

**GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (GEAC) MEETING
MINUTES
October 31, 2022**

Present: Robin Fitzgerald, Lex Washington, Michael Holmes, Lane Greer, Amy Martindale, Tammy Mix, Sarah Johnson, Deni Blum, Robert Emerson, Brandt Gardner, Clyde Wilson, and Chris Francisco (chair)

(It is suggested to include highlights to areas being added or changed on resubmitted syllabi for a more transparent identification.)

General Education Designations – New

(All members vote)

AFAM 2223 – Movements of the Black Diaspora, requests the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: This course focuses on local, national, and international movements via investigation of the diversity of Black people throughout the diaspora, including the United States, the other countries of North and South America, Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America.

Members approved the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

AFAM 3950 - Special Topics in Africana Studies

- History of the African Diaspora, requests the D and H designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Particular topics to illustrate the use of interdisciplinary methods in Africana Studies. Topics might include: social issues, art and culture, popular culture, class, transnational or comparative approaches, gender, economics. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 6 credit hours.

Members approved the H designation pending evidence on the syllabus that student receives instructor feedback on formal writing assignments to be incorporated on subsequent writing assignments. The Chair will make the final decision.

Members tabled the D designation for lack of information in the syllabus that at least half of the course content is from present-day United States.

GEOL 1214 - Introductory Geological Processes, requests the L and N designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: This course is intended to introduce geoscience students to geological processes and foundational concepts within the geosciences, primarily through field-based instruction and exercises, as well as introducing students to the geology of Oklahoma. Field trips required.

Members tabled the L and N designations, asking if more specific details could be added to the Fall schedule in order to determine if the course meets the L and N general education designation requirements. In particular, members are interested in more specific information about how the scientific method is taught, how the role of human intervention in physical processes is discussed, and how students are analyzing and reporting the results of their fieldwork.

GEOL 2443 – Environmental & Human Health, requests the N designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: This course explores the connections between human health and environmental geological processes. Key concepts in geology are introduced as well as the pathways through which natural systems affect human health. Topics of interest will include exposures to asbestos, dust and aerosols, coal, and mercury. Course recommended for anyone with an interest in environmental or public health or for those just curious to know more about how the environment affects our health.

Members approved the N designation, effective Spring 2023.

GS 2013 – UN Sustainable Development Goals, requests the I designation, effective Fall 2023.

Description: This course examines current issues and problems facing the globe and introduces students to the historical, geo-political and cultural aspects surrounding these issues. The course is structured around the (UNSDGs), which are a universal call to action that unite the world in addressing some of the world's most complex issues.

Members approved the I designation pending clarification on the syllabus of the course content, especially more information about how the course enhances student understanding of cultural perspectives outside of the United States. In particular, how will the course enhance this understanding via study of the UN SDGs? Expected course outcomes addressing this would be helpful. The Chair will make the final decision.

HIST 3873 – History of Health & Social Movements in the US, requests the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

Description: This course is focused on the intersection of health and social movements in the U.S. from the late 18th century to the present. In this course students explore the historical role of health and social movements, their relationship with medical theory, politics, religion, culture, and economics, how American movements mobilized, co-evolved, and changed over time, and the role of women, people of color, and marginalized communities in health and social movements.

Members approved the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

HIST 3883 - History of Drugs, Policy, and Culture in the United States, request the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

Description: This course explores the relationship between illicit and licit drug use, drug policy, and depiction of drug use and people who use drugs, producers, sellers, policy makers, and law enforcement in the news and cultural media in the United States from 1800 to the present. The course examines the history of chemical substances that alter the body, the evolution of local and national drug policy and agencies, and how culture and society have impacted drug policies.

Members approved the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

LL 3163 - Literatures of the Ancient World, requests the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

Description: Readings and topics in the cultures and literatures of the ancient world. Same course as ENGL 3163.

Members approved the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

LL 3233 - Greek Tragedy, requests the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

Description: This class studies a number of plays by the three great Greek tragedians: Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. The genre of tragedy was born in 5th century Athens and is grounded in a very specific context of civic life, politics, and religion. The plays, almost all set in the realm of myth and legend, also deal with important questions of ethics, war, psychology, tensions between the individual, family, and state, and what it is to be human.

Members approved the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

LL 3643 - Judaism, Christianity and Islam in Medieval Iberia, requests the H designation, effective Fall 2023.

Description: The Iberian Peninsula of the Middle Ages was characterized by varying degrees of coexistence and cooperation among Jews, Christians, and Muslims. This course will focus on the contributions to literature, art, science, government, architecture, philosophy, etc. of members of these three faith traditions.

Members approved the H designation pending clearer evidence on the course syllabus of instructor feedback on the essays. The Chair will make the final decision.

LLCE 2003 - American Stories: Diverse Peoples in YA Literature, requests the H and D designations, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Explores young adult literature representations of diverse peoples in America. Students examine historical and contemporary representations of diverse social and cultural groups through a variety of critical, analytical lenses such as literary or formal analysis, anti-bias antiracist/critical literacy, disability studies lens,

genetic/historical criticism, and queer reading of young adult literature. Requires reading, discussion, and written analysis of young adult literature. Credit hours: 3
Members approved the H and D destinations, effective Spring 2023.

General Education Designations – Existing

(All members vote)

HIST 4433 – From Assassin's Creed to Witcher: Medievalism in the 21st Century World, requests the I designation, effective Spring 2023. Course already carries the H designation.

Description: Assesses video game and film portrayals of the Middle Ages and medievalism. Through historiographical readings and critical analysis of modern media sources, examines the ways in which popular media depictions of the past weave fact with fiction, building on our common cultural narrative of "medieval-ish" worlds.

Members approved the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

HONR 1000 - Introductory Honors Topics

- Let's Get Creative: Odyssey of the Mind, requests the H designation, effective Spring 2023.

Prerequisites: Introductory Honors Topics.

Description: Introduction to topics in various disciplines by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for freshman and sophomore students in the University Honors College. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours, this course is offered for 3 credit hours

Members tabled the designation, as it is unclear from the information on the syllabus if the course will meet the H designation requirements for each student. The syllabus needs detailed explanation of how each student is expected to learn about the H designation from the information on course syllabus. In particular, if a student chooses a more STEM-focused track, how does the course ensure the students still meet the H requirements? The Council will make the final decision.

MKTG 4443 - Social Issues in the Marketing Environment, requests the D designation, effective Spring 2023.

Prerequisites: MKTG 3213.

Description: Social and legislative considerations as they relate to the marketplace.

Members approve the D designation pending evidence of instructor feedback on the writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments. The Chair will make the final decision.

REL 4050 - Studies in Religion

- The Book of Job and Alice in Wonderland: Evil, Nonsense, and Madness, requests the H designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Independent studies, seminars, and courses on selected topics in religion. Offered for variable credit, 1-6 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours, this course is offered for 3 credit hours.

Members tabled the H designation pending clarification in the syllabus of instructor feedback on the formal writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments.

General Education – Approved via E-Mail Vote (Information items only)

HONR 1000 - Introductory Honors Topics

- Global Warming and Human Use of Earth, requests the N designation, one-time only, effective 10/21/22.

Prerequisites: Introductory Honors Topics.

Description: Introduction to topics in various disciplines by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for freshman and sophomore students in the University Honors College. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours. This course is 3 credits.

HONR 1000 - Introductory Honors Topics

- Tornadoes in American Culture, requests the H designation, one-time only, effective 10/21/22.

Prerequisites: Introductory Honors Topics.

Description: Introduction to topics in various disciplines by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for freshman and sophomore students in the University Honors College. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours. This course is 3 credits.

**General Education – Approved Pending
(Information items only)**

AFAM 3950 - Special Topics in Africana Studies

- History of Modern Africa, requests the H designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2022.

Description: Particular topics to illustrate the use of interdisciplinary methods in Africana Studies. Topics might include: social issues, art and culture, popular culture, class, transnational or comparative approaches, gender, economics. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 6 credit hours.

Credit hours: 3

9/30/22 - Members approved pending clarification that the bibliography assignment is not counted as part of the total overall 10-page writing requirement.

Chair approved the H designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2022.

HDFS 3203 - Children's Play: A World Perspective, requests continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2022.

Description: An examination of children's play in contemporary international cultures. Play in children from birth through late childhood will be reviewed; social and cognitive outcomes will be analyzed as related to complex, modern world systems.

3/25/22 - Members approved continuation of the I designation pending clarification on the syllabus that students received feedback on writing assignments to be incorporated into subsequent writing assignments. Member also asked for more detail regarding how the course content meets the criteria for the I designation (present-day international culture).

Chair will make final decision.

9/11/22 – Received revised syllabus

9/22/22 – Chair approved continuation of the I designation, effective Fall 2022.