

General Education Committee Minutes: 10/9/2018

Present: Victor Piercey (Director), Clifton Franklund (Assessment Coordinator), Emmanuel Jahev (COHP), Jimmie Johnson (COB), Dawn Schavey (EIO), Kristy Motz (FLITE), Paul Zube (FNTFO), Kathryn Wolf (Senate Liaison), and Leonard Johnson (Academic Affairs, present for second-half of meeting).

Absent: Jacob Pollock (COEHS), Angie Mishler (Academic Counselors and Student Affairs), John Scott Gray (CAS), and Debbie Dawson-Gunther (CET).

Proposals

None

Policies

None

Running Annual Agenda (See <http://bit.ly/FerrisGenEdAgenda1819> for details)

1. What is Self and Society?

Decision by Consensus: The emphasis on social science theories, methods, and applications belongs in the FLOs for Self and Society. However, the "80%" figure in the operational definition should be changed to language such as "the vast majority" or "the primary purpose."

Justification: It is important for our graduates to have a grounding in social science theories, methods, and applications in order to have a comprehensive social lens with which to view the world, and the lenses provided by the competencies should bring a students' world-view into sharper focus. In addition, social science theories are important to form a foundation that may be built in on later courses across the various FSU programs.

The "80%" criterion in the operational definition is less precise than the suggested language, as it isn't clear what units we are using to measure the content.

2. "Diversity: US" Name Change to "Diversity: Understanding Race, Ethnicity, and Gender"

Decision by Consensus: This name change needs to move to the Senate for approval, and this needs to happen in the November Senate meeting in order to allow time for all of documents and resources to be updated.

Justification: This was approved by a prior gen ed committee and needs to move forward. The decision was made as the name "Diversity: US" was actually an error.

Outstanding Issues: We need to list all of the resources and documents that include the name of the general education competencies. This will allow us to implement the name change to be effective in the Fall 2019 Semester. In addition, we will need to explain the change to advisors and to our external stakeholders.

Other Issues Arising in Discussion: There are still some implementation problems regarding the diversity competency. Advisors and students don't always understand that the requirements are typically met through courses that count for another general education competency (often culture and self and society). The split between the two different versions of the competency is also confusing. In addition, this requirement creates problems for transfer, as students who complete their culture and self and society requirements elsewhere are not aware of the diversity requirement until they transfer to Ferris.