

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday February 25, 2021

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: <https://fhsu.zoom.us/j/93003453531>

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Christina Glenn (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman Miller (Ed)

Phillip Olt (Ed)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Denise Orth (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Lanee Young (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Isaiah Schindler (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

3:31 (1 minute) All members were present. Kevin Splichal, President of Faculty Senate, was also in attendance. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:32 (2 minutes) The minutes from February 18 were approved.

3:34 (12 minutes) The committee considered amendments to the proposal for IDS 407: Global Challenges to satisfy the outcomes for objective 3.3 (engaged global citizens). It was noted that, while outcomes 3.3.1 ("describe complex, boundary-spanning issues that involve diverse interests") and 3.3.2 ("analyze a complex, boundary-spanning issue, taking into account the various perspectives of those involved") are different outcomes, the proficiency descriptions on the proposed CORE rubric are the same. In other words, they are being treated as if they were the same outcome. It was also noted that, for outcome 3.3.3 ("design a project in cooperation with others that addresses a complex, boundary-spanning issue"), the description of proficiency requires referring back to another rubric, and the description there appears to be inadequate (the student ". . . briefly identifies a personal plan of action to enact change for 1 issue/trend/problem"). The committee decided to **table** the proposal and invite members of the Department of Leadership Studies to join us at one of our future meetings.

3:36 (9 minutes) The committee considered an amended proposal for ENG 327: Literature Matters to satisfy the outcomes for objective 2.1A (aesthetic mode of inquiry). The committee decided to **approve** this proposal.

3:55 (31 minutes) The committee considered a draft document, put together by Duffy, McNeil, Hartman, and Drabkin, titled "Advice for Preparing Syllabi and Rubrics for the GenEd Core." Chair expressed frustration that the subcommittee exceeded its charge. The sub-committee members were willing to defend their recommendations, but serious discussion of the document didn't seem a good use of time, as too few of the rest of the committee appeared to have studied it. Chair recommended that we study it and offer comments through TEAMS. It can be found under "Files" as a folderless *Word* file with the title "CORE Proposal Advice."

4:26 (19 minutes) Glenn asked for help interpreting outcome 2.1B.1 ("identify the distinguishing characteristics of historical questions") so that she could better advise a colleague in her department whether Principles of Macroeconomics would be suitable for offering as an historical mode of inquiry course. Drabkin suggested that the historical mode, like the natural scientific and social scientific, is an empirical way of thinking, but one concerned above all with establishing truths about the human past on the basis of documents. Chair suggested that it involves working from primary sources, with the help of secondary sources, both of which need to be interpreted and evaluated. Olt noted that outcome 2.1B.1 requires *identifying* these characteristics -- picking them out from a list, or saying what they are. This could be done by multiple choice, or multiple choice in combination with explanatory short answers.

4:45 Meeting ended. Our next meeting is scheduled for next Thursday, March 4.

Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary

