

From: [Hilty, Michael](#)
To: xiao.37@osu.edu; ettlinger.1@osu.edu
Cc: [Kline, Susan](#); [Haddad, Deborah](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#)
Subject: Geography 2100, 5210, and 5402
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 4:01:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Professors Xiao and Ettlenger,

On Thursday, January 21st, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed course change proposals for Geography 2100, 5210, and 5402. Please find below the Panel's feedback for these courses.

- Geography 2100 (course change) approved with four contingencies:
 - Contingency: The assignments section within the syllabus is not descriptive enough. Please add additional information regarding the assignments, including the reading quizzes, discussion posts, and the two exams as found on pages 5 and 6. The information that is requested includes assignment details, assignment start and due dates, and the nature of the exams (mode of delivery, are they comprehensive, etc.).
 - Contingency: There was confusion surrounding the flexibility and deadlines of the course, as described on page 3 of the syllabus. The Panel feels as if the language currently used is confusing surrounding weekly and biweekly deadlines under the "Pace of online activities" section and would like to see that clarified.
 - Contingency: Please change how course readings are listed within the syllabus (as currently some are listed in the Course Materials and Technologies section on pages 4 and 5 while others are listed in the Course Schedule on pages 10-12) to a single location.
 - Contingency: The Panel feels as if there is confusion surrounding course assignment deadlines in the current syllabus and would like that language clarified from the course schedule on pages 10-12. Please add course assignment specific deadlines to the syllabus.

- Geography 5210 (course change) approved with one recommendation:
 - Recommendation: The Panel suggests clarifying the textbook requirement, listed on page 2 of the syllabus, as it is currently listed as recommended while chapters are listed as assignments on the schedule on pages 12 and 13.

- Geography 5402 (course change) approved with three contingencies and one recommendation:
 - Contingency: When reviewing the syllabus, the Panel determined that there are confusing elements within the syllabus. Please see below for several examples of things the Panel would like clarified:
 - The current course schedule and assignment grading table are not descriptive enough and unclear. The Panel would like to see the course schedule to be more fully developed on page 12.
 - The Panel would like to see the due dates from the grade box on page 5 moved to the schedule on page 12 for the sake of clarity.
 - The Panel also found there to be confusion around the color scheme of both the grading box (on page 5) and the course schedule (on page 12) and would like to see this clarified, as they could not determine why certain colors were used when they were and found it generally confusing.
 - Contingency: Please provide a list of the readings that are to be offered to students via CarmenCanvas as discussed on page 3 of the syllabus.
 - Contingency: Please clarify the language around "Required Supplemental Material" on page 3 of the syllabus. The Panel feels as if using the word "supplemental" is too indicative of recommended and will be confusing to students about whether they need to review these materials for course assignments and how these assignments fit into the overarching structure of the course (are they outside-of-class viewings/readings,

- homework viewings/readings, etc.).
- Recommendation: Kellie Brennan is no longer the Title IX coordinator. The Panel suggests removing her name from the Title IX section, on page 10, while the most up-to-date Title IX information can be found on the Curriculum and Assessment Services website.

I will return Geography 2100 and Geography 5402 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel's requests while Geography 5210 will continue through the approval process.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Susan Kline (faculty Chair of the SBS Panel; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,
Michael



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