**ASCC Themes I Subcommittee**

Approved Minutes

Tuesday, September 19th, 2023 2:30-4:00 PM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees**: Andridge, Daly, Downing, Fredal, Hilty, Neff, Palazzi, Rehbeck, Steele, Tanner, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen

**Agenda:**

1. Approval of 9-5-23 minutes
   1. Rehbeck, Andridge; unanimously approved.
2. Jewish Studies 3636 (new course requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. Unanimously approved via e-vote.
   2. Themes
      1. **Contingency: The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the college to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      2. **Contingency: The reviewing faculty ask that the department re-phrase the sentence that immediately follows the heading “GE Course Information” (syllabus pg. 2). Since this is a 3-credit hour course, it does not, in and of itself, fulfill the requirement for the GEN Theme: Health & Wellbeing. The subcommittee suggests that this be replaced with “This course is approved as a part of the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing category” or similar.**
      3. *Recommendation*: The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement (syllabus pg. 8), which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
      4. Rehbeck, Andridge; unanimously approved with **two contingencies** (in bold above), and *one recommendation* (in italics above).
3. Pharmacy 3440 (new course requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. The reviewing faculty recognize alignment of Course Learning Outcome 6 (syllabus pg. 3) with the Health and Wellbeing ELOs and appreciate that the course content helps students to explore the ways in which drugs have societal impacts on health and wellbeing. However, they ask that the College of Pharmacy provide more detailed information in the course assignment descriptions (syllabus pgs. 4-5) and the course schedule (syllabus pg. 11-14) about how the weekly course assignments and learning activities align with achieving ELO 3.1 and ELO 3.2 so that the focus of the course is more apparent to students.
      2. The reviewing faculty ask that the College of Pharmacy include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
      3. The TAG declined to vote on the course at this time.
   2. Themes
      1. **Contingency: The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      2. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty suggest that the College of Pharmacy remove or revise the chart on pg. 3 of the syllabus, as it only maps the course objectives to the Expected Learning Outcomes for one of the three GEN Goals for this category. Should the unit choose to keep the table, the reviewing faculty recommend that it be expanded to include all of the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing ELOs.
      3. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the College of Pharmacy remove the reference to “the OSU Standard Scheme” for grades (syllabus pg. 5) as there is no standard grading scheme at Ohio State; instructors are welcome to use any grading scheme that fits the needs of their course.
      4. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty suggest that the College of Pharmacy update the Course Technology recommendations on pg. 6-7 of the syllabus. The most recent technology recommendations for students can be found on pgs. 5-6 of the [ASC Distance Learning Syllabus Template.](https://ascode.osu.edu/asc-distance-learning-syllabus-template)
      5. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the College of Pharmacy remove the reference to the College of Arts and Sciences Student Resource Page (syllabus pg. 7) as that website is no longer operational.
      6. *Recommendation*: The reviewing faculty suggest that the department use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement (syllabus pg. 9), which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
      7. *Recommendation*: The reviewing faculty suggest that the department use the most recent version of the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 10), as the name and phone number of the Suicide/Crisis hotline have changed. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [ASCCAS website.](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)
      8. Vaessin, Palazzi; unanimously approved with **one contingency** (in bold above), and *six recommendations* (in italics above).
4. English 2367.06 (existing course with GEL Writing and Communication—Level II & Diversity—Social Diversity in the U.S.; requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. Unanimously approved via e-vote.
   2. Themes
      1. **Contingency: The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the college to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      2. **Contingency: The reviewing faculty ask that the Legacy GE goals and ELOs for the Writing and Communication Level 2 and the Diversity: Social Diversity in the US categories (as well as a short paragraph explaining how this course, in particular, meets those goals and ELOs) be added to the syllabus. The Legacy GE goals and ELOs are available in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the** [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website.](https://asccas.osu.edu/legacy-general-education-gel-goals-and-elos)
      3. *Recommendation*: The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement (syllabus pg. 8), which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
      4. ***Recommendation:*  The reviewing faculty recommend that the department remove the reference to UCAT on pg. 11 of the syllabus, as that unit has been replaced by the Michael V. Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning.**
      5. ***Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty suggest that the department remove references to English 3030 (syllabus pg. 9 and pg. 10), as that course number is not associated with this offering.**
      6. ***Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the department consider an adjustment to the course meeting time as stated on pg. 1 of the syllabus, as courses that begin at 12:45 generally end at 2:05 rather than 2:10.**
      7. Rehbeck, Vaessin; unanimously approved with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *four recommendations* (in italics above).
5. Psychology 2303 (existing course requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty ask that the department clarify whether the textbook is required or recommended; though it appears from the course schedule that the textbook is required, this is not explicitly stated on pg. 5 of the syllabus under “Course Materials and Technology”.
      2. Unanimously approved with **one contingency** (in bold above) via e-vote.
   2. Themes
      1. The reviewing faculty ask that the department provide more information about how the course constitutes an advanced study of the discipline and/or request that the course content be revised to provide more opportunities for critical thinking, scholarly exploration, and other types of advanced learning. They note and appreciate the in-depth nature of the final project and would like to see more activities and readings that engage students at this level.
      2. The reviewing faculty ask that the department revise the way that the GEN Goals and ELOs are listed on the syllabus. Currently, the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing goals are listed as a part of the course learning outcomes (syllabus pg. 2) and these are followed by a table (syllabus pg. 3) that lists the ELOs associated with the first two GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing goals, but not the third and final goal. The reviewing faculty ask that all the GEN goals and ELOs be labeled as GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing goals and ELOs and listed together in their entirety and separate from any course-specific goals and ELOs. They also ask that the unit include a short explanation of how this course, in particular, meets those goals and ELOs. This explanation can be in table form (as it currently appears on pgs. 3-4) or via a short paragraph that follows the listing of the goals and ELOs. The goals and ELOs are available in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website.](https://asccas.osu.edu/new-general-education-gen-goals-and-elos)
      3. **The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the College to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      4. The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement (syllabus pgs. 14-15), which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
      5. The reviewing faculty suggest that the department use the most recent version of the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 14), as the name and phone number of the Suicide/Crisis hotline have changed. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [ASCCAS website.](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)
      6. The reviewing faculty ask that the department include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
      7. The Subcommittee declined to vote on the course at this time.
6. Public Health Epidemiology 4432 (existing course previously approved for 100% DL; requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. The reviewing faculty ask that the division include more information in the syllabus regarding how the course assignments, readings, and other activities will help students to achieve ELOs 3.1 and 3.2
      2. The reviewing faculty recognize that the course is well aligned with the field of health, but they request that the instructor elaborate (on both the syllabus and the GEN Submission Form) about how the course assignments, readings, and other activities connect more broadly with the identified dimensions of wellbeing (career and intellectual).
      3. The reviewing faculty ask that the division include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
      4. The TAG declined to vote on the course at this time.
   2. Themes
      1. The reviewing faculty are unable to determine how this course, in its current form, asks students to engage in critical or logical thinking about the material. They ask that the department revise the readings, assignments, and other course activities so that the course is a more advanced and scholarly study of the topics and the GEN Theme.
      2. The reviewing faculty ask that the division include in the syllabus a short paragraph that explains how this course, in particular, will meet the goals and ELOs of the GEN category. While they note and appreciate the mapping of particular assignments to the goals and ELOs, they ask that the department provide a more in-depth statement of what lens(es) will be used to examine the theme and how the course will accomplish this. This explanation should follow the listing of the Goals and ELOs on pg. 2 of the syllabus.
      3. The reviewing faculty ask that the instructor’s non-OSU email address be removed from the syllabus (pg. 1), as only Ohio State email addresses can be used to correspond with students per the university’s Information Security Policy.
      4. **The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      5. The reviewing faculty recommend that the division use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement (syllabus pg. 6), which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
      6. The reviewing faculty suggest that the department use the most recent version of the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 6), as the name and phone number of the Suicide/Crisis hotline have changed. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [ASCCAS website.](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)
      7. The reviewing faculty ask that the department include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
      8. The Subcommittee declined to vote on the course at this time.
7. Anthropology 3301 (existing course requesting GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing)  (return)
   1. TAG
      1. Unanimously approved via e-vote.
   2. Themes
      1. **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty note that the course title in curriculum.osu.edu (“Modern Human Physical Variation”) and the course title on the syllabus (“Modern Human Diversity”) are not the same. The Subcommittee asks that the department change either the course title in curriculum.osu.edu or the course title on the syllabus so that they are aligned.
      2. **Contingency: The reviewing faculty ask that the department re-phrase the sentence in red text on pg.1 of the syllabus that reads “Anthropology 3301 Satisfies the Health and Well-Being General Education Theme”. Since this is a 3-credit hour course, it does not, in and of itself, fulfill the requirement for the GEN Theme: Health & Wellbeing. The subcommittee suggests that this be replaced with “This course is approved as a part of the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing category” or similar.**
      3. **Contingency: The reviewing faculty ask that the department reproduce the goals and ELOs of the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing category (syllabus pgs. 1-2) exactly as they appear on the** [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/new-general-education-gen-goals-and-elos) **without any additions. Should the department wish to add course-specific goals and/or ELOs, they should be listed under a separate heading so that the GEN goals and ELOs remain consistent across courses.**
      4. **Contingency: The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the college to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      5. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the department alter the Course Structure & Requirements section of the syllabus (pg.2), as the percentages of the final grade attached to each assignment do not add up to 100%.
      6. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the department remove the reference to the departmental website on page 3 of the syllabus (<http://anthropology.osu.edu/news/coursenews.php>.), as this site is no longer active.
      7. *Recommendation:* **The reviewing faculty note that there are two different Disability Services statements on pg. 5 of the syllabus (one appears at the top of the page in “all caps”; the second appears under the heading of “Disability Services” about halfway down the page). The reviewers suggest that the department replace both of these statements with the** most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement, which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
      8. Rehbeck, Andridge; approved with **four contingencies** (in bold above) and *three recommendations* (in italics above).
8. Psychology 2311 (existing course requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. Unanimously approved via e-vote.
   2. Themes
      1. The reviewing faculty are unable to determine how this course, in its current form, asks students to engage in critical or logical thinking about the material. While it seems that students will engage with what motivates them on a personal level, the reviewing faculty do not see how this individual exploration will be synthesized with other texts or scholarly work. They ask that the department revise the readings, assignments, and other course activities so that the course is a more advanced and scholarly study of the topics and the GEN Theme.
      2. The reviewing faculty ask that the department reproduce the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing goals and ELOs exactly as they appear on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/new-general-education-gen-goals-and-elos) **. GEN goals and ELOs should not be altered for individual courses, and should be labeled as GEN Goals and ELOs rather than Course Goals and ELOs. Departments are welcome to list course-specific goals and ELOs as long as they are separated from the GEN goals and ELOs.**
      3. The reviewing faculty ask that department remove references to “if in person”, “synchronous attendance” or other language indicating that this course may be taught online, as Psychology 2311 is not approved for Distance Learning.
      4. **The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the college to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
      5. The reviewing faculty ask that the department include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
      6. The reviewing faculty declined to vote on the course at this time.
9. Chemistry and Pharmacy 3301 (new cross-listed courses requesting GEN Theme Health and Wellbeing)
   1. TAG
      1. **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty asks that the department indicate on the syllabus (pg. 3) whether the textbooks are required or recommended.
      2. *Recommendation*: The reviewing faculty note that using different colors of text for the required readings in the syllabi as the sole indicator of meaning is not in line with the university’s accessibility standards, and they recommend that the department reconsider the use of color coding in the syllabus.
      3. Unanimously approved via e-vote with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above).
   2. Themes
      1. The reviewing faculty had a brief conversation about whether the pre-requisites of Biology 1113, Chemistry 1210, and Chemistry 1220 made this course ineligible to be a GEN course. Though the Subcommittee is reticent to have a course in the GEN with three pre-requisites, they recognize that these 3 courses are widely taken by all pre-health students and life sciences majors. The proposal was tabled for time.
10. Earth Sciences 2204 (existing course with GEL Natural Science-Physical Science; requesting GEN Theme: Lived Environments & Health and Wellbeing) 5-13-22 FOR LIVED ENVIRONMENTS:  FULLY APPROVED BY TAG; STILL NEEDS TO BE VOTED ON BY ASCC THEMES SUBCOMMITTEE; FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING: NEITHER THEMES SUBCOMMITTEE NOR TAG VOTED ON THAT THEME.
    1. Tabled for time.
11. Italian 2102 (existing course requesting GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations **with Instruction in a World Language High Impact Practice**)
    1. TAG
       1. The reviewing faculty ask that the proposal better define what element of culture is being examined and specify which dominant and non-dominant groups are under consideration. The also ask that the department be more specific that the transformational idea or practice in immigration.
       2. The TAG declined to vote on the course at this time.
    2. Themes
       1. Tabled for time.
12. Political Science 4139 and 4139E (existing courses requesting GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations)
    1. TAG
       1. The reviewing faculty ask that the GEN Submission Form and the syllabus provide a clearer description of how the course will meet the GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures and Transformations ELOs 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3. Specifically, they would like to have more information about how the course will convey to students what transforms US policy and gun culture at various points in history, and what impact firearms have had on various dominant and non-dominant groups. They would also like to see more information about how the class will cover the intersection of gun culture with other aspects of culture.
       2. The reviewing faculty ask that the department include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
       3. The TAG declined to vote on the course at this time.
    2. Themes
       1. Note: The Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services Office staff will add the pre-requisite of “Honors standing” to 4139E, as this is required for all Honors or Honors Embedded courses.
       2. The Subcommittee notes that, as a General Education course, some instruction in basic social science methodology will be necessary for students who do not have prior experience in the discipline. Therefore, they ask that the department include in the syllabus some instruction on research ethics, interviewing, and qualitative research techniques to support student success on the “Informational Interview Assignment” (syllabus pg. 6).
       3. **The reviewing faculty suggest that the department use the** most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement, which was updated to reflect the university’s new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements).
       4. **The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the college to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
       5. The reviewing faculty ask that the department include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
       6. The Subcommittee declined to vote on the course at this time.
13. Italian 3051 (existing course with GEL Literature and GEL Diversity—Global Studies; requesting to drop GEN Foundation LVPA & instead add GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations)
    1. TAG
       1. The reviewing faculty ask that the GEN Submission Form and the syllabus provide a clearer description of how the course will meet the GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures and Transformations ELOs 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3. Specifically, they would like to have more information about what cultures and transformations are being engaged with, and how the course will address the significance of these transformations on dominant and non-dominant groups.
       2. The reviewing faculty ask that the department include with the revision a cover letter that details the changes made in response to the feedback above.
       3. The TAG declined to vote on the course at this time.
    2. Themes
       1. **Contingency: The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi within the college to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and**[**can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)**. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.**
       2. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee suggests that the department use the term “Legacy GE” or “GEL” rather than “Old GE” on pg. 3 of the syllabus when listing the goals and ELOs of the various GEL categories.
       3. *Recommendation:* The Panel recommends changing the prerequisite of ENGLISH 1110.xx to “English 1110.xx or completion of GEN Foundation Writing and Information Literacy course,” as ENGLISH 1110.xx is no longer the only intro-level writing course available to students under the new GE (GEN). However, if the department prefers that students continue taking English 1110.xx under the GEN, then no change needs to be made.
       4. Andridge, Rehbeck; unanimously approved with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *two recommendations* (in italics above).