**ASCC Themes 2 Subcommittee**

Approved Minutes

Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 12:30PM – 2:00PM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees:** Babcock, Conroy, Cravens-Brown, Giusti, Hadad, Hewitt, Hilty, Nagar, Neff, Soland, Steele, Vankeerbergen

1. Approval of 09/20/2023 & 10/04/2023 Minutes
   * Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved**
2. Astronomy 2143 (existing course with GEL Natural Science – Physical Science; renumbering from 1143 to 2143; change course description; requesting GEN Theme: Number Nature, Mind & Origins and Evolutions) (Pre-approved for Theme categories, only Themes Subcommittee review)
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + The reviewing faculty ask that the syllabus be expanded upon, and more information be provided within the syllabus on how the assignments (page 2 of the syllabus) link to the Theme General ELOs (ELOs 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, and 2.2). They specifically would like to see further evidence that ELO 2.2 is being addressed within the course assignments and that students will be offered the opportunity to reflect upon their own learning as it applies to the Themes of Origins and Evolution and Number, Nature, Mind.
     + The reviewing faculty would like to see a course calendar that showcases with further detail what students will be doing each week of the course: e.g., more detailed explanations of what activities will take place in the classroom and the types of assignments students will complete; more information about the assigned readings (since a reference to, for example, “Chapter 5” does not enable the reviewing faculty to understand what that covers and how substantial the reading assignments are); and any other applicable information. Ideally, the course calendar will be broken down by class session.
     + The prerequisite on the form in curriculum.osu.edu and in the syllabus (page 2) do not quite match (the fact that the GEN Foundation Natural Science is waived for students on the legacy GE).
     + 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.
     + The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement in the course syllabus, as it has been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date [statements can be found here](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.
     + **Declined to vote**
3. Anthropology 5627 (existing course requesting GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World & GEN Theme: Migration, Mobility, & Immobility) (Return) (Only requires review of Migration, Mobility, & Immobility)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Migration, Mobility, and Immobility
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee: Migration, Mobility, and Immobility
     + **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.**
     + **The reviewing faculty ask that, on page 1 of the syllabus, the statement that says “Our course fulfills two GE requirements” be modified. Anthropology 5627 does not fulfill any General Education requirements on its own, as it is only a 3-credit hour course and a student must take two 3-credit hour courses to fulfill a Theme. Additionally, a student may only count this course towards a single Theme and not in both categories that it is requesting approval within. The reviewing faculty recommend language such as “This course will lead to partial fulfillment of one of the following GEN Theme categories:”, as this is more clear to students.**
     + *The reviewing faculty recommend that the course calendar be reorganized and clarified, as they found it confusing and are worried that students may not be able to understand the deadlines for course assignments and course readings.*
     + *The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement in the course syllabus, as it has been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date* [*statements can be found here*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) *on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.*
     + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *two recommendations* (in italics above)
4. Anthropology 3419 (existing course with GEL Social Science – Organizations and Polities; requesting GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World & GEN Theme: Migration, Mobility, and Immobility) (Return) (Review for Migration, Mobility, and Immobility only)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Migration, Mobility, and Immobility
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + **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.**
     + **The reviewing faculty ask that, on page 1 of the syllabus, the statement that says “Our course fulfills two GE requirements” be modified. Anthropology 3419 does not fulfill any General Education requirements on its own, as it is only a 3-credit hour course and a student must take two 3-credit hour courses to fulfill a Theme. Additionally, a student may only count this course towards a single Theme and not in both categories that it is requesting approval within. The reviewing faculty recommend language such as “This course will lead to partial fulfillment of one of the following GEN Theme categories:”, as this is more clear to students.**
     + *The reviewing faculty recommend that the course calendar be reorganized and clarified, as they found it confusing and are worried that students may not be able to understand the deadlines for course assignments and course readings.*
     + *The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement in the course syllabus, as it has been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date* [*statements can be found here*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) *on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.*
     + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *two recommendations* (in italics above)
5. Geography 3597.03 (existing course with GEL Cross-Disciplinary Seminar; request to remove cross-listing with English 3597.03 – latter has been withdrawn; change course title and description & add GEN Theme: Sustainability)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
     + *The reviewing faculty recommend adding context to the course introduction that links the theme directly to the ideas of climate justice and, perhaps, call out the topic explicitly in the introduction class.*
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + **The reviewing faculty noticed that the course is predominately being assessed on three examinations and are unclear where students will have an opportunity to fulfill ELO 2.2, which requires students to reflect upon their own learning. They ask that it be made clearer how students will be given an opportunity to reflect upon themselves as learners within the course and the Theme. Additionally, they recommend that the course assignments become more diversified to give students more opportunity for reflection.**
     + **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.**
     + *The reviewing faculty noticed that the total points in the point breakdown on page 2 of the syllabus only add up to 93% and not 100%. They kindly point this out to allow the instructor to correct the percentage total.*
     + *The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement in the course syllabus, as it has been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date* [*statements can be found here*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) *on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.*
     + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *two recommendations* (in italics above)
6. Geography 3900.01 (existing course with GEL Natural Science- Physical Science; requesting GEN Theme: Sustainability)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
     + *The reviewing faculty recommend that, during the first class session, connections to climate change be reinforced in lecture content or supplemental readings.*
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + **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.**
     + *The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement and the Mental Health statement in the course syllabus, as they have been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date* [*statements can be found here*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) *on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.*
     + Cravens-Brown, Hadad, **unanimously approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above)
7. Geography 3900.02 (“new” course; requesting GEN Theme: Sustainability with High-Impact Practice: Research & Creative Inquiry)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
     + *The reviewing faculty recommend that, during the first class session, connections to climate change be reinforced in lecture content or supplemental readings.*
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + **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.**
     + *The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement and the Mental Health statement in the course syllabus, as they have been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date* [*statements can be found here*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) *on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.*
     + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above)
   * High-Impact Practice: Research & Creative Inquiry
     + The reviewing faculty note that this proposal was exceptionally well-done in applying for High-Impact Practice status and would like to use this proposal as an exemplar for the category.
     + Cravens-Brown, Hadad, **unanimously approved** with one comment
8. Spanish 4542 (new course requesting GEN Theme: Sustainability) (Return)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
     + *The reviewing faculty recommend providing a link to sustainability through the lens of cultural studies via a course reading to help students make this connection. They recommend “Cultural Sustainability Perspectives from the Humanities and Social Sciences” by Meireis and Rippl, but note there could be many additional options.*
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + **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.**
     + *The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement and the Mental Health statement in the course syllabus, as they have been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date* [*statements can be found here*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) *on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.*
     + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above)
9. Environmental Engineering 3600 (new course requesting GEN Theme: Sustainability with High-Impact Practice: Research & Creative Inquiry)
   * Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability
     + **Approved** via **E-vote**
   * Themes Subcommittee
     + The reviewing faculty ask that it be clarified throughout the syllabus how this course will be an advanced study of Sustainability, as they are unable to see how this course will be an advanced course. They ask that the assessments for the course be more clearly outlined to give students and the faculty reviewers a better picture of their connection to the course and the Theme, especially as it relates to ELO 2.2.
     + The University has 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.
     + The reviewing faculty offer the friendly recommendation to update the Student Life – Disability Services statement and the Mental Health statement in the course syllabus, as they have been recently updated it for the 2023-24 academic year. The most up-to-date [statements can be found here](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.
     + The reviewing faculty recommend updating the language throughout the syllabus that relates to COVID-19 policies, as some COVID statements appear outdated.
     + The reviewing faculty recommend updating the grading scheme for the course, as Ohio State does not award the letter grades of “D-“ or “F”.
     + **Declined to Vote**
   * High-Impact Practice: Research & Creative Inquiry
     + The reviewing faculty are unable to see how this proposal will meet the expectations for a High-Impact Practice: Research & Creative Inquiry course. In order to count within the category, courses must instruct students in the methodology of the field and allow them to generate new knowledge via the research or creative process, typically using scaffolded pedagogical techniques that are integrated throughout the semester. The reviewing faculty were unable to see how this proposal in its current form fits within these criteria and ask that more information be provided on how students will both learn about research methodology within the discipline, but also how they will engage with the process of generating new knowledge.
     + **Declined to Vote**
10. Sociology 3798.03 (existing course with GEL Education Abroad; requesting GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World with High-Impact Practice: Global and Intercultural Learning: Abroad, Away, or Virtual)
    * Theme Advisory Group: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World
      + **Approved** via **E-vote**
    * Themes Subcommittee
      + **The reviewing faculty ask that the GEN Goals, ELOs, and a brief explanatory rationale be added to the course syllabus for the GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World category. You can find the GEN Goals and ELOs in an easy to copy-and-paste format on the** [**ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website**](https://asccas.osu.edu/new-general-education-gen-goals-and-elos)**.**
      + **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.**
      + **The reviewing faculty ask that the instructor update the Student Life – Disability Services statement in the course syllabus, as Student Life – Disability Services has not been located in Pomerene Hall for several years. A link to all the most up-to-date** [**statements can be found here**](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements) **on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment website.**
      + **The reviewing faculty ask that the statement (on page 5 of the syllabus) that states, “Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in an automatic F on the assignment…” be removed, as instructors are not allowed to fail a student for suspected academic integrity breaches. The Committee on Academic Misconduct is the governing body that will determine if a student should receive a lower grade on the assignment and other such appropriate punishment.**
      + *The reviewing faculty recommend updating all course statements, such as Title IX, Diversity, Mental Health, etc., to the most up-to-date versions. The most up-to-date versions of the statements can* [*found on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website*](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements)*.*
      + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved** with **four contingencies** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above)
    * High-Impact Practice: Global and Intercultural Learning: Abroad, Away, or Virtual
      + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved**
11. Art 3008 (new course requesting GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World)
    * Theme Advisory Group: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World
      + **The reviewing faculty ask that the course syllabus more clearly define the assignment descriptions and how the assignments will engage with the GEN Theme Citizenship-specific ELOs of 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, and 4.2. They were unclear on the course assignments and how they will connect students to the Theme and believe stronger assignment descriptions will assist students in making these connections.**
      + **Approved** via **E-vote** with **one contingency** (in bold above)
    * Themes Subcommittee
      + The reviewing faculty of the Themes Subcommittee concur with their colleagues on the Theme Advisory Group and would like to see additional information surrounding the course assignments and how these link to the ELOs common to all Themes. Specifically, the reviewing faculty are unable to determine if this proposal will be an advanced study (ELO 1.2) or provide opportunities for reflection (ELO 2.2).
      + **Declined to Vote**
12. History & Jewish Studies 3480 (existing courses requesting GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse & Just World)
    * Theme Advisory Group: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World
      + *The reviewing faculty recommend removing individual people from the Grade Grievances section of the syllabus, as they are out-of-date, and utilizing only appropriate departmental titles.*
      + **Approved** via **E-vote** with *one recommendation* (in italics above)
    * Themes Subcommittee
      + Cravens-Brown, Hewitt, **unanimously approved**