
WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee

Minutes for 15 and 22 April 2024

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee was called to order at 10:02 a.m. on 15 April and 10 a.m. on 22 April 2024, virtually via Webex by Carol Weideman, chair.

Members in Attendance: Lisa DeChano-Cook, Beth Ernst, Matilda McLean, Kwangmin Lee, Kirsty Eisenhart, Jonathan Bush, Anne-Marie Guidy-Oulai, Dana Hammond, and Carol Weideman.

Members Absent: Anne-Marie Guidy-Oulai (4/15), Dana Hammond (4/15)

Advisory Members Present: Randy Ott, Colleen Stano, Anthony Helms, Jacqueline Bizzell, Sharon VanDyken, Chris Robinson

Advisory Members Absent: Nick Gauthier, Melinda Lockett

Ex Officio in Attendance: Sue Brodasky, Decker Hains

Guest: Brian Tripp, Chair, WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee

Quorum

A quorum was present with five members in attendance, of whom five needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Ernst, seconded by Eisenhart, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Ernst, seconded by Hammond, to approve the 18 March 2024 minutes. The motion carried.

Reports of Officers

Chair Weideman provided an update regarding the process for providing feedback on proposals in Teams.

Ex Officio Hains did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

DeChano-Cook reported that the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee approved changes to Curriculog to include four course forms, which include course deletion, a new WMU Essential Studies course, an existing course with a new WMU Essential Studies course, and a WMU Essential Studies course change.

Bush reported the following:

1. Fourth-year Program Review is still being planned.
2. Three committee chairs have been identified but haven't yet been committed.
3. Bush attended all College Curriculum Committee meetings to present an overview of the WMU Essential Studies process and express the importance of all levels of curricular evaluation to evaluate WMU Essential Studies criteria. The information was well received, and the effort was worthwhile.
4. Several faculty members have volunteered to serve on the WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee.

Unfinished Business

[MOTION] It was moved by Hammond, seconded by Ernst, to deny the following slate of cyclical review proposals. The motion carried.

1. CIS 1020-Intro Bus Comp and Data Analysis

2. REL 3175-Sex, Sin, and Gender
3. AAAS 3900-Women Writers Contemporary Black Literature
4. HIST 3310-Queer History, GWS 3310: Queer History
5. HOL 2000-Choices in Global Living

New Business

[MOTION] It was moved by Hammond, seconded by Ernst, to deny the following slate of cyclical review proposals. The motion carried.

1. REL 4010-Animals and Religion
2. SCI 3090-Explorations in Earth Science

[MOTION] It was moved by Ernst, seconded by McLean, to approve the following slate of curriculum proposals. The motion carried.

1. CHEM 1510-General Chemistry and Health
2. CHEM 1520-General Chemistry and Health Lab
3. ENGL 1050-Foundations in Written Communication: Strategies, Behaviors, Success
4. HIST 3235-U.S. Civil War and the Environment
5. REL 2200-Is There Only One God? The History and Theology of Monotheism
6. SOC 1200-Self and Society
7. STAT 3660-Data Analysis for Biosciences

[MOTION] It was moved by Eisenhart, seconded by Ernst to deny the following slate of curriculum proposals. The motion carried.

1. ANTH 3255-Climate Change and Marginalized Communities
2. MGMT 2020-Leading in Business Orgs
3. MGMT 3010-Leadership and Business Strategy I-Practicum
4. OCL 2000-Principles of Organizational Change and Development
5. OCL 2040-Workplace Coaching: Principles, Theory, and Practice
6. OCL 3000- Workplace Culture
7. OCL 3050-Organizational Consulting
8. OCL 4300-Understanding and Designing the Global Organization
9. REL 2000-Thinking About Religion

Hains led the election of officers.

[MOTION] It was moved by Eisenhart, seconded by Ernst, to elect the following slate. The motion carried.

1. Chair – Weideman
2. Vice chair – Ernst
3. Secretary – Ott

Hains asked the committee to determine its meeting modality for the 2024-25 academic year.

[MOTION] It was moved by Stano, seconded by Ernst, to continue virtual meetings. The motion carried.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

Chair Weideman suspended the meeting at 11:59 a.m. on 15 April 2024. The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m. on 22 April 2024.

Submitted by Randy Ott, Secretary

Minutes were approved on 16 September 2024