

ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee

Approved Minutes

Monday, March 17th, 2025

3:00PM – 4:30PM

CarmenZoom

Attendees: Dinan, Dwyer, Nathanson, Neff, Raadschelders, Steele, Xiao

Agenda

1. Approval of 2-24-25 e-vote minutes
 - a. Raadschelders, Dwyer; unanimously approved.
2. Anthropology 3211 (existing course requesting changed course content & attendant changes to title and course description)
 - a. *Comment:* The Subcommittee notes that the grading scale is unique, particularly with the emphasis on decimals such as .44 and .45. While the decision regarding the grading scale rests with the department, the Subcommittee simply encourages them to consider that this approach may be unexpected for students and lead to questions. The Subcommittee also notes inconsistencies in the grading scale that should be addressed. The syllabus states that any grade below 60 will earn an E, yet a grade of 59.44 is listed as a D. Additionally, the range for a D overlaps with that of a D+, as 66.45 appears in both categories. [Syllabus p. 7]
 - b. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the department indicate the page numbers of each assigned reading in the course calendar as was done in the previous syllabus. This information helps students budget their time accordingly. [Syllabus pp. 12-13]
 - c. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee notes that the course calendar lists three exams, yet only a final exam is mentioned in the assignments. The calendar also refers to a paper due in week 14 that is not otherwise mentioned in the syllabus. Additionally, quizzes are not reflected in the calendar at all, which could lead to confusion for students. The Subcommittee recommends that the course calendar be adjusted to accurately reflect the schedule of assignments. [Syllabus pp. 12-13]
 - d. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the department consider including a grade table similar to that on page 3 of the previous syllabus. Offering a visual of the breakdown of how each assignment and assessment contributes to the total number of points of the course helps make the weight of each component clearer to students.
 - e. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the recommended university language for the Title IX statement if they wish to keep it in the syllabus. The statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus pp. 8-9]
 - f. Xiao, Raadschelders; unanimously approved with one comment and *four recommendations*.

3. Business Admin: Mgmt & HR 2200 (new course approved for 100% DL & requesting GEN Foundation Social and Behavioral Science)
 - a. The Subcommittee requests that the accompanying explanations provided for the Foundation be strengthened, then more effectively woven into the syllabus. Expanding upon the social science components of course (e.g., theory, research methods, empirical analysis, etc.) in the supporting materials then integrating that content into the syllabus will help clarify how the course is in alignment with the GEN Foundation category.
 - b. The Subcommittee requests that the specific readings assigned to students be indicated in the course calendar, along with the corresponding page numbers for each reading. [Syllabus pp. 4-5]
 - c. The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus provide more information regarding the exam formats, including the style of questions that will be asked. Additionally, the Subcommittee requests that there be more clarity in the syllabus regarding the logistics of taking the exam with a team, such as how this collaboration will be structured and expectations for individual contribution. [Syllabus p. 2]
 - d. The Subcommittee asks that the course syllabus clearly specify whether the course is synchronous or asynchronous in addition to providing information regarding weekly contact hours (e.g., lecture lengths and frequency or credit hour expectations).
 - e. The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus include the Goals of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Foundation category in addition to the listed ELOs. These Goals can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus pp. 3-4]
 - f. The Subcommittee requests that the department add the required religious accommodations statement into the syllabus. The university has updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a statement on religious accommodations. This required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Office of Undergraduate Education website](#). Please note that the link to religious holidays, holy days and observances at the end of the statement is also required to be included in the syllabus.
 - g. The Subcommittee recommends that the syllabus provide clarification on what is meant by “research translations”, as students might be unfamiliar with this term that is used throughout the syllabus.
 - h. Declined to vote.
4. Atmospheric Sciences 5401 (new course)
 - a. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that page 2 of the syllabus indicates that there are no prerequisites for the course, but curriculum.osu.edu indicates prerequisites of ATMOSSC 2940 or GEOG 5900. The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus be adjusted to reflect the prerequisites if they are indeed intended to be enforced (otherwise, the department should remove them from curriculum.osu.edu). Additionally, the Subcommittee asks that the department add

“or graduate standing” to the prerequisites in curriculum.osu.edu and the syllabus to avoid unintentional exclusions.

- b. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the specific readings assigned to students be indicated in the course calendar, along with the corresponding page numbers for each reading. [Syllabus pp. 8-10]
 - c. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus provide more information regarding the details and format of the final project. [Syllabus pp. 6-7]
 - d. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee asks that the department ensure that the reference to the [Office of Institutional Equity](#) in the religious accommodations statement is a hyperlink to the office’s email. Additionally, the Subcommittee asks that the link below be added to the bottom of the religious accommodations statement, as it is a part of the required text. Please feel free to copy and paste these two links into the statement directly from the Subcommittee’s feedback. Otherwise, the full statement with the links can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus pp. 12-13]
 - i. (Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#))
 - e. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the university’s diversity statement if they wish to keep it in the syllabus. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus p. 14]
 - f. Xiao, Dwyer; unanimously approved with **three contingencies** and *two recommendations*.
5. Atmospheric Sciences 5502 (new course)
- a. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the department add “or graduate standing” to the existing prerequisites of ATMOSSCI 5950 and MATH 2153 in curriculum.osu.edu and the syllabus to avoid unintentional exclusions. The Subcommittee also requests that the extraneous language in the prerequisites (unrelated to the required courses themselves) be removed.
 - b. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the specific readings assigned to students be indicated in the course calendar, along with the corresponding page numbers for each reading. [Syllabus pp. 8-10]
 - c. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus provide more information regarding the format of the quizzes and exams, including the style of questions that will be asked. [Syllabus p. 7]
 - d. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the syllabus provide a brief explanation of what is meant by the term “worked answers” so that is it clear to students. [Syllabus p. 7]
 - e. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee asks that the department ensure that the reference to the [Office of Institutional Equity](#) in the religious accommodations statement is a hyperlink to the office’s email. Additionally, the Subcommittee asks

that the link below be added to the bottom of the religious accommodations statement, as it is a part of the required text. Please feel free to copy and paste these two links into the statement directly from the Subcommittee's feedback. Otherwise, the full statement with the links can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).

[Syllabus pp. 13-14]

i. **(Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#))**

- f. *Recommendation:* The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the university's diversity statement if they wish to keep it in the syllabus. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).
[Syllabus p. 11]
- g. Dwyer, Raadschelders; unanimously approved with **three contingencies** and *three recommendations*.