**ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee**

Approved Minutes

Friday, March 1st, 2024 3:00PM – 4:30PM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees:** Dwyer, McKean, Nathanson, Neff, Valle, Vankeerbergen, Xiao

**Agenda**

1. Economics 1101 (existing course requesting GEN Foundation: Social and Behavioral Sciences)
	1. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the department include the Foundation: Social and Behavioral Sciences Goals in the syllabus with the GE learning outcomes present on page 2. The complete GE language can be found 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).
	2. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the department remove the references to the course as an Embedded Literacy, including the partial listing of the Data Analysis learning outcomes (i.e., outcomes 6 and 7 on p. 2 of the syllabus). Students are often confused by the meaning of the Embedded Literacies and do not realize that this course would only count as an EL for students in the Economics major. Additionally, Economics 1101 is not officially recognized by the department/the college/OAA as fulfilling the Data Analysis Embedded Literacy. If the department wants to include it to the list of Embedded Literacy courses approved for the major, please send an email to that effect to Associate Dean Andrew Martin.1026 and Assistant Dean Bernadette Vankeerbergen.1, and they will make sure that OAA is informed of this change to the list of courses that fulfill the Data Analysis Embedded Literacy for the Economics BA and BS. If this is not the intention and the references to the Embedded Literacy were included in the syllabus by mistake, the Subcommittee simply asks that the department remove the references and no further action is needed.
	3. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests 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 copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements). [Syllabus pp. 19-20]
	4. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the Religious Accommodations Statement on page 18 of the syllabus be removed and that the statement on page 20 of the syllabus be updated. Though the statement on page 20 included the proper language at the time of submission, the statement has since been updated as of March 1st, 2024. This 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/curriculum/syllabus-elements).
	5. McKean, Dwyer; unanimously approved with **four contingencies**.
2. First-year Seminar - David Melamed
	1. The Subcommittee worries that the abstract nature of the course description and the simple title will not grab the attention of first-year students. The Subcommittee recommends that the instructor lay out what the course entails in a clear yet dynamic way. Additionally, the Subcommittee recommends considering a more zestful title, as course titles for first-year seminars are commonly a fun play on words or something that stands out in order to make courses more attractive to students. The Subcommittee offers this friendly advice in hopes of filling as many seats in the course as possible. Some first-year seminars with notable examples of grabbing titles/descriptions are as follows: [The School to Prison Pipeline](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fascnet.osu.edu%2Fstorage%2Frequest_documents%2F4318%2F1137%25202020%2520Autumn%2520syllabus%2520School%2520to%2520Prison%2520Pipeline.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK), [Political Courage](https://ascnet.osu.edu/storage/request_documents/3713/170301_Freshman_Seminar_Political%20Courage%20revision.pdf), [What’s Love Got to Do With It? Women, Men, and Romance](https://ascnet.osu.edu/storage/request_documents/5055/What%27s%20Love%20Got%20to%20Do%20With%20It%20-%20FYS%20Revision%2C%2002-23-22.pdf), and [Baseball Economics](https://ascnet.osu.edu/storage/request_documents/4117/Baseball%20Economics%20Syllabus%20rev%202-22-19.pdf).
	2. The Subcommittee notices that the coursework seems heavy for a first-year seminar. The Subcommittee requests more information on the details of the assignments, specifically how participation will be evaluated and how the requirements of the research proposal will not exceed the 1-credit hour work expectations. Based on the details present in the current syllabus, the research proposal might go beyond the scope of first-year students’ skills.
	3. The Subcommittee offers the advice that students often find presentations intimidating, especially first-year students, and this might steer them away from the course.
	4. The Subcommittee requests that the meeting time be adjusted to satisfy the 55-minute meeting requirement for first-year seminars.
	5. The Subcommittee requests that each university statement be clearly labeled with a header in order to be more easily identifiable.
	6. The Subcommittee requests that the Student Life Disability Services Statement on page 10 of the syllabus be removed, as this version is outdated. The statement on page 8 of the syllabus is correct.
	7. The Subcommittee would like to inform the instructor that though the Religious Accommodations Statement on page 8 of the syllabus included the proper language at the time of submission, the statement has since been updated as of March 1st, 2024. The Subcommittee asks that the instructor include in the syllabus the most recent version of this statement, which can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements).
	8. The Subcommittee notices a minor typo in the credit hours and work expectations statement in the syllabus, where it seems the letter ‘q’ was keyed instead of the number ‘1’, and kindly asks the instructor to correct this small mistake.
	9. Declined to vote.