

**College of Liberal Arts & Sciences**  
**Committee on Curricula & Courses**  
**Minutes for the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 (APPROVED October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011)**  
3:30 pm in Room 162, Dodd Research Center

**Chair** Robert Michel (CHEM). **Members Present:** Eldridge Adams (EEB), Jim O'Donnell (MARN), Frank Musiek (COM), Andrew Haas (MATH), Lanbo Liu (GSCI), Merrill Singer (ANTH), Bob Gallo (PNB), Bob Wyss (JOUR), Evelyn Simien (visitor-AFAM), Shannon Weaver (HDFS), Dick Langlois (ECON), Robert Henning (Psychology), Matthew Singer (POLS), Andrea Calabrese (Linguistics), Jeffrey Ogbar (visitor-CLAS), Micki McElya (History), Margaret Breen (English, WS), Richard Rockwell (SOCL), Davita Silfen Glasberg (CLAS), Roger Travis (LCL), Rick Vitale (STAT)

**I. Preliminaries:**

Chair Bob Michel called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM

**Appointment of a secretary for this meeting.**

Roger Travis appointed *pro tem*.

**Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011 meeting.**

Approved unanimously.

**II. Departmental Course Proposals:**

**Proposals reconsidered**

**2011-59 Change the HDFS Major** (Add 9 existing courses to “12 cr” requirement) approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the Major description:

This major must include all of the following required courses: HDFS 2001, 2004W, 2100, 2200, 2300 and one of the following 4007W, 4087W or 4181W.

This major must include the completion of one of the following courses: HDFS 3520, 3530, 3540, 3550

This major also must include at least 12 credits from the following courses.

HDFS **3042**, 3083, 3087, 3092, **3095**, 3098, 3101, 3102, 3103, **3110**, 3120, 3122, 3123, 3125, 3126, 3130, 3240, 3249, **3250**, 3252, 3261, 3268, 3277, 3310, 3311, 3319, 3340, **3341**, 3342, **3343**, 3420, 3421, 3423, 3430, 3431, 3432, **3433**, 3442, 3510, 3520, 3530, 3540, 3550, 4004, 4087W, 4097, **4133**, **4255**. These 12 credits may include elections from among the four courses listed above (HDFS 3520, 3530, 3540, 3550), if not applied to satisfaction of the foregoing requirement.

**2011-60 Change AASI Minor** (Add 3 existing courses to “group C” requirements) approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the Minor description:

Asian American Studies is an interdepartmental, interdisciplinary program devoted to the study of the Asian American experience within the larger context of an increasingly diverse American society. Although the primary focus of the minor is upon Asian Americans, attention is also given to the study of the global context, especially Asia, since this larger context informs the Asian American experience.

Completion of the minor requires students to complete fifteen credits at the 2000-level and above by completion of Groups A, B, and C, below; but with consent of the minor advisor, one course from Group D may be substituted for a course in Group C. No other substitutions are permitted. Students must earn a grade of C or better in each of the courses applied to the minor. A maximum of 3 credits towards the minor may be transfer credits of courses equivalent to University of Connecticut courses.

**Group A**, three credits: AASI 3201. **Group B**, six credits chosen from: AASI 3220/ARTH 3020; AASI/ENGL 3212; AASI/HIST 3531, AASI 3578/HIST 3530; AASI 3221/HRTS 3571/SOCI 3221; AASI 3295\*, AASI 4999\* Variable Topics, AASI 3998. **Group C**, six credits chosen from: AASI/ART/IND 3375, AASI 3222/HRTS 3573/SOCI 3222, AASI/HIST 3808, 3809, 3812; HIST 3822; POLS 3472; AASI 3295\*, AASI 4999\* Variable Topics, AASI 3998\*, HIST 3832, HIST 3863. **Group D**: AFAM/ENGL 3214W; AFAM/HIST/HRTS 3563; ANTH 3041/PRLS 3241; AFAM/HRTS/SOCI 3505, 3825; COMM/PRLS 4320; AFAM/DRAM 3131; AFAM/HIST 3564; HIST/WS 3562; PRLS 3298. \* Must be approved by the Asian American Studies Minor Advisor

**2011-62 New Course ECON 5312, Econometrics II.** Approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the course description:

### **ECON 5312. Econometrics II**

3 Credits. Lecture. Prerequisite: ECON 5311.

Model estimation and hypothesis testing when standard assumptions of the classical regression model are violated. Pooled cross section and time series data; simultaneous equations; univariate and multivariate time series models; qualitative choice models.

## **New Proposals considered**

**2011-64 Change AFAM Major:** Add required course to Major, approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the Major description:

The African American Studies major is an interdisciplinary study of African people on the continent and Diaspora through the humanities, social sciences and the arts, with particular emphasis on African Americans. Its broad educational objectives are to engender among all students an intellectual appreciation of black life, to encourage students to develop critical and analytical skills, as well as to appreciate ideals of equality, democracy and humane values. The Institute for African American Studies strives to provide the student body, in general, with substantive knowledge of the varied experiences of black people in the United States and abroad and to facilitate understanding and diversity. The Institute, thereby, extends the mission of the University of Connecticut and strategic plan to provide the people of the state and elsewhere with a high standard of education that is relevant to a diverse and dynamic world.

To satisfy the African American Studies major, the student must complete twenty- seven credits in AFAM courses, with at least one three-credit course in each of groups A, B, and C. Students must also complete 12 credits of related courses from Group D.

All majors must take AFAM 3211, **and in their Senior Year AFAM 4994W.**

**Group A - History:** AFAM/HIST 3564, 3568, 3620, 3752, 3753; AFAM 3224; AFAM/HIST/HRTS 3563

**Group B - Social and Political Inquiry:** AFAM/ANTH 3025, 3152; AFAM/ HRTS/SOCI 3505, 3825; AFAM/POLS 3252, 3642, 3647; AFAM/POLS/WS 3652; AFAM/PSYC 3106; AFAM/SOCI 3501, 3703

**Group C - Literature and the Arts:** AFAM/DRAM 3131/W; AFAM/ENGL 3214W, 3216W; MUSI 3611

**Group D - Related Courses History:** HIST 3510, 3554; HIST/HRTS 3201, 3202; HIST 3575/HRTS 3221/PRLS 3221; HIST 3674/PRLS 3220; HIST/URBN 3541; HIST/WS 3561, 3562

**Literature and the Arts:** ANTH 3450; ARTH 3645, AASI/ENGL 3212; COMM 4422; COMM/PRLS 4320;

ECON 2444; ENGL 3210, 3218/W, 3609, 4203W; FREN 3218; MUSI 3421W

**Social and Political Inquiry:** AASI 3221/HRTS 3571/SOCI 3221; AASI 3222/ HRTS 3573/SOCI 3222; COMM 3321/PRLS 3264/WS 3260; ECON 2444; HDFL 2001; HRTS/POLS 3807; HRTS/SOCI 3421, 3429; INTD 3584; POLS 2998, 3406, 3255; POLS 3662/PRLS 3270; POLS/URBN 3632W; POLS/WS 3216; SOCI 2827, 3503, 3701, 3905; WS 3266, 3267

**AFAM 4994W satisfies the Information Literacy Competency and Writing in the Major Requirements.**

A minor in African American Studies is described in the "Minors" section.

**2011-65 New course LCL, GERM 2XXX.** The Environment in German Culture. Approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the course description:

**GERM 2xxx. The Environment in German Culture**

Either semester. Three credits. Open to sophomores. Weidauer

Ecological thinking in German culture from the Greeks (Plato) to the Greens (Amery). The second half of the semester consists of student projects on current environmental policies in the European Union.

**2011-66 Change course ENGL 3625.** Change wording of title/course description. Approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the course description:

**3625. Literary Theory**

(266) Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 3800; open to juniors or higher.

History of and recent developments in literary theory.

**2011-67 Change BIOL Major.** Restrict independent study and transfer credits allowable. Approved unanimously. Approved catalog copy for the Major description:

The requirements for the major in Biological Sciences are designed to ensure a sound and broad background in biology, with opportunities to explore related fields. Biological Sciences majors must take [BIOL 1107](#) and [1108](#), but majors interested primarily in botany may wish to take [BIOL 1110](#) in addition or may substitute [BIOL 1110](#) for [BIOL 1108](#). Students wishing to complete this major must take at least 24 credits of 2000's-level courses from [EEB](#), [MCB](#), and [PNB](#). It is strongly recommended that at least four courses include laboratory or field work. In addition to laboratory work associated directly with courses, an Independent Study course in any of the three biology departments will provide majors with a means of gaining specific research experience. **A maximum of 3 independent study credits from among EEB 3899, MCB 3899, MCB 3989, MCB 4989, and PNB 3299 may count toward the 24-credit requirement.**

Courses chosen for the major must include at least one course or course sequence from each of the following three groups:

A. [MCB 2000](#), [2210](#), [2410](#), [2413](#), [2610](#) or [3010](#)

B. [EEB 2244/W](#) or [EEB 2245/W](#)

C. [PNB 2250](#) or [2274-2275](#) (Note: PNB 2274-2275 must be taken in sequence to be counted towards the Biology major).

To satisfy the writing in the major and information literacy competency requirements, all students must pass at least one of the following courses: [EEB 2244W](#), [2245W](#), [3209W](#), [3220W](#), [4230W](#), [4251W](#), [4253W](#), [4276W](#), [4896W](#), 5335W; [MCB 3640W](#), [3841W](#), [4026W](#), [4997W](#); [PNB 3263WQ](#), [4296W](#); or any W course approved for this major.

**A maximum of eight 2000-level or above transfer credits in EEB, MCB, or PNB may count toward the major with approval of the respective department.**

A minor in Biological Sciences is described in the [Minors](#) section.

Majors are also offered in [Ecology and Evolutionary Biology](#), [Molecular and Cell Biology](#), [Physiology and Neurobiology](#), and [Structural Biology and Biophysics](#). These majors are described in separate sections in the *Catalog*.

**2011-68 Ratify ENGL information literacy plan.** Approved unanimously. No change in catalog required. Approved plan:

### **GEOC Program Plan for Information Literacy (for review by CC&C)**

**Information Literacy:** *the ability to know when there is a need for information, to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively use that information for the issue or problem at hand.* (<http://www.infolit.org/>)

For English majors, Information Literacy will be the special focus of a range of the following upper-division courses, each of which emphasizes the collective nature of creating knowledge and the technological means of its transmission.

- **Engl 3265W. Seminar in American Studies:** An in-depth study of an event, historical period, or cultural production from an interdisciplinary perspective.
- **Engl 4600W. Seminars in Literature:** Intensive study of various limited topics, such as a particular literary theme, form, or movement, to be announced from semester to semester.
- **Engl 4405W. Advanced Study: Drama:** Intensive study of particular topics in dramatic literature.
- **Engl 4401W. Advanced Study: Poetry:** Intensive study of particular topics in poetry.
- **Engl 4407W. Advanced Study: Prose:** Intensive study of particular topics in literary prose.
- **Engl 4601W. Advanced Study: Literary Criticism and Theory:** Intensive study of particular topics in literary criticism and theory.
- **Engl 4101W. Advanced Study: British Literature:** Intensive study of particular topics in the literature of the British Isles.
- **Engl 4201W. Advanced Study: American Literature:** Intensive study of particular topics in the literature of the United States.
- **Engl 4203W. Advanced Study: Ethnic Literature:** Intensive study of particular topics in British or American literature written by ethnic writers.
- **Engl 4301W. Advanced Study: Anglophone Literature:** Intensive study of particular topics in the English literature of one or more regions, such as South Asia, Africa, or the Caribbean.
- **Engl 4613W. Advanced Study: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Literature:** Intensive study of particular topics in the literary expression of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered identity.
- **Engl 4965W. Advanced Studies in Early Literature in English:** Advanced studies in literature written in English before 1800.

Each of the above twelve courses is a designated "capstone" experience, fulfilling both the Information Literacy and the Writing in the Major requirements for the English major. In capstone courses, English majors develop sophisticated reading, writing, and technological skills by consulting with professors, librarians, and sometimes fellow students. This work guides the student in compiling an annotated bibliography, surveying archival holdings when appropriate, analyzing research websites and databases, and attending library instruction sessions and workshops.

- **Standard One**

**"The information-literate student determines the nature and extent of the information needed."**\* In the capstone courses, the students are assigned to write a research paper of 15-20 pages or, where appropriate, a series of shorter research assignments, using critical methodologies specific to the course. Students learn to interrogate their chosen topic so as to generate the questions that need to be

asked and answered in the course of their research. Creating annotated bibliographies give students an appreciation of the wide varieties of scholarly discussion. In developing their research products, students learn to identify and access information from primary texts and from secondary sources pertinent to literary analysis (for example, source-studies, interviews, scholarly databases, and archival papers).

- **Standard Two**

**"The information-literate student accesses needed information effectively and efficiently."** In the capstone courses, English majors will be trained in advanced research methods in literary analysis, including the use of a variety of field-specific scholarly books and journals (in either print or electronic format), specialized internet search engines, and electronic databases (for example, the MLA Bibliography, LexisNexis Academic, ProQuest Historical Newspapers, and so forth). They will also attend library workshops and information sessions that explore the development and structure of scholarly information.

- **Standard Three**

**"The information-literate student evaluates information and its sources critically and incorporates selected information into his/her knowledge base and value system."** In the capstone courses, all students are assigned secondary reading as well as the primary texts; they may also be expected to evaluate each other's writing through such venues as WebCT. Exploring relevant secondary sources may require using ILL, archival sources, interviews, and so forth. English majors learn to trace information to its original source, establish which sources are most authoritative and suitable for scholarly discussion, and to identify political and cultural biases, logical fallacies, and inconsistencies in arguments. They learn how to adjust their own knowledge base and value systems to accommodate new information and concepts that they find persuasive, but also gain strength as critical thinkers by learning to draw on their own cognitive systems to articulate reasons for rejecting misinformation and conceptual error.

- **Standard Four**

**"The information-literate student, individually or as a member of a group, uses information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose."** In the capstone courses, the English majors learn the research process by pursuing research projects as noted above (see Standard One). Throughout the research process, students will be aware of the needs and purposes of their audience. They learn to narrow the scope of their research topic, formulate a viable thesis, organize their argument, and in addressing a scholarly reader, produce a paper that contributes to a specific debate. As they evaluate previous scholarly work on their topic, they learn to discover how their understanding of and approach toward a literary text may differ from prevailing views.

- **Standard Five**

**"The information-literate student understands many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information, and accesses and uses information ethically and legally."** The capstone courses emphasize rigorously ethical research; the principles of academic honesty are prominent in each course. Part of the research assignment is to learn the proper method of citation according to the MLA Style Manual or The Chicago Manual of Style. In this way, the English major learns that acknowledging earlier sources not only gives credit to another scholar but also furthers the critical debate.

**To satisfy the general education requirement for information literacy in the major, students must pass at least one capstone course as listed above.**

**\*The first sentence of each section is quoted from the document distributed by Association of College and Research Libraries: "Faculty Guidelines: Information Literacy Standards for Higher Education."**

**2011-69 New course JOUR 30xx.** Honors Thesis Preparation Seminar. Approved unanimously:  
Approved catalog copy for the course description:

**JOUR 30XX. Honors Thesis Preparation Seminar**

Both semesters. One credit. Prerequisite: JOUR 2000W, 2001W and at least three other journalism credits at the 2000-level or above.

Honors students choose topics for their theses or projects, develop research proposals and apply for funding if needed. Students work as a community of scholars to discuss and support each other's work. Usually taken the semester before JOUR 3097, Honors Thesis. Consent of instructor is required.

**2011-70 Change prerequisite of existing course JOUR 4091.** Postponed pending clarification of grading with respect to internship policies of the college outlined at <http://aurora.clas.uconn.edu/clasccc/appoint.html>.

**2011-71 Change course JOUR 3020.** Approved unanimously with approved catalog copy:

**3020. Journalism Law**

(220) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Typical subjects: libel, slander, invasion of privacy, obscenity, legal problems of newsgathering, protecting the political process, protecting state secrets, protecting the public welfare.

**2011-72 Offer special topics course GEOG 4095** unanimously approved with a title of Geography of the African American Experience(s)

**2011-73 Offer special topics course HIST 3995** unanimously approved with a title of History of American Capitalism

**2011-74 Offer special topics course HIST 3995** unanimously approved with a title of Asian Diasporas in the Americas

**2011-75 Offer special topics courses HIST 3995 and AASI 3295 and LAMS 3995 concurrently, unanimously approved** with a title of Asian Diasporas in the Americas.

### III. Reports of Committees

None

### IV. Old Business:

**Concerning faculty governance, accreditation and the College C&C committee**, the Chair reminded the committee of the document on accreditation, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006, by John Manning, to be found at: <http://aurora.clas.uconn.edu/clasccc/minutes/ap06oc10.html>

Further, the Chair made the committee aware of Dean Jeremy Teitelbaum's appreciation of the work of the committee, and transmitted to the chair as quoted below. Discussion ensued.

**Dean Teitelbaum** indicates that the CLAS C&C does not fulfill an accreditation role. Its job is to act on behalf of the faculty of the college to review and approve changes to the curriculum. It's a representative body. What is the difference between that and an "accrediting" body. Such a body applies a set of standards and decides if a program meets those standards, whereas we don't have a set of formal standards for the curriculum. We have an evolving idea of it. The committee needs to be sensitive to its representative role. It's not a gatekeeper but a facilitator of the faculty's desires. The CLAS C&C can only represent its views by voting conducted in the departments in a fashion overseen by the representatives from the committee.

**Concerning the developing Environmental Studies program** of which the committee is aware, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

"The Curricula and Courses Committee of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences supports the creation of an Environmental Studies Major, and offers to be as supportive as it can be in the creation of a viable and outstanding program consistent with a Research I University."

This resolution was adopted in light **Dean Teitelbaum's** appreciation of the Environmental Studies program transmitted to the chair as follows:

The Dean trusts the CLAS C&C will help encourage the Environmental Studies program in principle, and that the C&C will encourage continued work on the details of any concerns about the program. The idea that the Faculty of the Environmental Studies program is the Faculty of the whole College is one way to think of the program to keep it moving forward. Right now, the idea is to think about the Head of the Environmental Studies program as the Dean, if that helps the program along. Eventually a program director will be needed. The Dean is in full support of the proposed Environmental Studies Major and will provide the necessary budget for new courses proposed, for advising of students in the program, and other support necessary for the proper running of a program that includes a Major. For the near future the Environmental Science program probably should not be put under the same umbrella as the Environmental Studies program, but they may well be under the same umbrella in the future, such as in an Institute for the Environment. It is not yet clear to the Dean who will present new ENV Studies courses to the committee, but Sydney Plum (ENGL adjunct) is in charge of advocating for the program, and will be working with the new working group on the introductory course.

## **V. New Business:**

A discussion took place about how to address the committee's policies on online courses, either through changes to our forms, or other policies. Richard Rockwell and Roger Travis agreed to look into the matter further and report back to the committee at a future meeting.

## **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:00 PM until October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 3:30 PM in the same place.