

UNC GREENSBORO
GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
Friday, October 20, 2023
1:30 - 3:00 PM • Faculty Center

Members Present: Jessica McCall, Hunter Bacot, Raina Barnett, Angela Bolte, Frances Bottenberg, Cindy Brooks Dollar, Sarah Cervenak, Jim Coleman, Andrew Hamilton, Izzet Lofca, Jessica Obermeyer, Jodi Pettazzoni, Gary Rosenkrantz, Jeff Sarbaum, Dana Saunders, Terry Wicks

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Approval of Minutes from September 22, 2023

Motion to approve September 22, 2023 meeting minutes (Sarbaum, Coleman); minutes approved.

II. Appeals

- 70376 – Request to allow ENG 101 to satisfy MAC Written Communication competency
Action: Motion to Reject (Cervenak, Wicks), motion approved. Course is 2 credits and cannot fulfill competency requirement.
- 70717 – Request to allow ANAT 206 to satisfy MAC Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Natural Sciences competency
Action: Motion to Reject (Coleman, Cervenak), motion approved. Course does not align with CTI NS learning outcomes.
- 70774 – Request to allow BIO 111 to satisfy MAC Data Analysis and Interpretation in the Natural Sciences competency
Action: Motion to Reject (Coleman, Lofca), motion approved. This course has a direct equivalent at UNCG which carries the MAC CTI NS competency. Course does not align with Data Analysis outcomes.
- 70989 – Request to allow GB 27A & GS 06A to satisfy MAC Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Humanities & Fine Arts competency
Action: Motion to Approve GS 06A (Rosenkrantz, Coleman), motion approved.

- 71073 – Request to allow THR 395 (UNCG course) to satisfy GEC Writing Intensive (WI) marker
Action: Motion to Approve (Coleman, Cervenak), motion approved based on student success rationale
- 71410 – Request to allow UCOL 1200 to satisfy MAC Foundations competency
Action: Motion to Reject (Rosenkrantz, Cervenak), motion approved with 1 abstention. Course does not align with Foundations Information Literacy outcomes. Student can resubmit with evidence of Information Literacy learning outcome.

III. **Moratorium**

Andrew Hamilton shared Gen Ed enrollment numbers and fill rates for the Fall 2019 and Fall 2023 semesters. Based on these numbers, additional sections are needed in the following competencies:

- Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Natural Sciences
- Data Analysis and Interpretation in the Natural Sciences
- Health & Wellness
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Oral Communication

There were 701 fewer MAC sections in Fall 2023 than GEC sections in Fall 2019. There were 2,425 fewer undergraduates in Fall 2023 than in Fall 2019, generating 57,000 fewer credit hours.

The primary cause of the lower seat count is the lack of demand caused by an overall enrollment drop. We saw a 40% drop in gen ed enrollments over five fall terms. Online fill rates are much higher in most of the general education categories than face to face fill rates. Though online sections are filling at a higher rate, we should add online sections with caution.

There is also a concern about student performance in MAC courses. DFW rates in MAC courses are too high compared to overall DFW rates.

Andrew will work with the University Registrar's Office to exercise schedule oversight to manage fill rates of MAC courses. Discussion followed. Departments are still trying out MAC classes, the number of course offerings will fluctuate. The schedule should provide a wide breadth and depth of course offerings.

Council discussed lifting the moratorium and 'mini-MACs'. Motion to lift the moratorium for new course proposals immediately (Coleman, Rosenkrantz), motion approved. The communication to departments should include a guidance document that includes enrollment data, section/seat needs and management of the scheduling process.

We have not finalized the process to change/remove course competencies. Suggestion to address competency changes with recertification.

IV. **IC Update – Jodi Pettazzoni**

Jodi shared that the IC has been discussing the recertification process. We have response rate of 50% for recertification of MAC courses. The deadline was September 29, a reminder has been sent to departments. We are missing many of the Data Analysis and Quantitative Reasoning responses. If departments decide to not recertify courses, this could be an

interesting component to seat availability. Suggestion to share reminder with UG program coordinators. Members are encouraged to share this with their departments.

V. Assessment Update – Frances Bottenberg

- 2022-2023 Student Learning Assessment Report, Minerva’s Academic Curriculum
Frances Bottenberg provided an overview of the 2022-2023 Assessment Report which focused on seven of the eleven competencies.

This is an annual process, ongoing since 2011. This is one of the main ways of knowing how students are performing in MAC courses. This course-embedded process depends on instructors themselves looking at what they are doing in their courses in terms of assignments that are directly related to MAC SLOs. Instructors are given autonomy and control over choosing which assignments make the most sense to score for student MAC learning outcomes. Rubrics are supplied to instructors who will use them to score the assignments they have chosen for that class.

Frances noted that there is a discrepancy between course instructor scores of student work and peer-reviewer scores. There were also cases where peer reviewers were unable to score student work because the assignment prompts were not relevant to the MAC competency SLO. Council members are asked to review the report and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.