

Curricular and Assessment Initiatives

Insight Areas

- An ongoing exploration of the feasibility and definition of Insight Areas has resulted thus far in the creation of six Insight Area Templates which have been distributed to all ASC departments and programs to determine which pre-existing courses contain elements that fall into the areas of Moral Reasoning, Visual Literacy, Technological Literacy, Diversity International Issues – Western, Diversity International Issues – non-Western, and Social Diversity in the U.S. Data on course descriptions and syllabi is being logged and collected and the response has been robust.
 - Also of note is the work of the Insight Areas Diversity Task Force, which met throughout 2006-07. The result of their work is a draft of revised “Guidelines for the GEC Diversity: International Issues Component” sheet (May, 2007). This document requires further CCI discussion in the coming year.

Faculty Chair of CCI

- Beginning in AU08 the CCI will have a faculty chair with the ASC Associate Executive Dean serving as an associate chair. This structure mirrors the current CAA committee structure.

Freshmen Common Book Experience

- Michelle Herman, Associate Professor, Department of English, proposed the new Freshmen Common Book for Fall 2008 *The Language of Baklava* by Diana Abu-Jaber, which was approved by CCI on 4/18/08.

Update of the Ohio State University Transfer Module

- In preparation for the 4/26/08 Ohio Board of Regents Transfer Module Committee meeting, the CCI endorsed an update to Ohio State’s Transfer Module. Syllabi and course information was solicited from all departments with courses listed on the current Transfer Module (last updated in 1997) and in conjunction with the curricular Associate Deans of the five ASC colleges, revisions and additions were proposed for vetting by the BoR.

GEC Web Design and Template Display

- The CCI has been an ongoing discussion partner with the ASC Curricular Associate Deans, ASC Technology Services, and ASC Advising to design a web site which will represent the GEC-R in a way that is both visually appealing and informative for students, faculty, and other consumers of this information.

Revision of GEC Submission Guidelines

- In an effort to streamline and make transparent the guidelines for submission of course proposals to be included in the GEC, an Ad-Hoc committee of the CCI was formed to revise and create where necessary a new set of submission guidelines. Drafts were circulated widely, vetted by college curricular committees as well as outside stakeholder groups such as the Foreign Languages Committee. The revisions are almost complete and after CCI endorsement, will be included in the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Office 2008-09 *Curricular Operations Manual*.

Syllabus Template Creation

- This template was created through the efforts of an Ad-Hoc committee of the CCI in order to provide course developers with clear guidelines when creating courses and to make transparent ASC faculty curricular committee expectations for course approval. The guidelines are also intended to increase the expediency of the course approval process by streamlining the content and order in which committees and administrators see and enter course-related data.

Assessment of GEC

- CCI Subcommittee E conducted an assessment of the Natural Science GEC Category, which included the facilitation of a lead-instructor focus group. Results indicated that all participants valued the General Education Curriculum and felt they were covering all aspects of the GEC Learning Goals and Objectives in their courses. Sub-E recommendations included (1) continuing with faculty focus groups on a categorical level for the GEC as a viable and productive form of assessment; (2) continuing to administer, analyze, discuss, and act upon data gathered from the ASC Student Exit Survey, which the participants found quite helpful; and (3) to develop a

system to send departmental reminders of the GEC requirements for instructors every quarter informing them that they are teaching a GEC course and what the learning objectives are based on category, providing a contact person for questions.

- With CCI endorsement, the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Office is implementing recommendation #3 above and has determined a method of gathering data on what GEC courses are being taught in which departments on a quarterly basis. As of AU08 the office will implement this recommendation by sending out quarterly notifications to department chairs requesting that they inform instructors of GEC-related information for their courses and operational syllabi.
- Based on recommendation #1 above, a new focus group assessment of the GEC Second Writing Category is being organized and is likely to take place in May 2008.
- The fourth round of GEC course assessment began in November 2007, with 20 high-enrollment courses from across the university being chosen for review. Workshops, clinics, and individual consultations continue and reports are due in AU08.

Assessment of ASC Majors

- Each ASC College Curriculum Committee met to discuss their July 2007 assessment reports and ongoing efforts within their respective majors. These productive discussions led to further collaboration among departments regarding methods of assessment and ideas for using assessment data to drive revisions to major programs. The reporting cycle will continue, with new reports from all programs due in July 2008.
- The ASC Curriculum and Assessment Office is creating customized reports for each College Curriculum Committee which will break down ASC Student Exit Survey data for discussion regarding majors and general issues of interest to particular colleges. These customized reports are designed to be concise, easily accessible and relevant, thus encouraging the use of this data for further assessment initiatives at the departmental and college level.

Upper Division GEC Courses

- Throughout the past year the CCI has conducted a thorough investigation of the possible need for the development of more upper-division GEC courses in response to the 2007 Faculty Senate resolution. After much data collection on student enrollment patterns and ASC Student Exit Survey results, and after several in-depth deliberations, the CCI voted to approve the following statement: "In response to the concerns raised regarding student enrollment and opportunities for upper division courses to satisfy GEC requirements, the CCI has reviewed the available data and is satisfied with the current trends."

Freshman Seminars, Clusters, and Professional Pathways Seminars

- A separate report on these will be submitted to the CCI for approval during the week of May 19 which can be discussed at the Faculty Senate meeting by an appropriate representative

Major Curricular Requests reviewed and approved by the ASC CCI:

Actuarial Sciences Major Revision (BS and BA)

The primary change to these majors is required as a result of redesign of the Society of Actuaries and Casualty Actuarial Society's exam. These changes involve the addition of topics that thus require the expansion of four core courses in the major by one credit hour each for a total of four additional credit hours. However, these additional credit hours are offset by elimination a previously required course of four credits, resulting in a net credit change of zero.

Art Majors Revision (BF and BFA) **and** Art Education Major (BAE) Revision

The departments of Art and Art Education have collaborated to streamline these majors so that students may flow seamlessly from BA and BFA in Art into the senior year BAE in Art Education. The revisions of these majors are reflective of the field, the interdisciplinary strengths of the department and the observations of the accrediting body of the National Association of the Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). One key feature of this initiative was the creation of new "checksheets" for each of the seven BFA emphasis areas and for the Art BA degree so that advisors, students, and faculty will have clear templates to follow. The BFA tagged degree is currently 196 credit hours, with 76 in the GEC and 120 in the major program. This total remains unchanged. The BAE tagged degree is currently 191 credit hours, with 71 in the GEC and 120 in the major program. The revisions to the BAE reduce the total hours required for graduation with this major to

181, making the BAE the first tagged degree in the College of the Arts to reduce to 181 (65 in the GEC and 115 in the major).

Biology Major Revision

This revision is designed to emphasize to students that biology is a single, broad and complex body of knowledge and incorporates three significant changes to the structure of the biology major curriculum: a novel introductory sequence of courses (BIO 401 and 402) which replace the current core of the major; a sophomore colloquium-style seminar (BIO 320) designed to encourage students to learn to participate more fully in the process of discovery and to synthesize their learning more completely, and; the development of Specialization Areas, which allow individual students to focus their upper-level courses on a chosen area of biology while emphasizing the interdisciplinary nature of biology.

Chinese Major Revision

The principal revisions to the Chinese major reflect a significant update to the structure and offerings within this growing department. Key features included the addition of courses which better acquaint students with film representations of Chinese nationhood, national identity and national trauma, classical literary works in modern context and Chinese perspectives on major issues in Chinese civilization, all taught in Chinese. Numerous electives also deepen, enrich, and expand the curriculum.

CIS Majors Revision (BS and BA)

The net result of the changes to the BS portion of the CIS major is that the GEC component reduced while, at the same time providing some added flexibility. 15 hours of "free electives" are eliminated, while adding 5 hours to the major program, four hours for a capstone design course and one hour for CSE 601 (Social and Ethical Issues in Computing). The main changes to the BA portion of the CIS program reduces some of the required GEC hours while providing some added flexibility. 15 hours of "free electives" are eliminated, bringing the program size to 181 hours. In addition, we propose adding CSE 601 to the core portion of the program and reducing the number of elective hours correspondingly by one hour.

Dance Major Revision (BFA)

The revisions to this major are reflective of the field, the historic strengths of the department, the accrediting body of the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD), and the shift in focus to place the student at the center of his or her learning and as an active participant in guiding his or her curricular program. The tagged degree is currently 191 credit hours, with 60 in the GEC and 131 in the major. These totals remain unchanged.

Globalization Studies Major (New BA)

The proposed major provides an opportunity for students to explore from a highly interdisciplinary perspective the forms that globalization takes, the forces that shape them, their historical origins, and their impacts on all aspects of the lives of individuals and communities. These impacts range across culture and the arts through economic interdependence to climate change and disease management. The major will help students to understand better our increasingly multicultural society and will provide them with knowledge relevant to careers in, for example, business and education.

Japanese Major Revision (BA)

The reorganization of the Japanese major not only formalizes and adds stronger linguistic and cultural emphases to the existing program, but also expands on the intercultural aspects of the influence of Japanese language, thought, and culture on other East Asian nations. The revisions provide additional options for students but do not change the number of hours required for the major.

Korean Major Revision (BA)

The extensive revisions to the Korean major add several options for students to explore in more depth the rich artistic traditions of this culture (performative, folkloric, literary) as well as options for students to broaden their understanding of issues relative to the Asian American experience and East Asian women writers, culture, and society. The major also adds Korean 656, a new course that provides an interdisciplinary approach to issues of Korean politics and society. The revisions provide additional options for students but do not change the number of hours required for the major.

Music Major Revision (BA)

The purpose of this revision is to provide the student a bit more flexibility in choosing upper level courses in the major area, and to comply with the standards of the National Association of Schools of Music. The current degree plan provides students with a few choices from a narrow range of courses at the 300-600 levels. The faculty feels that our degree program will be enhanced by allowing the student more individual choice. The BA degree in Music is designed for a student who wants to major in music, but who wants a broad liberal arts degree rather than a specialized professional tagged degree such as the Bachelor of Music (BM) or Bachelor of Music Education (BME). There was a total reduction to this degree of 5 hours for majors.

Music Major Revisions (BM and BME)

The purpose of these changes is to streamline the requirements for all of our majors, reflecting changes in the discipline and changes in standard pedagogical practices in the field. The proposed changes are made in response to our National Association of Schools of Music reaccreditation process and internal assessment data. The BME degree is a professional degree that provides licensure to teach music in the State of Ohio, and includes three tracks, one for General Music Education, one for Instrumental Music Education, and one for Vocal/Choral Music Education. The BM degree provides pre-professional training for musicians in eight tracks: Composition, Jazz Studies/Composition, Jazz Studies/Performance, Music History, Music Theory, Orchestral Instrument Performance, Piano Performance, and Vocal Performance. Together, the Music BA, BM, and BME revisions contained 29 new course and course change proposals that were also approved.

Political Science Major Revision (BA)

The revisions to the Political Science major stem from the department's involvement in the Ohio Board of Regents' Transfer Assurance Guide syllabus evaluation project and student feedback, both of which led to an increase in the transparency of structure and intellectual rigor of the major. Further, new faculty resources and departmental commitment to Political Theory as a field within Political Science has led to the creation of several new courses in this area of focus.

Sociology **and** Criminology Major Revisions (BA)

A substantial revision to the both the Sociology and the Criminology major program requirements intended to increase the academic rigor of the major program and to ensure that each student has the opportunity to connect their academic experiences with a research opportunity or to link their academic experiences with a potential employer. Total credit hours required of Sociology majors rose from 45 to 55.

Approval of New Minors for Use by Arts and Science Students:

Video Arts Minor
 Interdisciplinary Evolutionary Studies Minor
 Survey Research Minor
 Communication – Organizational Communication
 Communication – Technology
 Communication – Media and Society
 Critical and Cultural Theory Minor
 Military Science Minor

Revised Minors were approved by the CCI for the following Programs:

Math Minor (non-Honors version)
 BS-CIS Minor
 History Minor

New Graduate Interdisciplinary Specializations

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Literacy Studies