

Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

Date: Friday, October 13, 2017

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Alumni Conference Room, LSC, 14th Floor

Attendance: Michelle Carpenter, Sheryl Coffey, Andrea Falcone, Jeff Franklin, Nimol Hen, Antwan Jefferson, Craig Lanning, Christine Martell, Hans Morgenthaler (chair), Brian Schaeffer, Mary Lee Stansifer, Traci Sitzmann, Tammy Stone, Mary Baitinger (recorder)

Agenda and Minutes

1. Announcements/Updates

- Approval of minutes from September 8, 2017 meeting
These will be provided at a future date for the CCOC to review and vote on.
- Change of prefixes of 3 CAM Core Classes from THTR to FITV
Hans Morgenthaler informed the CCOC of this change, initiated by CAM. This will be effective 2018, with the old prefix being used until the end of spring/summer semester, so that the Registrar's Office can update their records and push out the change. Students/advisors will need to look at the course titles to ensure the same course is not taken again, as the prefixes will be different. The CCOC core course list will be updated appropriately.

2. Revisit Review of Student Petition for Sean Adams

This discussion is a continuance from last month, when the CCOC requested additional materials, specifically from CAM and Engineering advisors and Sean Adams, regarding any potential mis-advisement the student may have experienced. The CCOC voted to deny the initial petition in Spring 2017. The following was presented and points discussed by the CCOC:

- The contents of SAN transcripts were read out loud.
- The student was under the impression that paperwork had been submitted to get his program and requirements approved.
- Tom Augustine (Engineering) wrote that Engineering wasn't opposed to Sean's petition and indicated CAM should have taken care of the situation. Tom also informed Sean that if the petition was denied, he would still have to take an arts core course.
- The student has a strong GPA.
- If the evidence provides reasonable explanations for both approval and denial of the petition and the CCOC seems at an impasse, the waiver should be allowed.
- What is the goal/outcome regarding this petition that the CCOC wants to achieve?
- Caution is advised in not setting a precedence of substituting classes for the core requirements.
- Karin Hunter (head advisor for CAM) provided documentation that indicates Sean was mis-advised and supports his petition. Many events happened in the last three years for the student to arrive at this point.

Vote: Sean's Adam's resubmission of his petition was approved by 4 voting members, opposed by 3 voting members and 1 abstention. The student will be informed only of the decision and no further explanation provided.

3. Review of Student Petition for Josua Flaum

The student completed his undergraduate degree 12 years ago and is currently pursuing a second bachelor's degree. While the course is beyond the 10 year Regent's Rules of accepting a degree to count towards CU Denver core requirements, the merits and rigor of Josua's bachelor's degree exist.

Vote: Josua Flaum's petition was approved by 8 voting members

4. Core Course Application for ARCH 2230: Architectural History I

Hans Morgenthaler provided the syllabus for his class that he would like to become a core course. The College of Architecture and Planning (CAP) potentially have three more courses that will be submitted over the next year towards the university core list. Comments on ARCH 2230 include the following:

- Syllabus doesn't address that it is a core class.
- Attendance requirement should be clarified.
- How is the instructor helping students write and fulfill the writing requirements?
- Textual analysis – students will not have enough time to read all five required texts. What transferrable skills are being used to analyze texts?
- How can this course be written, or improved upon, to interest students outside of the CAP major (for example, Humanities) and use the class towards core requirements?
- Bring in social political systems of architectural history

Action: Hans will revise and incorporate the suggestions above and bring his syllabus back to the CCOC for another review and approval. An additional CAP course will also be submitted for review.

5. Discussion on whether Competency could satisfy Core Requirements

The suggestion and an initial discussion whether competency/experience could be used to satisfy core requirements was provided by Jeff Franklin. Test scores are accepted, but life experiences aren't counted. Transfer credits indicating this from other schools are not valid at CU Denver. If a competency potentially were accepted to satisfy a core requirement, it would not count towards the hours needed (minimum of 120) to graduate with a bachelors. Comments from the CCOC included:

- If a student had a certification in art or writing, would this count to waive art requirements?
- How a petition is phrased would determine greatly if it was accepted towards core requirements.
- If people were in specific medical careers with on-the-ground experience (Flight for Life, for example), this would be a strong example of fulfilling core requirements.
- How would you figure out what kinds of life experiences would count? How many years total of experience would someone need? What kinds of guidelines could be written or tests to assess an individual's knowledge?
- Who would do the actual testing, if hands-on? Could an instructor or professor with experience in a department/school do the assessment and award competency?
- What are Metro's policies regarding competencies/life experiences in counting towards their graduation requirements?

Action: The CCOC will discuss this topic further, when it is brought up as an agenda item at a future meeting.