

ASCC Themes I Subcommittee

Approved Minutes

Monday, October 14th, 2024

2:00PM – 3:30PM

CarmenZoom

Attendees: Andridge, Daly, Hilty, Kantor, Nagar, Soland, Steele, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen

- 1) Approval of 09/30/2024
 - Andridge, Soland, **unanimously approved**
- 2) History 3282 (existing course with GEL Historical Studies, GEL Diversity – Global Studies, GEN Foundation: Historical and Cultural Studies; requesting to remove GEN Foundation: Historical and Cultural Studies and add GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations) (Tabled from previous meeting)
 - Theme Advisory Group: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations
 - **The reviewing faculty found the proposal to be a rich, important course with very good organization and direct applicability to the present. Rather than rely on the familiar pattern of reading/lecturing/assessing, the menu of student engagements—which offers simulations, fiction, primary sources, and more—turns student learning into a broad media experience. However, the reviewing faculty would like to see additional information within the GE submission form, specifically for ELOs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, and 4.2, on how the course assignments and assessments will be utilized to meet the ELOs of the Theme category. While they recognize that the responses utilize the phrase “discussions and readings” to describe which assessments will fulfill the ELOs, they would like more specificity, especially given the rich assessment opportunities throughout the course.**
 - **Approved** with **one contingency** (in bold above)
 - Themes Subcommittee
 - **The reviewing faculty would like to see more explanation and instances in the course syllabus that highlight the advanced nature of the course, as required by ELO 1.2. They are currently**

unsure where the course has been redesigned to be advanced from its previous foundational nature.

- **The reviewing faculty request that a cover letter be submitted that details all changes made as a result of their feedback.**
- *The reviewing faculty recommend including the GEL Goals, ELOs, and explanatory paragraph for the GEL Diversity – Global Studies category, as this course is approved for this GEL category. As a reminder, the GEL Goals and ELOs can be found on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).*
- Nagar, Soland, **unanimously approved** with **two contingencies** (in bold above) and *one recommendation* (in italics above)

3) Religious Studies 3888 (new course requesting GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations)

- Theme Advisory Group: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations
 - The reviewing faculty note that this course is an excellent, full offering with sharp assignments and assessments, while providing a breadth of possible learning opportunities. They commend the instructor on such a robust, excellent proposal.
 - **Approved** with one comment
- Themes Subcommittee
 - *The reviewing faculty recommend adding a statement in the “Green Lawn Analysis” assignment (on page 4 of the syllabus) that provides information on how students can receive credit for this assignment if they are unable to attend the trip to Green Lawn Cemetery. While they recognize that attendance at the Day of the Dead celebration is a valuable experience for students, this celebration typically occurs on a Saturday. Students may have outside responsibilities or religious beliefs that prevent them from attending (for example, students of the Jewish faith observe Shabbat on Saturdays). The reviewing faculty recognize that there is a note on page 5 of the syllabus. However, they believe it may be beneficial to students to make this more visible in the assignment description itself.*
 - Nagar, Andridge, **unanimously approved** with *one recommendation* (in italics above)

4) Philosophy 3430 (existing course with GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing; requesting change of prerequisites; remove the GEN Foundations and instead add 3-credit hours in Philosophy or permission of instructor)

- Nagar, Andridge, **unanimously approved**