

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2, 2022

VIA ZOOM, 2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Present: Angela Anderson, Aaron Ansell, Sara Arena, Stephen Biscotte, Molly Hall, Earl Kline, Victoria Lael, Greg Novack, Nicole Pitterson, Annie Ronan, Hannah Shinault, Alireza Shojaei, Zack Underwood, Sparkle Williams

Absent: Brian Collins, Janet Hilder, Anita Walz

Guests: Jenni Gallagher

Call to order by Hannah Shinault at 2:31 pm

Announcements

- The quant/comp resolution to modify the requirements so that it may be met by 6 foundational credits and 3 advanced/applied credits OR 3 foundational and 6 advanced/applied has had its first reading at CUSP.

1. Pathways Credit for UCGS/Passport

Approval of Pathways concept alignment for Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and Richard Bland College courses that will be included in the VCCS UCGS/Passport programs. Approved concepts can be found on pages 4-5.

2. Streamlining SLOs for assessment

Molly Hall led a discussion to determine if there is interest in reducing the number of student learning outcomes (SLOs) associated with each Pathways concept, thus reducing the number of outcomes that faculty need to assess. She noted that with 39 SLOs currently, Virginia Tech has more than most other universities. The issue was discussed in the Assessment subcommittee, and they elected to bring the discussion before the full committee.

She related that Institutional Effectiveness has determined that this could be accomplished without requiring almost any courses (only 8 out of 500+) to go back through governance.

Questions raised for consideration:

- Does the committee have an interest in pursuing this change?
- If yes, how should the outcomes be streamlined? Which ones should be eliminated?
- Could there be a mechanism for proposers to change their selected SLOs without having to go back through the full governance process?
- Could outcomes be combined, instead of removed?

There was general agreement that the possibility should be discussed further by the committee. It was further noted that if any such change were to be made, now would be a natural time to do it since the first cohort of Pathways students will graduate this spring.

3. Alternative Pathway Option

Hannah introduced the possibility of removing the alternative pathway as an option for fulfilling Pathways credits, since no student has ever completed or applied for an alternative pathway to date. Due to time, the committee will discuss whether they would like to pursue this issue further at a future meeting.

4. Credit Hour Requirement for Pathways Minors

Hannah introduced the possibility of establishing a maximum credit hour requirement for Pathways minors. She related that PGECCRC reviewed a minor proposal with 26 credit hours at their last meeting (the proposal passed with a modification to 24 hours), which raised the issue. Due to time, the committee will discuss whether they would like to pursue this issue further at a future meeting.

5. Subcommittee Reports

- Advising
 - The subcommittee is planning put together a one-page flier for advisors as a quick reference sheet of Pathways classes that they could steer students toward, perhaps emphasizing lesser-known or new courses. They will create the content and the Office of Gen Ed will handle the graphic design. The subcommittee recognizes the need to be mindful of which courses are included so as not to make instructors/departments feel excluded.
 - They are meeting later this month to continue their discussion of batch registration.
- Assessment
 - Molly requested feedback on a new resource, Department Assessment Guides, that Institutional Effectiveness and the Office of Gen Ed have developed for Pathways instructors. They plan to email the guides to department heads, in the hopes that they will share it with their faculty. An example is linked [here](#) and committee members are encouraged to review it and post comments, questions, and/or suggestions in the Google doc.
 - In another effort to increase engagement with assessment, Institutional Effectiveness is pursuing adding assessment-type activities to P & T dossiers and EFARS.
- Collaboratory
 - Anita provided an update by email, as she was unable to attend the meeting: Thank you for your feedback on the preliminary video and your preferences regarding sharing discussed during December's UCCGE meeting. While the Collaboratory subcommittee did not meet in January we have plans for this semester. In collaboration with Jenni Gallagher, we plan to finalize the repository introductory video, resolve some information-retrieval questions (implement some standard naming), propose and finalize language for Pathways grantees regarding potential sharing beyond campus, and get ready to launch the Collaboratory more broadly to campus in Fall 2022. For those of you who

volunteered a cameo photo of you teaching in the classroom - we have delayed scheduling of classroom teaching photos because of Omicron, but we will be in touch.

Meeting adjourned by Hannah Shinault at 2:45 pm.

Minutes compiled by Jenni Gallagher

UCCGE Approvals for UCGS/Passport

Virginia Community College System		Richard Bland College	
Course	UCCGE recommendation	Course	UCCGE recommendation
ENGL 113	1a (Advanced Discourse)	ART 201	ART 2385 already approved for 2, 6a
ART 100	6a (Arts)	ART 202	ART 2386 already approved for 2, 6a
HUM 210	2 (Humanities)	ART 231	6a (Arts)
HUM 216	2 (Humanities)	PHIL 101	2 (Humanities)
PHI 111	3 (Social Science)	PHIL 121	5f (Foundational Quant/Comp)
REL 100	2 (Humanities)	PHIL 203	2 (Humanities)
REL 230	2 (Humanities)	REL 201	2 (Humanities)
REL 237	2 (Humanities)	REL 209	2 (Humanities)
ENG 225	2 (Humanities)	ENGL 203	2 (Humanities)
ENG 245	2 (Humanities)	ENGL 204	2 (Humanities)
ENG 246	2 (Humanities)	ENGL 205	2 (Humanities)
ENG 250	2 (Humanities)	ENGL 206	2 (Humanities)
ENG 258	2 (Humanities)	ANTH 103	3 (Social Sciences)
ENG 275	2 (Humanities)	GOVT 202	3 (Social Sciences)
ECO 150	3 (Social Sciences)	PSY 201	PSYC 1004 already approved for 3
PLS 140	3 (Social Sciences)	PSY 202	PSYC 1004 already approved for 3
PHY 241	4 (Natural Sciences)	PSY 210	3 (Social Sciences)

PHY 242	4 (Natural Sciences)	BIO 104 + BIO 104L	4 (Natural Sciences)
ASL 101	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)	PHYS 201	PHYS 2305/2306 already approved for 4
ASL 102	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)	PHYS 202	PHYS 2305/2306 already approved for 4
ASL 201	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)	MATH 110	5f (Foundational Quant/Comp)
ASL 202	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)	HIST 192	2 (Humanities)
ART 132	6ad (Design/Arts)	ART 101	6ad (Design/Arts)
ART 223	6ad (Design/Arts)	COMM 102	1f (Foundational Discourse)
CSC 110	5f (Foundational Quant/Comp)	SPAN 101	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)
CST 110	1f (Foundational Discourse)	SPAN 102	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)
FL 101	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)	SPAN 201	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)
FL 102	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)	SPAN 202	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)
FL 201	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)		
FL 202	2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities)		
ITE 152	5f (Foundational Quant/Comp)		
MUS 101	6a (Arts)		