and Sciences to pursue this program and it has been decided that a small pilot will run either Summer 2023 or Autumn 2023 to have students try the program and then run an assessment on the program to see if this is something that the College would like to pursue. Other institutions of higher education are utilizing this company. The drawback is that there will be a cost to students, as the internships are unpaid and they do have to pay to participate.
   * Committee Member question: What other institutions are utilizing this program? Are they comparable to Ohio State?
     + Martin: I know that UNC and Michigan State have used or piloted programs with this company, but there is a wide range from large state institutions to smaller schools as well.
   * Committee Member question: I have a question regarding what we are categorizing this experience as. It does not appear to be a study abroad as you had mentioned, so I’m wondering if this really the language that we should be using when advertising to students.
     + Martin: That is correct, and we can certainly be intentional with the wording we use. This experience is not a traditional study abroad experience and is unique. It does not appear to fit within any category that we currently use, so maybe we need to create a new category for this experience.
     + Committee Member comment: I would agree. My department has offered joint courses with institutions in India, but this was not a study abroad program. This does not mean that these experiences have no value and do not develop intercultural competencies, but referencing them as study abroad courses does not make sense and I would caution against using that term to categorize this experience.
8. General Education 4001 Revision
   * Staley, Fredal, **unanimously approved**
   * After the revision was approved by the Committee, Assistant Dean for Curriculum Bernadette Vankeerbergen brought to the Committee’s attention a question she received from the Office of the University Registrar. They would like to know if this new course will count as an upper-division hour given that it has been placed at the 4000-level. Ultimately, the Committee decided that the content within General Education 4001 is not advanced or upper-division in nature and voted unanimously to not allow this course to count towards upper-division credit.
   * Vaessin, Fletcher, **unanimously approved** to not allow 4001 to count as an upper-division hour
9. Panel Updates
   * Arts and Humanities 1
     + Arts and Sciences 1138.xx (M. Herman First-year Seminar) – approved
     + Ethnic Studies 2525 – approved with contingency
     + Italian 2057 – approved with contingency
     + Spanish 3403 – approved
   * Arts and Humanities 2
     + Classics 3210 – approved with contingency
     + Jewish Studies 3636 – approved with contingency
   * Natural and Mathematical Sciences
     + Astronomy 5550 – approved with contingency
     + Mathematics 4345 – approved with contingency
     + Mathematics 5571 – approved
     + Mathematics 5588 – approved with contingency
   * Social and Behavioral Sciences
     + N/A
   * Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity
     + N/A
   * Themes 1
     + Arabic 3601 – approved
     + Communication 2367H – approved
     + History 2710 – approved
     + Linguistics 3802 – approved with contingency
     + Philosophy 3221 – approved
   * Themes 2
     + Classics 3217 – approved with contingency
     + History 3217 – approved with contingency
     + History 3375 – approved
     + History 3580 – approved
     + KNHES 2995 – approved
     + Sociology 2290 – approved
     + Theatre 3710 – approved
10. Revision to the French minor
    * Arts and Humanities 2 Letter: The Arts and Humanities 2 Panel reviewed a proposal to revise the French minor. The revision to the French minor involves changing one of the required four courses beyond the language prerequisites of 1101.xx, 1102.xx, 1103.xx, and 2101 to be a 3000-level “content” course taught in the French language. Students must take one course in which the primary focus is French and/or Francophone literature, culture, society, and/or film and not simply the French language itself. The rationale for this revision is that it will allow students to gain a better understanding of human history and culture and achieve a higher level of intercultural competence. The Arts and Humanities 2 Panel approved the revision and advances the proposal to the full Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
    * Arts and Humanities 2 Letter, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**