

Liberal Studies Oversight Committee
Minutes
1-24-06

Members Present: Millie Abel, Charles Wallis, Brent Kinser, Tracy Zontek, Windy Gordon, Jim DeConinck, Peter Nieckarz, Brian Dinklemeyer, Beth Tyson-Lofquist, Terry Michelsen, Kari Hensley, and guest Masafumi Takeda

Discussion and Approval of last weeks meeting (1-17-06)

PSY 190- Windy Gordon

Under the question, "Does it meet criteria of umbrella?" Additional info was needed to read...should committee review umbrella before approving?

Mark Couture - questions about second semester MFL courses with prerequisites.

Masa and committee discussed JPN & CHIN 231 & 232

Can/Can't have prerequisites in Liberal Studies courses?

CAN because it is not stated in catalog other than ENGL 101& 102 and upper level perspectives.

CAN'T due to the extra hours that it would add

Suggestion was made to reword the LS check sheet to compare to that wording of the MATH category but a decision was made that instead an email should be sent to Larry Hammer and David McCord to change the programming in Banner so that the P6 MFL category is fulfilled by the course taken. MFL 101 or those on the check sheet instead of a student taking a MFL higher level course and only getting credit for 101.

Liberal Studies courses proposals – HSCC 205

HSCC 205- Woman's Health P6 World Cultures w/ Tracy Zontek

Examples were needed; specify cultural issues in syllabus to emphasize topics on schedule. Course was TABLED until resubmitted with these changes.

Pilot assessment for Wellness courses- Tracy

Everyone looked over the survey and a few changes were suggested to clear up questions but overall she had a great sample.

In reference to SACS and portfolios per conversation with Melissa it was mentioned that general rule: consent isn't needed for the use of portfolios observed and used for campus use. Suggestion was made to contact IRB to confirm.

Discuss Liberal Studies Program document changes-

Suggestion from Beth for Page 2 & 5 to have paragraphs in reference to Learning Communities added back to document.

Again it was mentioned that someone on committee needed to contact Bob Caruso in reference to a student representation preferably from SGA joining the LS Oversight Committee. (Suggestion was made to find one representative and three alternates.)

LSOSC Members are recruited by Liberal Studies Oversight Committee in conjunction and Associate VC for Academic Affairs.

Discuss the Memo with proposed program changes to be submitted to all faculty for feedback-

The Liberal Studies Oversight Committee is considering several modifications to the Liberal Studies program, based on proposals submitted to the Committee. The following items are currently under discussion:

1. Allowing Liberal Studies perspectives courses to simultaneously meet other degree requirements (major) without requiring additional Liberal Studies hours in other areas.
2. Placing a maximum number of hours to simultaneously meet other degree requirements per item #1, i.e. 6 hours of perspectives courses available for “double dipping.”
3. Allowing students to repeat a first-year seminar (any course numbered 19x) for grade replacement, by requiring students who make an “F” in a first-year seminar to take a first-year seminar course the following semester.
4. Change the grading scale for a first-year seminar to include a grade of “U” for Unsatisfactory instead of “F” for failing if they are not allowed to repeat a first-year seminar for grade replacement.
5. Eliminating the requirement for a student to take additional Liberal Studies hours if a first-year seminar has been “waived” (e.g., students who waive the first-year seminar requirement by entering the university with more than 15 credit hours).
6. Requiring the completion of ENGL101 and 102 for enrollment in upper-level perspectives courses.
7. Placing a credit hour requirement, e.g. 45 hours, before registering for an upper-level perspectives course.
8. Eliminating the upper level perspective course requirement since it is a requirement for all entering WCU students but is waived for students transferring in with an AA/AS degree from a North Carolina community college and creates difficulty for distance education students pursuing the bachelor’s degree online.

Put questions together as follows from the above document

- 1&2
- 3,4,5
- 6&7
- 8

Motion to approve modifications after minor changes- approved and Millie will send out to Faculty and Staff