**ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee**

Approved Minutes

Friday, April 26th, 2024 3:00PM – 4:30PM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees:** Bitters, Dwyer, McKean, Nathanson, Neff, Steele, Vankeerbergen, Xiao

**Agenda**

1. Approval of 04-12-2024 minutes
   1. McKean, Xiao; unanimously approved.
2. Geography 3350 (new course)
   1. Question: The Subcommittee is unclear on what the several class days throughout the semester with no assigned readings will focus on and requests that the department provide insight on this.
   2. Comment: The Subcommittee notes that the syllabus makes it clear that this course will be prove difficult for certain students lacking a background in the area of study. While the department is certainly at liberty to gear this course towards students who come with relevant course experience, the Subcommittee simply wonders if this is appropriate for a 3000-level course with no required prerequisites.
   3. Comment: The Subcommittee notes that, based on the syllabus, there does not seem to be much opportunity for students to receive feedback from the instructor and encourages the department to consider this and perhaps incorporate feedback into the course.
   4. Comment: The Subcommittee would like to point out that posting the textbook readings to Carmen Canvas might not be permitted depending on how much of each text will be posted throughout the semester. For more information regarding the rules surrounding this, please visit the [Teaching & Learning Resource Center’s website](https://teaching.resources.osu.edu/toolsets/carmencanvas/guides/copyrighted-content-carmen).
   5. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the department adjust the prerequisite language in the syllabus and in the form in curriculum.osu.edu, as the Registrar will request that this be changed to more standard and concise language. Examples of possible prerequisites for the course are as follows: preferred (but not required) prerequisite course(s), a required number of credit hours taken in Geography or Aviation, a required prerequisite that introduces the ideas that this course focuses on with the option of permission of the instructor, or similar.
   6. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the department remove religious accommodations from the list of absences that require documentation in order to comply with the language of the required Religious Accommodations statement. [Syllabus pp. 6, 8-9]
   7. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the department label the Religious Accommodations statement as such rather than Faith Accommodations in order to comply with the language of the directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost. [Syllabus p. 12]
   8. **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 copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](https://asccas.osu.edu/submission/development/submission-materials/syllabus-elements). [Syllabus p. 14]
   9. *Recommendation*: The Subcommittee recommends that the course calendar include the weeks of the semester with the dates that are currently listed.
   10. *Recommendation*: The Subcommittee recommends that the department reconsider the policy in the syllabus requiring documentation for excused absences. This policy could prove unfair to students for a variety of reasons, such as inaccessibility to healthcare. [Syllabus pp. 6, 8-9]
   11. *Recommendation*: The Subcommittee recommends that the department use the most recent version of the mental health statement if it wishes to keep the statement in the syllabus. The statement was updated to include the new Suicide and Crisis Lifeline number. 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). [Syllabus p. 13]
   12. Dwyer, McKean; unanimously approved with one question, three comments, **four contingencies**, and *three recommendations*.
3. Revision to the Bachelor of Science in International Studies
   1. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee appreciates the work that has gone into this proposal and is in full support of the revision. The Subcommittee requests that the following small errors be addressed to allow for a smooth and quick approval process:
      1. The Subcommittee notes that the Substantive Concentration category under the Description of Proposed Curriculum should be marked III instead of II. [Proposal p. 4]
      2. Page 1, footnote 1 and p. 9: There is a reference to “two general education pre-major courses.” This is confusing since, in actuality, all tracks require *three* courses: Stats 2450.xx and two other courses that vary by track. Furthermore, the Subcommittee asks that the unit remove the reference to the pre-major courses as *general education* pre-major courses throughout the proposal, as students’ choice of GE courses cannot be mandated by their major program.
      3. Related to the point above, the Subcommittee notes that it would be helpful to the readers of the proposal that the unit include those pre-major courses in the current advising sheets included in the proposal (for the sake of comparison since the proposal speaks to the deletion of these courses). All the pre-major courses are listed on the advising sheets on the International Studies website (e.g., <https://internationalstudies.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2023-04/ird-bs_au22.pdf)>; however, the current advising sheets inserted in the proposal do not mention the pre-major courses. Readers not intimately familiar with the current BS International Studies and readers who do not know where to find the advising sheets on the web may have difficulty understanding what the changes are.
      4. The Subcommittee notes that the beginning of the second page of the proposal states “prior to Autumn 2024” and believes that this is meant to say “prior to Autumn 2025”.
      5. The Subcommittee suggests that the unit use courses that will be taken by a more substantial number of students for the assessment of classes rather than electives INTSTDS 5701 & 3701, which will not necessarily be taken by a large portion of students. For example, INTSTDS 3703 and 4701 would be appropriate courses since students will need to take one or the other to fulfill their E.L. Technology.
      6. The Subcommittee notes that the proposal mentions “three retained unit ELOs” and is unsure what this means, as units do not have ELOs. If the proposing faculty are avoiding referring to these as major ELOs because they are shared between the BA and the BS, the Subcommittee reassures them that they do in fact need to refer to them this way. [Proposal p. 8]
      7. The Subcommittee notices that the figure on page 4 is labeled “Figure 2” but there is no figure 1. [Proposal p. 4]
   2. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee has found errors in the course listings throughout the proposal (see Appendix) and requests that these be corrected.
   3. McKean, Xiao; unanimously approved with **two contingencies**.
4. First-Year Seminar (Melamed) (return)
   1. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee asks that the instructor label the academic misconduct statement as such instead of student misconduct, which has a different meaning and could cause confusion. [Syllabus p. 8]
   2. **Contingency**: The Subcommittees notes that the Student Life Disability Services statement is split and labeled as two separate statements. The Subcommittee requests that the instructor keep the two short paragraphs together under the title “Disability Services”. [Syllabus p. 8]
   3. **Contingency**: The Subcommittee requests that the instructor include the link to religious holidays, holy days and observances to the end of the religious accommodations statement, as it is part of the required language. The link 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). The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this to your course syllabus. [Syllabus p. 9]
   4. The Subcommittee appreciates the work that the instructor has put into this revision and offers the following friendly advice in hopes of getting this course filled with as many students as possible:
      1. The Subcommittee notes that the instructor has removed the research proposal altogether in response to their previous feedback. While the Subcommittee does not disagree with this choice, they suggest including another small assignment such as weekly journal entries to make up for the absence of the bigger end of semester assignment.
      2. The Subcommittee finds the new course title and description to be more intriguing, but still sees potential for the description (specifically the description that will be posted on the first-year seminar website) to be more attention-grabbing (i.e., with a reference to popular events or trends).
   5. Dwyer, McKean; unanimously approved with **three contingencies** and two comments.

**Appendix**

Please note that many of these courses appear several times throughout the document and the Subcommittee asks that the department correct each listing of the course.

Comment: The Subcommittee would like to point out to the unit that as of Spring 2024, the Department of History and the Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures offer a course (History/Jewish Studies 3480: Israel/Palestine History of the Present) that they might consider including in the program.

* INTSTDS 3400 is cross listed with Economics and should be listed as ECON/INTSTDS 3400.
* POLITSC 3780 is also offered as an honors version and should be listed as POLITSCI 3780(H).
* The correct titles of POLITSCI 4781 and 4782 are Data Analysis in Political Science I / Data Analysis in Political Science II, respectively.
* STAT 2450 should be listed as STAT 2450.xx.
* The correct title of INTSTDS 4701 is The Development and Control of Weapons of Mass Destruction (p. 12).
* AAAS 5485.01 and 5485.02 went into limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The full title of ANTHROP 3418 is Regional Survey of the Anthropology of Africa.
* The correct title of INTSTDS 3703 is Ethical Issues in the Information Age.
* INTSTDS 3905 is a 4-credit hour course.
* The correct title of INTSTDS 5191 is Student Intern Program in International Studies and can be taken for 3-9 credits.
  + Note: It is recommended that the proposal indicate if there is a limit to credits from this course that can be applied to the major given that 9 credit hours is 1/3 of the major.
* AEDECON/INTSTDS 4537 is also cross listed with Economics and should be listed as AEDECON/ECON/INTSTDS 4537.
* AGRCOMM 5150 went into limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* GEOG 3900 should be listed as GEOG 3900.xx.
* HISTART/INTSTDS 3905 is a 4-credit hour course.
* The full title of INTSTDS 2500 is Introduction to Development Studies.
* The full title of CHINESE 4406 is China Pop: Contemporary Popular Culture and Media in Greater China.
* The correct title of HISTART 4825 is From Modernism to Manga: Modern and Contemporary Art in Japan.
* The full title of INTSTDS/NELC/SLAVIC 5020 is Oligarchs, Penthouses, Yachts: The Global Lives and Time of Eurasians Elites.
* JAPANESE 4401 went into limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The full title of JAPANESE 5455 is Japanese Literature: Medieval & Edo Periods.
* COMPSTD 3645 is also offered as an honors version and should be listed as COMPSTD 3645(H).
* The full title of HISTORY 3706 is Coca-Cola Globalization: The History of American Business and Global Environmental Change 1800-Today.
* The full title of INTSTDS 5640 is Globalization & Latin America: Multi-Disciplinary Approaches.
* SOCIOL 5563 went into limbo as of May, 2020 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The correct title of WGSST 3302 is Gender, War & Peacebuilding.
* CSE 2501 is a 1-credit hour course.
* The correct title of LING 3801 is Codes & Code Breaking.
* LING 3802 is also offered as an honors version and should be listed as LING 3802(H).
* The correct title of PUBAFRS 2150 is Nonprofit Organizing for Diversity and Justice.
* SOCIOL 3463 was changed to 2463 and is now titled Social Inequality: Race, Class & Gender.
* SOCIOL 4666 is in limbo as of May, 2020.
* The full title of HISTORY 3590 is Wars of Empire and Decolonization.
* The correct title of INTSTDS 4195 is Ethical Problems in International Studies.
* The full title of INTSDTS 4704 is A Global War on Terror? America’s Response to the 9/11 Attacks.
* The Latin American Studies Specialization is missing the credit hours for each course. Since this is included for the other specializations, the Subcommittee recommends including this here as well. All of the courses in this specialization are 3-credit hours.
* The full title of INTSTDS/POLITSC 4242 is Incomplete Democracies: the (Un)Rule of Law in Latin America.
* The full title of ARABIC 3702 is Place, Space, & Migration in Arabic Literature and Film.
* HEBREW 3245 is cross listed with Jewish Studies and should be listed as HEBREW/JEWSHST 3245.
* The correct title of HEBREW 3703 is Prophecy in the Hebrew Bible. This course is also cross listed with Jewish Studies and should be listed as HEBREW/JEWSHST 3703.
* The correct title of HISTART 3211 is Art & Civilization in Mesopotamia.
* The full title of HISTORY 3450 is History of Ancient Israel to 300 B.C.E.
* The full title of INTSTDS 2200 is Introduction to the Modern Middle East. The course is also cross listed with Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures and should be listed as INTSTDS/NELC 2200.
* INTSTDS 4537 is cross listed with Economics and Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics and should be listed as AEDECON/ECON/INTSTDS 4537.
* INTSTDS 5645 is cross listed with Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures and should be listed as INTSTDS/NELC 5645.
* The correct title of ISLAM 3702 is Literatures & Cultures of the Islamic World.
* ISLAM 4597 is in limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures offering of (NELC) 3702 does not exist and should be removed from the proposal.
* The correct course number for “The Middle East in the Media” is 3204 (currently listed in the proposal as 3704).
* NELC 3230 does not exist; it was offered as ISLAMIC 3230 but is in limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The full title of HISTORY 3561 is Citizenship & American Military History, 1902 to the Present.
* The full title of INTSTDS 4550 is Bioterrorism: An Overview.
* INTSTDS 4703 is in limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The full title of INTSTDS 4803 is Intervening for Peace: Peacekeeping & Collective Security.
* INTSTDS 5702 is in limbo as of May, 2023 and should be removed from the proposal.
* The listing of INTSTDS 4701 in the specialization Slavic and East European Studies does not indicate that it is an EL Technology course as is indicated in its listings in the other specializations. [Proposal p. 70]
* The full title of RUSSIAN 3355.99 is Vodka in Russian Society and Culture: Deconstructing Myths.
* The correct title of RUSSIAN 3480.xx is The Russian Spy: Cultures of Surveillance, Secret Agents, & Hacking from the Cold War through Today.
* SLAVIC 3333 should be listed as SLAVIC 3333.xx.
* ECON 5130 is a 4-credit hour course.
* As a note, the unit might want to consider including GERMAN 3254H—Representations and Memory of the Holocaust in Film, the honors version of GERMAN 3252.01/.02—to the West European Studies Specialization.
* The full title of HISTORY 3254 is Europe Since 1950: From the Iron Curtain to Fortress Europe.
* Please note that as of Autumn, 2024, HISTORY 3642 will be titled Women and Gender in Modern Europe (1750-1950): Diversity in Context.
* The correct title of ECON 4597.01 is Issues of the Underground Economy.
* INTSTDS/AEDECON 4320 should be listed as INTSTDS/AEDECON 4320(E).
* INTSTDS/AEDECON 4535 is also cross listed with Public Affairs and should be listed as INTSTDS/AEDECON/PUBAFRS 4535.
* INTSTDS/AEDECON 4597.01 should be listed as INTSTDS/AEDECON 4597.01(H).
* INTSTDS 4537 is cross listed with Economics and Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics and should be listed as AEDECON/ECON/INTSTDS 4537.
* INTSTDS 4560 is cross listed with Economics and should be listed as ECON/INTSTDS 4560.