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2017

## 2017-03-20 Common Academic Program Committee Minutes

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## CAP COMMITTEE

Monday, March 20, 2017 | 2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.; Kennedy Union 331

**Present:** Serdar Durmusoglu, Lee Dixon, Heidi Gauder, John Goebel, Linda Hartley (*ex officio*), Keigo Hirakawa, Sawyer Hunley, Fred Jenkins (*ex officio*), Terence Lau (*ex officio*), Scott Segalewitz (*ex officio*), Bill Trollinger, John White, Shuang-Ye Wu

**Excused:** Brad Balsler, Danielle Poe

**Guests:** Dustin Atlas, Jana Bennett, Phyllis Bergiel, John Heitmann, Meghan Henning, Caroline Merithew, Cecilia Moore, Viorel Pâslaru, Daniel Thompson, Sandra Yocum

### I. Course Reviews

#### 1) PHL 335: Philosophy of Sustainability

##### A. Course Proposal Information:

1. Proposer: Viorel Pâslaru was present.
2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Inquiry, Advanced Philosophical Studies
3. Student Learning Outcomes: Community (expanded), Practical Wisdom (expanded), Critical Evaluation of Our Times (advanced)

##### B. Discussion:

1. It was noted that the course was previously CAP-approved for the following components: Crossing Boundaries-Integrative and Advanced Philosophical Studies. It has been revised to change the Crossing Boundaries component from Integrative to Inquiry. A course can be approved for only one of the four Crossing Boundaries areas.
2. The committee discussed the potential impact of the change to Inquiry, since Inquiry courses must be taken outside a student's division. The proposer noted that there aren't many Philosophy majors and the change won't impact them significantly. The potential impact relates to the course being offered in a study abroad program this summer, as well as the SEE major that is being developed. For the study abroad program, the course was presented as being previously approved for Integrative but undergoing revision for Inquiry. The SEE program is interdisciplinary and is not currently affiliated with any department/division within the College of Arts and Sciences. The SEE program director should be aware that PHL 335 may or may not fulfill the Inquiry component for SEE majors depending where the major is housed. It was recognized that the course may be able to fulfill other requirements for SEE majors if it doesn't count for Inquiry. It was also recognized that SEE majors might be able to take any Inquiry course outside of SEE courses (though currently there are no SEE courses approved for Inquiry) if the program continues without any department/division affiliation in the College.
3. The proposer requested that the committee proceed with considering the change from Integrative to Inquiry rather than waiting until the SEE major is developed. He indicated that he could make further changes, if necessary, based on the needs of major.
4. A follow up question was raised whether a course could be approved to count for Inquiry or Integrative depending on a student's major. There are no current CAP courses designed in this way. There are cross-listed Inquiry courses (EDT 322/SOC 310 and HSS/SOC 384) that fulfill the component if students register for the course outside their division. It was noted that a Teacher Education course was being developed with the idea that it would count as Integrative for EDT majors and as Inquiry for non-EDT majors. The proposer was told that software (i.e., CIM) would not allow that option. However, it would have also been a policy issue that prevents a course from being approved for more than one of the Crossing Boundaries areas.

##### C. Committee's Actions:

1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
2. Vote: 7-0-1 (in favor-against-abstention).

## 2) HST 342: Environmental History

### A. Course Proposal Information:

1. Proposers: John Heitmann and Caroline Merithew were present.
2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Integrative, Advanced Historical Studies
3. Student Learning Outcomes: Scholarship (advanced), Critical Evaluation of Our Times (expanded), Vocation (expanded)

### B. Discussion:

1. A question was raised how the course will address the Catholic intellectual tradition (CIT) since a key aspect of Advanced Studies courses is for students to be able to “draw upon the resources of the Catholic intellectual tradition as they consider how to lead wise and ethical lives of leadership and service.” Overall, it appears the course would meet the goal of the Advanced Historical Studies component based on the proposal. For historical purposes, however, the committee requested that a statement be added to the paragraph that describes how the course will satisfy the Advanced Historical Studies component. The proposers explained how they would address the CIT and agreed to revise the proposal as requested.
2. A question was raised if the course might also be considered for the Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions or Diversity and Social Justice component. The proposers expressed that they preferred not to consider adding the Faith Traditions component but are open to adding the Diversity and Social Justice component. They noted that the connection to Diversity and Social Justice already exists and that the proposal could be revised fairly easily to address how the component would be satisfied. They preferred to proceed with the course being considered for the two components already selected and indicated that they would look at revising the proposal at a later date to add the third component. The addition of Diversity and Social Justice would be beneficial to students in the professional schools. For example, School of Business Administration (SBA) students aren’t likely to take the course as is (Integrative and Advanced Historical Studies) because it would only satisfy one component for them. SBA students take a specific Integrative course within the SBA curriculum that also fulfills a requirement for the business core. In general, it was noted that students from the professional schools are advised to take CAP courses that count for multiple components due to limited flexibility with their degree requirements.

### C. Committee’s Actions:

1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal pending the minor revision noted above.
2. Vote: 8-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention). The proposal will be rolled back in CIM. Once the proposal has been revised, Assistant Provost Sawyer Hunley will review and approve it on behalf of the committee. Follow up: The revised proposal was approved on 3/22/2017.

## 3) REL 207: Faith Traditions: Judaism

### 1. Course Proposal Information:

1. Proposer: Dustin Atlas was present, as well as department chair Daniel Thompson.
2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions, Diversity and Social Justice
3. Student Learning Outcomes: Scholarship (expanded), Faith Traditions (expanded), Diversity (expanded), Vocation (expanded)

### 2. Discussion:

1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
2. Background information was provided that the College of Arts and Sciences engaged in a joint fundraising effort to fund a scholarship for a Ph.D. student from Hebrew Union College to teach one course per semester in the Department of Religious Studies in an effort to foster Jewish Studies in the department. The teaching assignment will include this course. The first Ph.D. student from Hebrew Union College is in place this year.

3. Under the Consultations and Resources section, it was noted that the Department of History was invited to review the proposal but didn't respond. The committee, based on input from a member who serves on the Department of History's Curriculum Committee, didn't think it was necessary to have a response from that department.
  4. A question was raised about considering the Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions component in addition to Advanced Religious Studies. This issue applies to REL 256 and REL 277 as well as REL 207. It was noted that the department has been working to address both the developmental goals of CAP with REL courses and also meet needs of the professional schools. In terms of the developmental aspect, the department made a decision three years ago how they would structure their CAP courses. Various Faith Traditions courses at the 200 level would be double counted, targeting Diversity and Social Justice as the second component. Courses at the 300 level are intended to be offered as Advanced Religious Studies, with a Faith Traditions course as a pre-requisite. However, Advanced Religious Studies courses outside the Department of Religious Studies do not need to have this pre-requisite. The professional schools offered their perspective about the impact of this approach, and it was noted that this has been the topic of ongoing discussion. Due to the structure of their degree requirements, majors from the professional schools need courses that double and triple count to satisfy CAP requirements. For example, SBA students need to fulfill four components (Advanced Philosophical/Religious Studies, Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions, Advanced Historical Studies and Diversity and Social Justice) with only two courses. School of Engineering students have five "slots" to fulfill multiple CAP components; therefore, double and triple-counting courses are needed. It was noted that there is an explicit statement in the CAP Senate Document (DOC-10-04) that CAP requirements should "not result in students taking more credit hours outside their major than they are currently required to take" (i.e., should not add time to graduation). The professional schools' concern is that not having REL courses double count for Faith Traditions and Advanced Religious Studies would add credit hours for their students. SBA raised an additional concern that limiting the possibility of double counting would result in fewer students pursuing double majors. It was noted that business disciplines are most suited to double majoring and SBA has always built its curriculum on students being able to do so. In response to these concerns, it was noted that the Department of Religious Studies has never had the assumption that any of their courses would double count for Faith Traditions and Advanced Religious Studies. It was also noted that students have options to double count these two components outside of Religious Studies.
  5. Being mindful of time constraints and the remaining course reviews on the agenda, the committee ended discussion on this issue and proceeded with its review of REL 207 for the two components that were selected.
  6. It was noted that the section about University Libraries Resources wasn't addressed in the proposal. The proposer indicated that the resources are sufficient and the proposal will be revised to reflect that.
3. Committee's Actions:
1. Motion: A motion was made to approve the course proposal pending the minor revision noted above regarding Library resources.
  2. Further discussion: It was recognized that the department's Faith Traditions courses are good ones and that the developmental approach they have taken with their CAP courses makes sense. There were no suggestions for the department to change that approach. It was reiterated, however, that the department's structure presents logistical obstacles for the professional schools and the result is that their students are not likely to take these courses. The department will continue to take these issues under consideration and will monitor the impact on enrollment in their courses.
  3. The motion noted above was seconded.

4. Vote: 7-0-1 (for-against-abstention). The Assistant Provost will make the revision in CIM on behalf of the proposer.

**4) REL 256: Faith Traditions: Prayer**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  1. Proposers: Sandra Yocum was present, as well as department chair Daniel Thompson.
  2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions, Diversity and Social Justice
  3. Student Learning Outcomes: Faith Traditions (expanded), Diversity (introduced), Vocation (expanded)
- B. Discussion:
  1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
- C. Committee's Actions:
  1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
  2. Vote: 8-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention).

**5) REL 277: Faith Traditions: Women and Gender**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  1. Proposers: Jana Bennett and Meghan Henning were present, as well as department chair Daniel Thompson.
  2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions, Diversity and Social Justice
  3. Student Learning Outcomes: Faith Traditions (expanded), Diversity (expanded), Vocation (expanded)
- B. Discussion:
  1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
- C. Committee's Actions:
  1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
  2. Vote: 8-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention).

**6) REL 328: United States Catholic Experience**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  1. Proposer: Cecilia Moore was present, as well as department chair Daniel Thompson.
  2. Components: Advanced Religious Studies, Diversity and Social Justice
  3. Student Learning Outcomes: Scholarship (advanced), Faith Traditions (expanded), Diversity (expanded), Critical Evaluation of Our Times (expanded)
- B. Discussion:
  1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
  2. It was noted that, under the Consultations and Resources section, the Department of History was consulted but the proposal didn't include a letter of support. The Religious Studies chair confirmed that History was contacted to request consultation. The committee decided to proceed according to the policy the College's Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) recently developed to clarify the consultation process. The policy stipulates that departments requesting consultation should allow adequate time for review and response (one month recommended in most cases). If no response is provided, "the proposer should submit the proposal and detail attempts that were made to consult. The AAC will then proceed with the review and will not request additional consultation." It was agreed that the proposal will be revised to reflect that the Department of History did not respond to the request for consultation.

- C. Committee's Actions:
  - 1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal pending the minor revision noted above. There was no further discussion.
  - 2. Vote: 8-0-0 (for-against-abstention). The Assistant Provost will make the revision in CIM on behalf of the proposer.

**7) REL 363: Faith & Justice**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  - 1. Proposer: Kelly Johnson could not attend. Department chair Daniel Thompson was present.
  - 2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Practical Ethical Action, Advanced Religious Studies
  - 3. Student Learning Outcomes: Faith Traditions (advanced), Practical Wisdom (expanded), Critical Evaluation of Our Times (expanded)
- B. Discussion:
  - 1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
- C. Committee's Actions:
  - 1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
  - 2. Vote: 8-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention).

**8) REL 376: Theology & the Social Sciences**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  - 1. Proposer: Michael Barnes could not attend. Department chair Daniel Thompson was present.
  - 2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Integrative, Advanced Religious Studies
  - 3. Student Learning Outcomes: Scholarship (expanded), Faith Traditions (advanced), Critical Evaluation of Our Times (expanded)
- B. Discussion:
  - 1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
- C. Committee's Actions:
  - 1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
  - 2. Vote: 7-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention). (Note: One committee member left the meeting prior to the vote on this proposal.)
  - 3. Follow up: As the department develops additional courses that will include the Crossing Boundaries-Integrative component, the chair asked about the committee's evaluation criteria. In general, the committee looks at whether the course includes other disciplinary perspectives and if the proposal concretely addresses how those perspectives will be part of the course.

**9) REL 475: Theology of Inculturation**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  - 1. Proposer: Cyril Orji could not attend. Department chair Daniel Thompson was present.
  - 2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Integrative, Advanced Religious Studies
  - 3. Student Learning Outcomes: Faith Traditions (advanced), Diversity (advanced), Practical Wisdom (expanded), Critical Evaluation of Our Times (advanced)
- B. Discussion:
  - 1. The committee had positive feedback about the course in general.
  - 2. Though no revisions were requested, a general comment was made about this course and some others from Religious Studies included four of the seven SLOs. Selecting that many may be a challenge since they will need to be assessed. The committee's guidance is that it is better to concentrate on a few SLOs and, in general, not to select more than three.

- C. Committee's Actions:
  - 1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
  - 2. Vote: 7-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention).

**10) REL 315: The Gospels**

- A. Course Proposal Information:
  - 1. Proposer: Fr. Joe Kozar could not attend. Department chair Daniel Thompson was present.
  - 2. Components: Crossing Boundaries-Inquiry, Advanced Religious Studies
  - 3. Student Learning Outcomes: Scholarship (expanded), Faith Traditions (advanced)
- B. Discussion:
  - 1. Based on the earlier discussion about the Crossing Boundaries-Inquiry component (see PHL 335 above), a question was raised if there might be issues if REL 315 is approved as an Inquiry course. It was noted that the department's Biblical Studies courses, including REL 315, are intended primarily for non-majors.
- C. Committee's Actions:
  - 1. Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the course proposal as written. There was no further discussion.
  - 2. Vote: -7-0-0 (in favor-against-abstention).

**II. Announcements**

- A. Revised CAPC Procedures: The Academic Policies Committee reviewed and approved the revised procedures on March 10, following the committee's approval on February 16. The Periodic Course Review section was revised to add a description and workflow for courses re-approved pending major changes.
- B. Next Meeting: The committee will meet next on Monday, March 27. Three course reviews will be on the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted by Judy Owen