

UNC GREENSBORO
GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
Thursday, December 17, 2020
2:30 - 4:30 PM
Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Aaron Terranova, Omar Ali, Bruce Banks, Frances Bottenberg, Terry Brumfield, Chris Cassidy, Sarah Cervenak, Lisa Henline, Amy Harris Houk, Sara MacSween, Lisa O'Connor, Sebastian Pauli, Jodi Pettazzoni, Dana Saunders, Carmen Sotomayor, Jennifer Stephens, David Wharton, Jennifer Wilson

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Approval of Minutes from November 13, 2020 Meeting

Motion to approve November 13, 2020 minutes (Sotomayor, Wharton). Minutes Approved.

II. New MAC Requests (New Course Proposals)

- BLS 222 Notes from Underground: Resistance and Everyday Culture – Competency: Global Engagement
- CCI 105 The Fantastic World of Classics and Fiction – Competency: Foundations
- CCI 117 The Spartans – Competency: Foundations
- CCI 215 The Archaeology of Pompeii: A City Frozen in Time – Competency: Written Communication
- ENG 240 Health and Wellness in Cultural Context – Competency: Health & Wellness
- GES 163 North Carolina Environments – Competency: Foundations
- IPS 201 BIPS Foundations – Competency: Foundations
- MAT 118 Algebra with Business Applications – Competency: Quantitative Reasoning
- MAT 183 Mathematics for Life Sciences - Competency: Quantitative Reasoning
- MAT 196 Calculus A - Competency: Quantitative Reasoning
- MUS 212 Topics in Hip Hop - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- PHI 131 Science, Technology, & Society - Competency: Foundations
- PHI 132 Free Will - Competency: Foundations
- PHI 133 Sex & Death - Competency: Foundations
- PHI 134 Sports & Philosophy - Competency: Foundations
- PHI 135 God - Competency: Foundations
- PHI 221 Philosophical Concepts in Everyday Contexts - Competency: Written Communication
- REL 100 Introduction to World Religions - Competency: Global Engagement

- REL 102 Faith, Culture, and Community in Greensboro - Competency: Foundations
- REL 103 Sex, Death, and Spirituality – CTI in the Humanities & Fine Arts
- REL 105 Islam and Popular Culture: Ms. Marvel, Movies, and Hip-Hop Hijabis - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 106 God Race and the Bible - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 108 Religion and Food - Competency: Health & Wellness
- REL 112 Spirituality, Health and Wellness - Competency: Health & Wellness
- REL 113 Supernatural Encounters - Competency: Foundations
- REL 114 Comparative Religion - Competency: Foundations
- REL 115 Religion and Science - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 132 Religious Diversity in America - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 206 Bible and Black Experience - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 224 Yoga: Theory and Practice - Competency: Health & Wellness
- REL 234 Religion and Race in the Americas - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 236 Politics and Religion - Competency: Foundations
- REL 241 Jewish Bioethics - Competency: Health & Wellness
- REL 242 Jews, Bodies, Race - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 245 Video Games and The Problem of Evil - CTI in the Humanities & Fine Arts
- WGS 280 Women’s Health and Bodies - Competency: Health & Wellness

III. MAC Requests (Expedited)

- ART 105 Foundations Seminar - Competency: Foundations
- ATY 113 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology – Competency: Global Engagement (Cross walked as ATY 213)
- ATY 153 Introduction to Biological Anthropology – Competency: CTI in the Natural Sciences (Cross walked as ATY 253)
- ATY 153L Introduction to Biological Anthropology Lab – Competency: CTI in the Natural Sciences
- ATY 158 Introduction to Archaeology – Competency: Global Engagement (cross walked as ATY 258)
- ATY 208 Lost Tribes and Sunken Lands – Competency: CTI in the Social & Behavioral Sciences – **Motion to Approve (Wharton, Cassidy). Approved**
- ATY 230 Cultures of Native North America – Competency: Global Engagement
- ATY 231 Race and Human Diversity – Competency: Diversity & Equity
- ATY 235 Cultures of Africa – Competency: Diversity & Equity
- CTR 102 Creating a Meaningful Life – Competency: Health & Wellness
Rollback, need to link assignments to MAC SLOs, explain amount of work to complete the MAC SLOs
- ENG 205 Sports & Literature – Competency: Health & Wellness
Rollback, connect/clarify SLOs 1 and 2 to a community aspect
- ENG 223 Advocacy Writing – Competency: Written Communication

- FYE 101 Succeed at the G: Topics – Competency: Foundations
- REL 207 Critical Thinking about Religion, Faith and Spirituality: Selected Topics - Competency: Diversity & Equity
- REL 220 East Asian Religions – Competency: Global Engagement
- REL 250 Religious Traditions and Care of the Earth – Competency: Foundations (Cross walked as Diversity & Equity)
- STH 200 Introduction to Sustainable Development – Competency: Global Engagement
- STH 251 Diversity and Equity in Hospitality and Tourism – Competency: Diversity & Equity

MAC Competency rubrics will be posted in Box. Chair will assign close readers for the remaining proposals.

IV. MAC Implementation

- MAC 300-level exemptions – finalize and approve language
After discussion, motion to approve 300-level Exemption language (see attachment) (Cassidy, Sotomayor); motion Approved, 1 opposed.
- MAC courses with prerequisites – finalize language
Chair advised there are courses with existing prerequisites which were approved via the MAC Express. After discussion, motion made to allow courses currently in MAC with prerequisites and notify departments with existing courses that they might have to provide a justification for prerequisites in the future (Wharton, Sotomayor); motion Approved.
- Review all formative paragraphs for MAC Competences to better inform our application process
- Enrollment cap on Written and Oral Communication courses
- MAC registration restrictions
Council discussed registration restrictions and Foundations courses. Motion to allow registration restrictions on Foundations courses (Pauli, Sotomayor). Motion withdrawn. Motion to table discussion until Council has a better understanding of the role Foundations courses (Harris Houk, Cassidy), motion approved.

Council discussed the implementation and rollout of the MAC program. Our next SACSCOC report is due in three years, we will have to have assessed this program by that point. It is important that the process remain faculty driven.

V. Additional Council meetings

The following meeting dates have been added to the Council calendar:

Friday, January 8, 2021 – 2:00

Friday, February 26, 2021 – 2:00

Friday, March 19, 2021 – 2:00

Council thanked Terry Brumfield for all of her dedication and work with the General Education Program.

MAC 300 Level Exemption Form

Preamble

Please read the following prior to completing this form:

UNCG's new general education curriculum, known as Minerva's Academic Curriculum (MAC), is a foundational¹ competency based program. First of all, MAC-certified courses introduce competencies at an introductory level, within the context of particular fields of study or disciplines. MAC-certified courses are primarily concerned with broadening general knowledge and promoting inquiry into an area of study, rather than delivering applied or professional training.

Given that 300 level courses imply delivery of content- or skill-related competence beyond the foundational and introductory levels, 100 and 200 level courses are most appropriate for inclusion in the program. The General Education Council (GEC) acknowledges that some departments or programs offer several levels and types of foundational or introductory courses, including some intended for majors and some for non-majors. That said, to approve a 300-level course into MAC would constitute an exception to the rule, given the pedagogical and programmatic spirit of MAC.

Programs or units that delivered 300- or 400-level courses through UNCG's former General Education Program (GEP) may adjust to MAC by submitting a course level change request to the General Education Council (GEC). If such courses are genuinely foundational in nature and appropriate to the spirit of MAC, they should be re-classified as 100 or 200 level for continued inclusion in the program. However, there might be some unusual cases where courses cannot be reclassified as 100 or 200 level courses. The General Education Council will consider only 300-level appeals. For a 300-level course to be considered for MAC, it must meet the criteria below and must make a compelling case explaining criteria #2, 3 and 4.

¹Foundation skills are the knowledge or skills that make other learning possible. Foundational courses in the MAC should provide the college level bases of learning upon which other learning in the student's UNCG career is built. They introduce college level skills and knowledge that are later developed in progressively more advanced courses.

Anyone requesting a 300 level MAC exemption must clearly answer and/or demonstrate the following criterion have been met. The GEC reserves the right to inquire and request more information as needed to properly review and assess the merits of the exemption. Please note that the following criterion should not be used as justification for the exemption:

- *The course was in the old General Education Program.*
- *A program needs the course to be in MAC. Programs should adjust to the MAC, not the other way around.*
- *This is how students achieve 36 hours at the 300+ level. It is not the function of MAC to satisfy such a requirement. At 34 credits, students have 86 credits to satisfy Program and University requirements. It is the responsibility of the Program to meet University requirements.*

1. Verify and confirm the main topic of the course is not taught at the 100 or 200 level at UNCG.

2. Explain how the course is foundational and serves to broaden general knowledge and to promote inquiry into the area of study. The course does not narrowly focus on skill, techniques, or procedures specific to an occupation or profession.

3. Explain why the course needs to remain at a junior level rigor and expectations at the 300 level, and how it offers a unique curricular opportunity on campus for students seeking to satisfy a particular MAC competency.

4. Explain why it would be a loss for MAC if this course were not included in MAC.