

Liberal Studies Oversight Committee
Minutes
4-18-06

Minutes were approved for 3/28, 4/4, & 4/11.

ULP Update - Beth suggested that the memo requesting more ULP sections be withheld (not sent out) this semester, due to expected enrollment trends and lack of faculty positions. She will monitor demand for ULP courses, and will send out the memo if enrollment data suggests that it is warranted.

Beth had a discussion with Kyle Carter about last week's Construction Management proposal. A decision will not be needed until it is determined for certain that Construction Management will be moving to the College of Business.

Liberal Studies course proposals:

ENGL 333- Note: 2.5 should be changed to 3 contact hours

No grading scale (check on + or -), needs to be included in syllabi for UCC approval

Committee voted and conditionally approved, subject to the condition that a grading scale is provided

ENGL 353- Note: 2.5 should be changed to 3 contact hours

The AA-5 sets the enrollment cap at 30 while the LS proposal states that 20 is the ideal maximum. The committee decided that this did not constitute an inconsistency and does not need changed.

Voted and approved with correction to contact hours

ENGL 467 being renumbered to ENGL 368-

Suggested class size is set at 15 in the proposal, needs to be increased to 22

9 short papers in the course description versus 8 mentioned in the syllabus – committee agreed to overlook this minor discrepancy

Voted and conditionally approved, if the English Dept. will agree to an increased class size

Discussion of the first-year seminar:

Alternative 1: Grading scale of A, B, C, U, and students are not allowed to repeat the seminar.

Alternative 2: Students who do not receive a passing grade in the seminar must enroll in a special section of first-year seminar the next semester.

Points of discussion:

For the first option, if a student is assigned a grade of U or W and the student thus needs to "make up" 3 more credit hours, must the make-up hours be a LS course? Most committee members felt that it is important that the make-up hours be LS hours, which in effect maintains the program as a 42-hour program.

For the second option: What happens if a student fails the first-year seminar for two consecutive semesters? Also, this option would put into effect different graduation requirements for students transferring to WCU with more than 15 hours than students entering WCU with fewer than 15 credit hours.

The committee did not reach consensus as to the preferred option. The committee agreed to put forth both options in the faculty forum next year.

Next year's faculty forum :

- 1) Proposal to allow credit hours for perspectives courses in the major to simultaneously count as hours in the LS program (so-called "double-dipping")
- 2) Alternatives for handling the first-year seminar

NOTE** This is the last meeting of the semester and we will NOT meet next week, unless last-minute business comes to our attention and warrants a called meeting.**