

**GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (GEAC) MEETING
MINUTES
March 31, 2023**

Present: Lex Washington, Hardias Heitz, Michael Holmes, Lane Greer, Tammy Mix, Sarah Johnson,
Brandt Gardner, Amy Martindale and Chris Francisco (chair)

General Education Designations – New

(All members vote)

UNIV 3110 - Directed Study (two applications)

- International Perspectives in Leadership: President's Leadership Council: Zimbabwe, requests the I designation, one-time only, effective Summer 2023.

Members approved the I designation, one-time only, effective Summer 2023.

- International Perspectives in Ethical Leadership for McKnight Scholars: Italy and Greece, requests the I designation, one-time only, effective Summer 2023.

Members approved I designation pending receipt of a syllabus with a stronger explanation of how the writing assignments focus on present-day international culture.

HDFS 2213 – Human Sexuality and the Family, requests D designations, effective Fall 2021.

10/19/20 - Members approved the S designation effective Fall 2021.

10/19/20 - Members tabled the D designation, as it was not clear that 50% or more of the course content was related to diversity and it was suggested to illustrate this on the syllabus in order for this to be assessed. Members also noted that the writing assignment did not appear to include diversity content. (Please highlight or show track changes on additions or revisions to the resubmitted syllabus.)

10/25/22 - Received revised syllabus.

11/30/22 - Members denied the D designation as the content for the diversity designation is not evident on the course syllabus. It was also noted that instructor feedback on student writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing is not described in the syllabus.

Council will make final decision.

3/1/23 - Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 – Members denied the D designation, effective the end of Spring 2024. The syllabus does not appear to meet the requirements of 2a through 2c for the D designation.

General Education Designations - Five Year Review of the S

(Members assigned vote)

DIVR 2003 - Inclusion Leadership, requests continuation of the D and S designations, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Focus on developing and refining leadership skills in order to prepare for success in personal and professional lives. Variety of leadership theoretical perspectives to broaden

perspectives; develop inclusive leadership skills; increase knowledge regarding global networking; and clear a pathway to successful living within a global society.
3/31/23 - Members approved continuation of the D and S designations, effective Spring 2023.

DIVR 2213 - Minorities in Science and Technology: Contributions Past, Present and Future, requests continuation of the D and S designations, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Women, racial and ethnic minorities are underrepresented in science and technology in America. STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields are traditionally perceived as unwelcoming for these groups. This course examines this idea by focusing on the notion of a "Chilly Climate" for minorities in technical fields. The contributions of prominent women and minority scientists and engineers in America will be explored, as well the struggles they overcame to achieve. This course also explores current issues and why inclusiveness matters today and in the future.

Members tabled the D and S designations as it was not clear from the syllabus if the course meet the requirements for both the D and S designations. The syllabus is eight years old, making it very difficult to evaluate the present-day diversity content, and the content of the writing assignments is unclear. A resubmission should include a current syllabus along with a discussion of how the course content and writing assignments relate directly to the criteria for the D and the S designations.

DIVR 2323 - Diversity and Inclusion in 21st Century America, requests continuation the D and S designations, effective Spring 2023.

Description: This course is designed to increase awareness and understanding of diversity and inclusion in the United States. It focuses on the complex and often controversial issues of race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, social class, and disability by assessing the effects these categories have on society. This course will examine the historical context and how the United States has reached current categories of difference.

Members tabled the D and S designations as it was not clear from the syllabus if the course meet the requirements for both the D and S designations. There should be significantly more clarity about the writing assignments and how they related to the criteria for the D and S designations. Additionally, it is unclear whether the writing assignments, which should be done by individuals, meet the page length criteria. Further, many of the readings lack dates in the citations, making it difficult to determine whether the course meets the present-day content requirement. Finally, the syllabus should be clearer about the content that reflects the S requirement about the role of empirical observation using quantitative or qualitative methods in the social and behavioral sciences.

General Education Designations - Five Year Reviews (Tabled)

GEOL 1214 – Introductory Geological Processes, requests continuation of the L and N designations, effective Spring 2023.

10/31/22 - Members tabled the L and N designations, asking if more specific details could be added to the Fall schedule 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.

Council will make final decision.

3/10/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 - Members approved continuation of the L and N designations, effective Spring 2023.

HDFS 2123 - Developmental Disabilities: Issues Across the Lifespan, requests continuation of the D designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: An introduction to intellectual and developmental disabilities including issues encountered by individuals and families across the lifespan. An overview of history, theory, research, practice and policy. Assumes a basic knowledge of cultural diversity and research methods employed in human development. Field work and engagement with individuals with intellectual disability is an integral component of the course.

2/17/23 - Members tabled continuation of the D designation pending receipt of a syllabus that gives information about the writing assignments and how they relate to the diversity content.

Council will make final decision.

2/27/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 – Members approved the D designation pending receipt of a syllabus clarifies the page requirements. It is not clear whether the page requirements in the appended assignments reach five pages of writing (e.g., the first assignment has no minimum length, and the others include references and a cover page). In addition, this information should be part of the syllabus itself because the Council is supposed to evaluate the syllabus to determine whether the criteria are met.

Chair will make final decision.

NSCI 2114 (changing to NSCI 2013) - Principles of Human Nutrition, requests continuation of the N designation, effective Fall 2022.

Description: Functions of the nutrients in human life processes. Nutrient relationship to health as a basis for food choices. Open to all University students. Previously offered as NSCI 2123 and FNIA 1113.

Members tabled continuation of the N designation pending receipt of a syllabus with more detail on how the course meets the requirements for the N designation. It seems very likely based on the course topics that these requirements are met, but more detail is needed on the syllabus explaining how this is accomplished.

1. Purpose:

Courses designated “N” feature the systematic study of physical or biological processes and the mechanisms and consequences of human intervention in those processes.

2. Requirements:

- a. Students will understand the scientific inquiry process.
- b. Students will use the methodologies and models of science to define, evaluate, and solve problems in biological and physical sciences.
- c. Students will evaluate evidence, interpretations, results, and solutions related to the physical and biological sciences.
- d. Students will understand the consequences of human intervention in physical and biological processes and mechanisms.
- e. Students will demonstrate their ability to communicate in a manner appropriate to the discipline through written assignments.

Council will make final decision.

2/27/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 – Members approved continuation of the N designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 2000 - Topics in American Politics, requests continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Introductory examination of timely topics and issues in American Politics. May be repeated with different topics.

3/11/22 - Members tabled the S designation pending receipt of the syllabus detailing the writing assignments in relation to the S designation and providing evidence that students would receive feedback on writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments and how those writing assignments use theory and inquiry in relation to the S designation

Council will make final decision.

3/2/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 – Members approved continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 2110 - Topics in Comparative Politics, requests continuation of the I designation, effective, Spring 2023.

Description: Introductory examination of timely topics and issues in Comparative Politics. May be repeated with different topics.

3/11/22 - Members tabled continuation of the I designation pending evidence that the course focuses on present-day topics in detail on the syllabus and in the writing assignments.

Council will make final decision.

3/2/23 - Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 – Members approved continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 3143 - European Politics, requests continuation of the I designation, effective, Spring 2023.

Description: An overview of the major political, social, and economic challenges facing European countries.

3/11/22 - Members tabled continuation of the I designation pending receipt of a syllabus clarifying that student will meet the 10-page writing requirements and the 4-page paper will be written individually.

Council will make final decision.

2/27/23 - Received revised syllabus.

3/31/23 – Members approved continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

General Education – Approved Pending (Information only Item)

AVED 3773 - Underrepresented Populations in Aviation and Space, requests continuation of the D designation, effective Spring 2023

Description: This course will identify the current issues facing the aviation and aerospace industry, and why inclusiveness within the industry matters even more today, as well as in the future. Explore the numerous struggles that underrepresented populations overcame to

achieve their successes; and examine the many contributions that underrepresented populations made to the U.S. aviation and aerospace industry.

2/17/23 - Members approved continuation of the D designation pending receipt of a syllabus reflecting 10 pages of required writing with instructor feedback provided.

2/24/23 – Chair approved continuation of the D designation, effective Spring 2023.

HDFS 2113 – Lifespan Human Development, requests continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Study of human development within diverse family systems. Taught from a life span perspective. Previously offered as FRCD 2113.

3/25/22 - Members tabled continuation of the S designation pending receipt of a syllabus that details the five-page writing requirement and clarification of the social and behavioral sciences aspect in the detailed class schedule. Journal entries excluded from counting toward the minimum writing requirement, so if the journals are more formal, then this should be clarified. What student outcomes are expected from each week of discussions regarding the S designation?

Council will make final decision.

10/20/22 – Received revised syllabus.

11/30/22 - Members tabled continuation of the S designation pending evidence on the syllabus of a clear connection to Social and Behavior sciences content which can best be described in a detailed course schedule.

1/27/23 – received revised syllabus.

2/17/23 – Members approved continuation of the S designation pending receipt of a syllabus inclusive of the justifications from the memo on the syllabus. The memo explains the case well, but the evidence is supposed to be in the syllabus to help both students and future instructors of the course. Including some brief course objectives that incorporates the content of the memo may be an easy way to satisfy the requirements.

3/3/23 - Chair approved continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 2020 Topics in Public Law, requests continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Introductory examination of timely topics and issues in Public Law. Maybe repeated with different topics. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 6 credit hours.

3/11/22 - Members approved continuation of the S designation pending clarification of the writing assignments and detail on the syllabus regarding how the course meets the requirements for the s designation. Courses designated "S" propose theoretical constructs based on empirical observation (including quantitative or qualitative methods) to explain human behavior and society in social and/or physical environments. Chair will make final decision.

3/9/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/21/23 – Chair approved the continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 3123 - Russian & Eurasian Politics, request continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: An overview of the major political, social, and economic challenges facing Russia and its neighbors.

3/11/2022 - Members approved continuation the I designation pending clarification of the minimum length of the writing assignments and evidence that students have the opportunity to

receive feedback writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments. One paper must be four pages. Chair will make final decision.

3/9/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/21/23 – Chair approved continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 3953 - Minorities in the American Political System, requests continuation of the S and D designations, effective Spring 2022.

Prerequisites: POLS 1113.

3/11/22 - Members approved continuation of the S and D designations pending clarification of the writing feedback to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments.

Chair will make final decision.

3/2/23 – Chair approved continuation of the S and D designations, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 3983 - Courts and Judicial Process, requests continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2022.

Description: The American judiciary and legal process from a political perspective with particular emphasis on judicial organization and powers, recruitment, fact-finding, decision-making, impact of decisions, the legal profession, and relations among courts. Oklahoma judicial organization.

3/11/22 - Members approved continuation of the S designation pending evidence that students will receive feedback on writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments.

Chair will make final decision.

3/2/23 – Chair approved continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 4053 - War and World Politics, requests continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

Description: Students are introduced to the scientific study of war. Topics include why countries engage in conflict, the conduct of war, the ways in which wars end, and how peace is maintained between former rivals.

3/11/22 - Members approved continuation of the I designation pending clarification that the writing assignment is at least 10 pages with the opportunity for students to receive feedback on writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments. Chair will make final decision.

3/9/23 – Received revised syllabus.

3/21/23 – Chair approved the continuation of the I designation, effective Spring 2023.

POLS 4623 Oklahoma Politics, requests continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.

Prerequisites: POLS 1113.

Description: Introduction to Oklahoma Politics. Topics include the evolution of Oklahoma political institutions; the struggle to shape the Oklahoma political culture with special attention to the role of race and woman suffrage; political issues; the structure of Oklahoma political institutions at the state and local levels; and elections.

3/11/22 - Members approved continuation of the S designation pending clarification that students will have the opportunity to receive feedback on writing assignments to be incorporated in subsequent writing assignments.

Chair will make final decision.

3/2/23 – Chair approved continuation of the S designation, effective Spring 2023.