

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

230 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING AND ZOOM, 2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Present: Angela Anderson, Aaron Ansell, Sara Arena, Stephen Biscotte, Molly Hall, Grant Hamming, Earl Kline, Victoria Lael, Greg Novack, Hannah Shinault, Alireza Shojaei, Zack Underwood, Anita Walz, Sparkle Williams

Absent: Brian Collins, Janet Hilder, Nicole Pitterson

Guests: Jenni Gallagher

Call to order by Hannah Shinault at 2:30 pm

Announcements

1. Review of Special Study and Study Abroad Proposals

- Special Study - MGT 2984: Sustainable Business Management, for Pathways Concept 5f (Foundational Quantitative and Computational Thinking). Proposal linked [here](#).
 - Unanimously approved for concept 5f
- Study Abroad – TA 3954: London Calling, for Pathways Concept 6ad (Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts). Proposal linked [here](#).
 - Unanimously approved for concept 6ad
- Study Abroad – ENGL 4954: London Calling, for Pathways Concept 2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities). Proposal linked [here](#).
 - Unanimously approved for concept 2

2. VCCS Passport & Uniform Certificate of General Studies (UCGS)

Stephen Biscotte provided an overview of the VCCS Passport and Certificate, which are two new programs that will allow students to transfer to four-year colleges with either 16 or 31-32 general education credits, respectively. SCHEV requires that Virginia Tech indicate which specific Pathways concepts would be fulfilled through each of the programs. Stephen presented a suggested plan (below) and asked for feedback.

Passport (16 credits)

1f 3 credits
2 3 credits
3 3 credits
4 4 credits
5 3 credits

Certificate (31-32 credits)

1f 6 credits
2 6 credits
3 6 credits
4 4-5 credits
5 3 credits
6a 3 credits
7 3 credits

The following questions/concerns were raised in discussion:

- If a student gets credit for the passport for a course that is equivalent to a VT Pathways course, would they receive double credit?
- Can the advisor move credit from one concept to another?
- Will this result in colleges having to complete more subs, or fewer?
- Transfer road maps should be paired with the passport and certificate information to effectively guide students
- What if a student starts out on the passport/certificate path and then decides to transfer before they finish, and they had chosen all non-equivalent courses? Concern that students would find it frustrating that they could take a bunch of courses and have none of them transfer for Pathways.

Stephen will reach out to the Registrar's Office to get clarification on these issues and report back at the next meeting.

3. Resolution for revising the foundational/advanced requirements for Quant/Comp

The advising subcommittee presented a resolution that fulfilling 6 credits of 5a and 3 credits of 5f be equivalent to fulfilling 6 credits of 5f and 3 credits of 5a. The resolution was unanimously approved.

4. Subcommittee Reports

- Advising (no report)
- Assessment (no report)
- Collaboratory
 - The subcommittee has conducted usability testing with seven subjects, asking participants to explore the Collaboratory on their own, complete two specific tasks, and then answer questions about their experience. The subcommittee has used this feedback to make improvements to the site. They will provide a demo of the updated resource at next month's meeting.
 - The subcommittee is soliciting feedback on whether there is an interest/willingness to make the Collaboratory available to scholars outside of VT. Anita Walz noted that there seemed to be a desire for this from other institutions when the subcommittee presented the project at the AGLS conference.
 - It was suggested that instructors could opt-in or opt-out of having their resource shared outside of VT
 - Due to time, the committee will table further discussion on this issue until a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned by Hannah Shinault at 3:47 pm.

Minutes compiled by Jenni Gallagher