

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday April 7, 2022

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: Pioneer Room, and
<https://fhsu.zoom.us/j/94468542828>

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Christina Glenn (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman Miller (Ed)

Phillip Olt (Ed)

Denise Orth (HBS)

Tanya Smith (HBS)

C.D. Clark (STM)

Lanee Young (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Rob Byer (Senate)

Mark Faber (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

3:30 All members were present with the exception of Faber, Hartman, and Miller. Marez served as proxy for Hartman, and Schmidt served as proxy for Miller. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:30 (1 minutes) The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

3:31 (14 minutes) The committee considered a revision of the proposal for **CHEM 100: The Chemist's View of the World** to satisfy **outcomes 2.1D.1-2 (natural scientific mode of inquiry, first two outcomes)**. This one seemed nearly ready to approve. The only remaining sticking point was that the assessment proposed for 2.1D.1 involved combining the student's work on the "practice synopsis" with their work on the "final synopsis." It seemed to us that, if the point of the practice paper is to prepare for the final paper, then it's the final paper that should serve as the measure. The proposal was **tabled**. Clark will speak with the department about our concern.

3:45 (23 minutes) The committee considered a revision of the proposal for **CHEM 105: Introduction to Chemistry Lab** to satisfy **outcome 2.1D.3 (natural scientific mode of inquiry, third outcome)**. The proposal was **approved**. Our rationale can be summarized as follows:

The committee is confident that the course is appropriate for the outcome. The committee is confident that the sample assignment (synthesis of aspirin) and the accompanying student-facing rubric will measure the outcome. This particular assignment provides the student the opportunity to answer

outcome-appropriate questions (e.g., Which reagent limits the reaction when producing aspirin? How much aspirin can be produced with this method? How efficient is this method for producing aspirin?). Regarding the CORE rubric, given that the assignment-series (the labs) is wholly dedicated to the outcome, the measurement of proficiency in terms of percentages seems adequate.

4:08 (39 minutes) Next was **TEEL 431: Educational Psychology** which is being proposed to satisfy two outcome sets: the **social scientific mode of inquiry (2.1F)** and **upper-division writing and critical thinking (1.1A and 1.5.3)**. The committee had serious doubts that the proposed writing assignment is capable of assessing all six outcomes (persuasive essay; discipline-specific document; subjecting the student's reasoning to sustained, intelligent criticism; identification of applicable frameworks for explaining social phenomena; evaluation of the merits of social science research; and cross-cultural comparison of human behavior), and some members of the committee had doubts about whether the course itself is up to the task of both introducing the social scientific mode of inquiry while focusing on senior-level writing and reasoning. We decided to **table** the proposal and invite the department of Teacher Education to send someone to help us understand what they're thinking.

4:47 (5 minutes) The committee considered a proposal for **COMM 345: Visual and Creative Design** to satisfy the **2.1A outcomes (aesthetic mode of inquiry)**. Although we still haven't heard back from the faculty advisory panel on this one, in this case we felt we could move forward without their assistance. The proposal was **approved**. Our rationale can be summarized as follows:

The committee is confident that the course is appropriate for the outcome. The three assignments are well-designed, well-aligned with the outcomes, and well-suited to generate appropriate assessment data. And the CORE rubric seems to be a straightforward, appropriately-focused assessment tool.

4:52 The meeting ended.

Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary

