

**From:** [Hilty, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Trefz, Kelvin](#); [Osborne, Jeanne](#); [Luikart, Meredith](#)  
**Cc:** [Putikka, Bill](#); [Conroy, Maria](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Cody, Emily](#)  
**Subject:** Agricultural Systems Management & HCS 3585 and 3586  
**Date:** Thursday, October 13, 2022 11:25:00 AM  
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Good morning,

On Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, the Themes 2 Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new GEN Theme: Sustainability with High-Impact Practice: Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching request for Agricultural Systems Management & HCS 3585 and 3586. Please see below for the Panel's feedback.

GEN Theme: Sustainability:

The Panel unanimously approved the request with one contingency and one recommendation. As a reminder, the Panel's contingency must be satisfied in a revision submitted to curriculum.osu.edu while the Panel's recommendation may be implemented when the course is next taught.

- **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty ask that more clarification be provided regarding which textbook is being referenced and utilized within the course syllabus and how this chosen text will connect to the GEN Theme: Sustainability Goals and ELOs.
- **Recommendation:** The reviewing faculty recommend clearly establishing student expectations regarding what texts they will need to purchase and utilize on the course syllabus.

High-Impact Practice: Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching

The Panel did not vote on the request as they would like the following feedback items addressed:

- The reviewing faculty thank the department for a thoughtful revision, but are still unable to see how the instructors co-teaching the course will engage in Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching as defined by the High-Impact Practice forms created by the Office of Academic Affairs (see here: <https://oaa.osu.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/generaleducation-review/new-ge/interdisciplinary-team-courses-description-expectations.pdf> ). They ask that the course proposer read through this document from the Office of Academic Affairs to see how a High-Impact Practice Interdisciplinary Team-Taught course is different from simply a co-taught course.
- While the reviewing faculty acknowledge that the course is being co-taught, in order to count within the Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching category, a course must establish that an interdisciplinary coteaching style will be developed and introduced, as defined by the Office of Academic Affairs. For example:
  - "In multidisciplinary courses, faculty present their individual perspectives one after another, leaving differences in underlying assumptions unexamined and integration up to the students. In interdisciplinary courses, whether taught by teams or individuals, faculty interact in designing a course, bringing to light and examining underlying assumptions and modifying their perspectives in the process. They also make a concerted effort to work with students in crafting an integrated synthesis of the separate parts that provides a larger, more holistic understanding of the question, problem or issue at hand. Smith's iron law bears repeating: 'Students shall not be expected to integrate anything the faculty can't or won't' (quoted in Gaff, 1980, pp. 54-55). (Klein & Newall, 12)."
  - "A team-taught course requires that two or more faculty from different disciplines, programs or departments develop and offer a course together. Team-taught courses

must be taught collaboratively by faculty who integrate distinctly separate disciplines, model interdisciplinary academic exchange, and demonstrate the interdisciplinary nature of the course. This includes explicitly synthesizing across and between the disciplines that each instructor brings to the team-taught, interdisciplinary course."

- o "Teaching partners are expected to collaborate on defining the objectives for the course, putting together the course materials, conducting the formal instruction of students, and evaluating student performance. *Note that courses in which one faculty member of record convenes the course and invites one or more guest speakers to take part in the class are not considered team-taught courses.*"
- Additionally, the reviewing faculty ask that the departments reach out to Bernadette Vankeerbergen (Vankeerbergen.1), ASC Assistant Dean for Curriculum, and Meg Daly (Daly.66), Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, to discuss alternative ways for this course to be proposed as they are still unclear on the 3+1 model and how/where the team-teaching will be taking place.
- The reviewing faculty request a cover letter that details all changes made in response to their feedback.

I will return Agricultural Systems Management & HCS 3585 and 3586 to the departmental queues via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel's feedback above.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Bill Putikka, faculty Chair of the ASCC Themes 2 Panel, Maria Conroy, faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability, or me.

All my best,  
Michael



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