**ASCC Arts and Humanities Subcommittee 2**

Approved Minutes

Wednesday, November 21st, 2024 9:30 – 11:00 AM

CarmenZoom

**Attendees**: Bitters, Crocetta, Diles, Koehnlein, Podalsky, Steele, Vankeerbergen

**Agenda**

1. Approval of 11-06-2024 minutes
   1. Koehnlein, Crocetta; unanimously approved.
2. History 2272 (new course requesting GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World)
   1. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the department align the organization of the “How your grade is calculated” chart on p. 8 of the syllabus with the organization of the “Descriptions of Major Course Assignments” pp. 9-11 to improve clarity for students.
   2. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the department revise the “Credit Hours and Work Expectations” section of the of the syllabus (p. 4) to reflect that this is an in-person class. They note that terms like “direct instruction” are associated with online courses and may be confusing for students.
   3. *Recommendation:* Given that the nature of the class is heavily dependent on in-class student collaboration, the Subcommittee suggests that the department add an attendance policy to the syllabus that outlines the specific repercussions for students who do not attend class.
   4. Koehnlein, Crocetta; approved with *three recommendations* (in italics above).
3. Theatre 4500 (new course requesting GEN Theme Lived Environments **with Research and Creative Inquiry** **High-Impact Practice**) (return)
   1. The Subcommittee thanks the department for their attention to the feedback sent on 11-05-2024, and they are excited about having this unique course as a part of the college’s curriculum. However, the Subcommittee is still unclear about several key aspects of the course. As such, they would like to invite the course designer to meet with Dr. Laura Podalsky, faculty chair of the Arts and Humanities 1 Subcommittee, and Dr. Allison Crocetta, Subcommittee member, to discuss how the following issues can be clearly communicated in the course proposal.
      1. The Subcommittee is still unclear as to how the course, as currently presented, will meet the minimum instructional time requirements for a 4 CH course. More specifically, they are unsure how the homework and other assignments listed on the syllabus will constitute the required 8 hours of work outside of class per week. While the Subcommittee suspects that the “making” elements of the class *may* contribute to this time, it is unclear how that will happen based on the current syllabus.
      2. The Subcommittee does see the presence of “in-class activities” during the second half of the course. If these are going to contribute to the out of class time that students will spend on the course (i.e., in-class activities are continued and completed at home), the subcommittee would like more information about these activities and the expectations surrounding student time.
      3. The Subcommittee would like more information about the final project. They are especially interested in how the scaffolding of the final research will be modified for more creative final projects, as currently the scaffolding appears to be more geared toward a significant writing project rather than a creative one.
      4. The Subcommittee is concerned about the number of options for the final project (installation, zine, video presentation, etc.). Since this course will be a General Education course, and thus open to students from across the university, it cannot be assumed that students will enter the class with the skills and knowledge necessary to create a project in any of these forms. The current proposal is not clear how students will gain these skills during the semester, especially if the instructor must prepare individual students or groups of students to take on projects across a wide range of creative practices.
   2. The Subcommittee hopes that this conversation will be helpful for the department and the instructor/course designer as they move through the curriculum process, since many of the concerns of the Arts and Humanities 2 Subcommittee will also likely be concerns of the Themes Subcommittee and the Theme Advisory Group as they evaluate the course for inclusion in the GE and as a High-Impact Practice course.
   3. The Subcommittee tabled the course pending the meeting between the Subcommittee members and the department.