
WMU ESSENTIAL STUDIES COURSE REVIEW AND APPROVAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of 18 October 2021

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 10:03 a.m. on 18 October 2021, via Webex video conferencing by Colleen Stano, chair.

Members Attending: Kirsty Eisenhart, Beth Ernst, Gina Kling, Michele McGrady, Matilda McLean, Carol Weideman

Members Absent: Kathryn Thomsen

Advisory Members Attending: Diana Blouin, Nick Gauthier, Anthony Helms, Melinda Lockett, Shannon Myers, Colleen Stano, Sharon VanDyken, Nicolas Witschi

Advisory Members Absent: Richard McMullen

Ex Officio Attending: Decker Hains

Guest: Pnina Ari-Gur, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; Randy Ott, Merze Tate

Quorum

A quorum was not present.

Agenda

Two course proposals were added.

[MOTION] It was moved by McGrady, seconded by Eisenhart, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Approval of minutes was postponed.

Reports of Officers

Chair Stano welcomed the committee members.

Ex Officio Hains gave an overview of Curriculog for the review of WMU Essential Studies courses and the upcoming cyclical review process. Discussion was held.

Reports of University Representatives

None.

Reports of Council/Committee Standing Committees

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

The rubric for proposal WES_AE4805_A2019_ME-28 needs to be corrected so the timing of the learning activities is not indicated as the assessment of the Student Learning Outcomes. It should be requested that the syllabus include the catalog copy and clearly state the WMU Essential Studies outcomes, and it needs to be accurate. Both the rubric and the syllabus need to be edited.

[MOTION] It was moved by McGrady, seconded by Eisenhart, to approve proposal WES_AE4805_A2019_ME-28 pending receipt of the revised documentation. The motion carried unanimously.

It was stated that proposal WES_BUS1750_B2020_Bus-11 had previously been voted on for approval. However, it has not yet been added to the WMU Essential Studies course list. No further action is required.

Chair Stano postponed proposal WES_BUS3962_B2019_BUS-10.

The rubric for proposal WES_ED2900_E2020_TLES-107 does not include the specific assessment and when it is expected to be completed. The syllabus does not incorporate the WMU Essential Studies Student Learning Outcomes that are needed. The diversity and inclusion SLO are limiting the student's ability to demonstrate proficiency, which indicates that a different SLO should be selected. Diversity and Inclusion was noted as not being an option for a level 1 course. Additionally, the real-world problem is not included in the syllabus.

[MOTION] It was moved by Weideman, seconded by Hains, to deny proposal WES_ED2900_E2020_TLES-107. The motion carried.

[MOTION] It was moved by Weideman, seconded by McGrady, to approve proposal WES_FCS2170_E2021_FCS-8 as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

[MOTION] It was moved by Weideman, seconded by McGrady, to approve proposal WES_FIN3010_B2021_FCL-8 as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Stano postponed proposal WES_GEOG1000_L2020_GEOG-108.

The syllabus for proposal WES_GEOG3110_L2018_GEOG-531 does not include the level 3 statement.

[MOTION] It was moved by McGrady, seconded by Eisenhart, to approve proposal WES_GEOG3110_L2018_GEOG-531 as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

[MOTION] It was moved by Ernst, seconded by Weideman, to approve proposal WES_HOL1000_H2021_IHP-10 as provided. With one abstention, the motion carried.

The assignments that are associated with proposal WES_HNRS4101_O2020_LHC-4 do not meet the rubric criteria and would not allow students to meet proficient or exemplary in some cases.

[MOTION] It was moved by Weideman, seconded by Hains, to deny WES_HNRS4101_O2020_LHC-4. The motion carried.

Chair Stano postponed the following proposals:

1. WES_HPHE3600_E2021_HPHE-12
2. WES_PH2310_H2021_IHP-38
3. WES_PH2340_H2021_IHP-9
4. WES_SOC4420_L2021_SOC-47
5. WES_SPED4133_E2021_SPLS-35

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Wideman, seconded by McGrady, to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval

Submitted by Carol Weideman, Secretary

Minutes approved on 21 March 2021.