THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA

MINUTES
Core Curriculum Oversight Committee
NERC 1012
8:00 to 9:30, November 2, 2017

Attending Amanda Thompson, Marysia Galbraith, Rainer Schad, Charlie Steinmetz, Cynthia Sunal, Liza Wilson, Derek Williamson, Jef Naidoo, Martin Evans, Ginger Bishop, Javonda Williams, Reagan Locke, Ross D'Entremont, Luke Niiler, Wei Zhu, Cory Armstrong, Mary Ellen Hanna, Denny Savage, Daniel Strickland, Amelia Rizzardi, Jessica Aguilar, Dixie MacNeil, Luoheng Han, David Cordes

Agenda

1. Review and approval of minutes from October 5

   Spelling correction for Marysia Galbraith in the minutes (was Galgraith)

2. Core course update based on changing curricula – John Wingard
   a. Updates taking place with language courses
   b. Discussion regarding this change (if needed)
   c. Ensuring our CCOC documents match current course listings
      i. Current CCOC document wording is shown below
      ii. Suggestion for updating the core documents – footnote on existing page

   2 semesters in one foreign language (FL). A grade of "C-" or better must be earned in the first-semester course of the two-semester sequence that fulfills the requirement before the student will be allowed to enroll in the second semester course. Students with two or more high-school units of a foreign language will be assigned to foreign language courses by the foreign language advisors on the basis of placement test scores. Students placed into FR 103, SP 103 or intermediate courses (FR 201, SP 201) will satisfy this requirement in one semester.

   John Wingard provided an update on foreign language offerings at Alabama. Basically,
   - The 103 courses are being discontinued
   - The 102 course in a given language has the same ending point as the 103 courses did. In other words, students who complete the 102 course should have the same exposure and abilities as students who completed the 103 course in the past

   This item is on our agenda as it is one of the few places in the CCOC Guidelines document where a specific course is mentioned by name (the bold italicized text above appears at the top of page 6 of the document).

Discussion took place regarding the various language courses (101, 102, 103, and 201) and how students are placed into these courses. The rationale behind the dropping of the 103 courses was also addressed.

A motion was made, and seconded, that we replace the reference to a 103 course with a 102 course. After discussion, this motion passed unanimously.

It was then noted that the current document only references FR and SP courses. A second motion was made, and seconded, that this apply to all foreign languages, and not simply FR and SP. After discussion, this motion also passed unanimously.

A footnote will be added to the CCOC Guidelines document indicating: Effective November 2017, with the discontinuation of 103 courses in foreign languages, this requirement is now listed as "Students placed into 102 or an intermediate language course (201) will satisfy this requirement in one semester."

3. Quick update on the Task Force considering structural changes to the core – Luoheng Han

   The task force that will look at a structural revision to the core would like some guidance from the CCOC, as our group looked at potential avenues for revision this past year. This will be the main discussion item for our December meeting. All CCOC members are encouraged to talk with their colleagues regarding the current core structure and potential improvements to the core. The goal is to provide some direction for the task force. Items such as "does the core focus on learning objectives" and "can the core vary between colleges" and "should pieces of the core be removed" and "should pieces of the core be expanded" are open for consideration. Providing some guidance to the task force regarding possible directions to head with their revisions would provide great benefit to that group.

4. Reminder of the CCOC review timeline
   a. Departments should have submitted their courses in October
   b. Reviews underway now
   c. Goal is to have our reviews complete by the end of the Fall semester

   Quick overview of the review process was presented.

5. Status report on our review process
   a. 260 reviews in progress
   b. No courses have been forwarded to sub-committee chair or full committee yet

   Reminder to check your reviews and try to complete them by our next meeting.

6. Informal Q&A regarding the review process – Daniel Strickland

   Meeting adjourned so that individuals could talk with Daniel about issues as needed.

REMINDER – NEXT MEETING – Thursday, December 7, 8:15 am in NERC 1012