

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes – October 19, 2005

The General Education Committee met on Wednesday, October 19, 2005, from Noon to 1 p.m. in the Provost's Conference Room.

Members Present: Jim Brink (Provost's Office, ex-officio), Dorothy Chansky (Visual and Performing Arts), Gary Elbow (Honors), Ray Desrosiers (Engineering), Tom Kimball (Human Sciences), Linda Krefting (Business Administration), David Lamp (Arts & Sciences), Mellinee Lesley (Education), Charles Myles (Faculty Senate), Ben Shacklette (Architecture), and David Roach (Arts & Sciences, presiding)

Members Absent: Frank Durso (Arts & Sciences), Ernest Fish (Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources), Roger Saathoff (Mass Communications).

1. Announcements.

- * Meetings Fall semester: November 16 (and December if an emergency)
- * Committee List Handout

2. Review of minutes from the last meeting.
Minutes reviewed and approved.

3. Special Guest – Our committee wants to revitalize the writing intensive courses at TTU. A handbook has been sent out from the Provost's office to WI teachers to foster this. Kathy Gillis, the Director of the Writing Center, shared information about the Writing Center, writing intensive courses, and what other institutions are doing in this area (specifically, A&M).

- * Writing Center services: online pages for faculty, rubrics for grading, opportunities to upload syllabi, ideas to support faculty in expecting and encouraging good writing from students.
- * A&M has a writing center that approves which courses are WI – strict criteria.
- * Idea: for General Education Committee to survey WI teachers at TTU. Will talk about this and develop this idea further at next meeting.
- * The General Education Committee needs to come up with a statement of recommendation to the Provost about Writing Intensive courses at TTU. We will begin discussion on this in our November meeting.

4. Old Business

*SPAN 4337 Cultural Topics – Hispanic World proposed as a course to fulfill Multicultural requirement.

*SPAN 4346 Spanish Life and Culture proposed as a course to fulfill Multicultural requirement.

Committee question from last meeting: by the time a student would take a 4000 level course wouldn't he/she already have fulfilled the multicultural requirement with another prerequisite course at a lower level? If so, having 4000 level SPAN courses fulfill this might be superfluous. Committee recommended last time that these two SPAN courses be sent back to Associate Dean Rob Stewart with this question to get a response from him.

Fred Suppe response to be discussed by committee today. Question raised in today's meeting as to whether or not these two courses are taught only abroad (e.g., in Seville?). Roach will contact Suppe to check on this.

5. New Business

New Proposals:

*GEOG 2300 Human Geography proposed as a course to fulfill the Social and Behavioral Science requirement and the Multicultural requirement. **Committee voted (with one abstention) to recommend GEOG 2300 to the Provost as a course that fulfills the Social and Behavioral Science requirement. Committee voted (with one abstention) to recommend GEOG 2300 to the Provost as a course that fulfills the Multicultural requirement.**

6. Ongoing Business - Individual and Group Behavior Category Review – Will continue this.

7. The meeting was adjourned.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSALS
TO THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

- Proposals for changes in the Core Curriculum must come to the General Education Committee (GEC) from the office of the dean of the originating college and with an indication of the dean's approval. Proposals not bearing the approval of the dean's office will be returned to the college without action.
- Proposals to add or delete a course from the Core must be accompanied by a current syllabus and may have additional supporting materials. Proposals must include a course description, course objectives, and must clearly demonstrate how the proposed course fits the Core Curriculum category objectives. Proposals not accompanied by a syllabus will be returned to the college without action.
- To ensure that proposals are considered at a meeting of the GEC, they should arrive in the Provost's office (attention Brink) no later than the beginning of the month during which they will come before the GEC. Proposals that do not arrive by this deadline may be considered, depending on the number of items on the agenda for the meeting. If late proposals cannot be included on the agenda for the meeting, they will be considered at the next meeting.
- Sponsorship of proposals is done by the GEC representative of the originating college. The presence of additional sponsors is neither necessary nor desirable unless specifically invited by the committee. GEC recommends that proposers consult with their college's representative on the GEC.