Minutes

University of Central Arkansas UCA Core Council

Tuesday, November 7th, 2017

1:40 p.m. – Library Conference Room, LIB 206

1. Call to Order
   1. Dr. Held calls the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m
2. Consideration of Minutes for October 03rd, 2017
   1. John Gale makes the motion, Stephanie Watson seconds
   2. No discussion. Minutes are approved unanimously.
3. Assessment Sub-Committee
   1. Report from Chair (Attachment A)
      * 1. Dr. Held discusses the minutes/notes from the sub-committee.
4. Curriculum Committee
   1. Report from Chair (Carey Clark as acting chair in Wendy Lucas’s absence)
      * 1. Action Items:
           1. WLAN 2350 to LING 2350 prefix change. Carey Clark makes the motion, Sophie Barnes seconds. No Discussion. Passed unanimously
           2. FILM 2300 proposed move from Fine Arts/Humanities to Diversity in Creative Works. Carey Clark makes the motion, Laura Bowles seconds. Received clarification about how the course will address the 50% requirement of LD Core courses addressing relevant Core Rubric outcomes. Passed unanimously.
           3. PSCI 3382 to add UD Core C and D designations. Carey Clark makes the motion, Matthew Connolly seconds. Received clarification from department. Passes unanimously.
           4. ENGL packet, to create ENGL 1360 and place in Fine Arts and Humanities, to remove 1350, 2370, 2380, 2390 from the Core. Carey Clark makes the motion, Laura Bowles seconds. Discussion:

Point 1: Student Choice – by removing 2370, 80, 90 from the catalogue students will no longer be able to take multiple, intro level courses in English covering diverse topics, such as poetry, drama, or fiction. Sonya Fritz from English notes that students wouldn’t do this anyways, indicating that those interested in English wouldn’t take multiple intro courses but would take the usual English sequence. In addition, this move allows faculty to offer courses tailored to their interests without having to list four separate courses. (Why offer so many kinds of peanut butter when one will do. Her example!) This practice also reflects what other departments already do in intro courses, namely, offer faculty significant flexibility in what they teach.

Point 2: Student Awareness – The concern that students may not know what they are signing up for since the faculty and special topic aren’t visible in Banner until one is “four clicks in” even if the course descriptions are clear. However, students who are interested in knowing what they are signing up for will be able to locate this information. Regardless, this may be a Banner accessibility issue, not a curricular concern of the Core Council.

Dr. Held notes this as part of a larger process. Art and Thea will be contemplating similar moves to Film as noted in b above.

Proposal is passed unanimously.

* 1. Proposals distributed

Action Items

* + 1. Office of the Provost (Exception)
    2. BIOL 4413
    3. CSEC 4490

VI. Questions and Concerns

1. Adjournment: Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 5th, 2017