

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday March 28, 2019

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: Smoky Hill Room, Union

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Jessica Heronemus (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman (Ed)

Kevin Splichal (Ed)

Trey Hill (HBS)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Tom Schafer (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Adam Schibi (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

3:37 (1 minute) All members were present with the exception of Broman, Chretien, Miles, Schmidt, Smith, and Splichal. Duffy served as proxy for Broman. Marez served as proxy for Smith. McNeil served as proxy for Miles and Smith. Schafer served as proxy for Splichal. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:38 (1 minute) Chair informed the committee that Tiger Central is still slated to be handling all the data for CORE assessment.

3:39 (68 minutes) The task of the week was to complete the document "Course Approval Policies and Procedures for the FHSU CORE Program," which is to say, to get it into a form suitable for submission to and approval by faculty senate. Everything concerned details: moving a block of text from "procedures" to "policies"; expanding faculty review panel oversight to include 1.1A, 1.4, and 1.5.3; striking an unnecessary definition; changing "should" to "will"; expanding the list of courses to satisfy the two overlapping math outcome sets. There were a few abstentions here and there, but nobody voted against anything, and we ended up with the document below. (See *Appendix*.)

4:47 Meeting ended. The committee will next meet on Thursday April 4 in the Smoky Hill Room of Memorial Union.



Appendix:

**Course Proposal Policies and Procedures
for the FHSU CORE Program**

Approved by General Education Committee 3/28/19

DEFINITIONS:

- COMMON LEARNING OUTCOMES: a term used by the Higher Learning Commission, FHSU's accrediting body, to identify the measurable general-education achievements attained by graduates of an institution
- GOAL: an achievement attained by meeting objectives
- OBJECTIVE: a benchmark all students are expected to achieve
- OUTCOME SET: a group of common learning outcomes organized under an objective, typically fulfilled by a specific course.
- RUBRIC: a document identifying the standards for proficiency used in assessing the level of student achievement of particular outcomes
- MODE OF INQUIRY COURSE: an FHSU CORE course that fulfills the outcome-set for one of the six Modes of Inquiry identified under objective 2.1
- GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE: the Provost's committee that oversees FHSU general-education programs and makes recommendations to the Academic Affairs Committee

GENERAL POLICIES:

- Candidates for bachelor's degrees are required to fulfill all FHSU CORE common learning outcomes, unless they qualify for the Transfer and Articulation General Education Program, the Bachelor of General Studies General Education Program, or the International Partnerships General Education Program.
- FHSU CORE common learning outcomes are fulfilled by successful completion of approved courses.
- At this time, the following outcome sets are satisfied by these courses, pending review:

Outcomes 1.1-B:

COMM 100 Fundamentals of Oral Communication

Outcomes 1.2, and 2.1-C:

Any one of the following, MATH 101 Liberal Arts Mathematics, or MATH 110 College Algebra, or MATH 130 Pre-Calculus Mathematics, or MATH 234 Analytic Geometry and Calculus I, or MATH 331 Calculus Methods

Outcomes 1.3:

INF 101 Introduction to Computer Information Systems

Outcomes 1.5 1–2:

PHIL 100 Critical Thinking

Outcomes 3.1-A:

HHP 200 Personal Wellness

Outcomes 3.1-B:

FIN 205 Theory and Practice of Personal Finance

- Outcome 2.1-D.3 (Natural Scientific Mode of Inquiry) must be satisfied by a lab or field course of at least 1 credit hour in addition to and separate from the course that satisfies outcomes 1 and 2 of Objective 2.1-D.
- Outcomes for Objective 1.4, Information Literacy, are to be fulfilled by a sophomore or junior level course—ideally, but not necessarily, from the student’s major program of study.
- Outcomes for Objective 1.1-A and outcome 3 for Objective 1.5 (discipline-specific criticism of the student’s own reasoning) are to be fulfilled by an upper-division course—ideally, but not necessarily, at the senior level from the student’s major program of study.
- ENG 101 English Composition I and ENG 102 English Composition II are required prerequisites for all courses fulfilling outcomes for Objective 1.1-A. Therefore, ENG 101 English Composition I and ENG 102 English Composition II are included among the courses necessary for fulfilling the FHSU CORE requirements.

POLICIES FOR COURSE APPROVAL:

- FHSU CORE course proposals must include the specific assignment used to measure student achievement of each learning outcome within the FHSU CORE outcome set. Proposals must also include the rubric used to assess student achievement on the applicable CORE outcomes.
- Some FHSU CORE outcome sets are articulated such that they can be attained through a number of different courses with significantly different content and subject matter. FHSU will offer multiple different opportunities whereby students can fulfill these outcomes and meet the associated FHSU CORE requirements.

Departments are encouraged to submit proposals for courses to fulfill outcome sets for the following objectives:

Objective 1.1-A: Written Communication AND

Objective 1.5, Outcome 3: Critical Thinking (see General Policies above)

Objective 1.4: Information Literacy (see General Policies above)

Objective 2.1-A: Aesthetic Mode of Inquiry

Objective 2.1-B: Historical Mode of Inquiry

Objective 2.1-D: Natural Scientific Mode of Inquiry

Objective 2.1-E: Philosophical Mode of Inquiry

Objective 2.1-F: Social Scientific Mode of Inquiry

Objective 3.2: Intercultural Competence

Objective 3.3: Engaged Global Citizens

- A department is limited to offering courses that satisfy outcomes sets from no more than 2 Modes of Inquiry.
- A course can fulfill more than one outcome set. However, no course will be certified to fulfill the outcome sets for more than one Mode of Inquiry.
- Courses that satisfy requirements for the FHSU CORE can also satisfy degree-program requirements.
- Proposals for courses fulfilling outcome sets under Objective 1.1-A Written Communication, Objective 1.4 Information Literacy, Objective 1.5 Critical Thinking (outcome 3), Objective 2.1 Knowledge of the Liberal Arts, Objective 3.2 Intercultural Competence, and Objective 3.3 Engaged Global Citizens will be reviewed by Faculty Review Panels made up of no fewer than three faculty members appointed by and reporting to the General Education Committee. Panels will judge whether proposed assignments demonstrate students' fulfillment of outcomes, and make recommendations to the General Education Committee regarding FHSU CORE course proposals
- Faculty Review Panels will be available to work with faculty and departments on the development of assignments and rubrics, and to give clarification and guidance for revision and development of FHSU CORE course proposals.

PROCEDURE FOR COURSE APPROVAL:

- When a department seeks approval for a course to fulfill a CORE outcome set, the department initiates the course proposal, either as a Significant Course Change or as a New Course. The proposal must include the assignments and rubric described in the Policies for Course Approval.
- The Director of General Education will direct the proposal to the appropriate Faculty Review Panel.
- The Faculty Review Panel can advise the department on revisions or improvements and will generate a review letter to be submitted to the General Education Committee.
- The General Education Committee will review the proposal and generate a review letter for the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee.
- A department can revise its proposal for reconsideration by the General Education Committee.