

University Undergraduate Core Committee

Tuesday, August 27th, 2019

VH room 219

11am – 1pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Ellen Crowell, Judy Geczi, Jordan Glassman, Bryan Sokol, Gary Barker, Steve Sanchez, Bill Rehg, Jennifer Rust, Ness Sandoval, Ellen Carnaghan, Kim Druschel, Ryan McCulla, Filippo Marsili, Christopher Thomas, Michael Swartwout, Kyle Crews, Lauren Arnold, Ginge Kettenbach, Peggy Dotson, Louise Neiman, Anne McCabe, Laura Rettig

1. Call to Order and Announcements

- Welcome to Anne McCabe, Madrid Campus (English Department, Language and Education)
- Tidy Projects, a student Graphic Design team by Martin Brief, faculty member in FPA, will be working on our Core visual to present to the SLU community. They will present a rough draft to UUCG on 9/17; final draft by 10/1.
- On 9/3, UUCG will vote on this core proposal: Question will be: “Is there enough here (overall structure, hours, components, feasibility) that I can vote that this is the core the UUCG will present to the SLU community?” This will allow us to begin the work of refining all parts in preparation for release to the university.
- Approval of Meeting Minutes (7/30, 8/13 and 8/20) all minutes approved.

2. Core Director reports that as of 8/26, she has met with all CAS chairs and most all college / school deans. Responses range from cautiously positive to enthusiastic. Major areas of concern: (1) what will the administrative structure look like; how will instructors be vetted and trained; where will GTAs fit into this structure; why are we presenting a core without a foreign language proficiency requirement?

3. Discussion of Collaborative Inquiry core component

- UUCG discussed how to make this course ideally populated by students from multiple colleges / schools, but leave room for high-credit hour degree programs to adapt something already in their programs to count here (particularly Parks and Doisy)

- Discussed which prerequisites would need to be listed. Determined: we to be First Year Seminar, Cura Personalis #1 and one core course.
4. Ways of Thinking about Ultimate Questions: Theological and Philosophical core component
- Agreed that no Ways of Thinking courses would carry core-specific pre- or co-requisites except this one, and the pre- / co-req is Cura Personalis #1.
 - Discussed whether Ultimate Questions course should be eligible to also carry attributes, including writing intensive, SLO 5, 6, 7, 9?
 - UCC discussed this question and ultimately agreed to this: Any course, in any of our core categories, can have as many attributes as it can actually qualify for via a process of submission to the UCC for review. The only courses that cannot carry attributes are First Year Seminar, Cura Personalis 1 – 2 – 3 and EP 1 and 2.
5. Discussed Advanced Writing
- UCC representative took issue with the 3ch requirement for the Advanced Writing attribute,
 - Rep from Doisy agreed, and pointed out that many of their thesis writing courses are 1ch.
 - Proposal: Advanced Writing attribute should not carry designation of 3ch.
 - After discussion, UCC agreed that no attributed course / experience (5 – 6 – 7 – 9- Adv. Writing) will carry a credit hour designation.
6. Transfer
- Report from ad hoc subcommittee on transfer.
 - Proposal: Because we are proposing a 35ch core, our guidelines for transfer can mirror SLU's guidelines for how much of a major should be completed at SLU to earn a SLU degree: 50%. So, we will require all students to complete a minimum of 18ch of the core AT SLU, and 9 of those are designated by the core: FYS, CP 1, 2, 3, and Collaborative IQ. The remaining 9 are student choice. A student could then transfer up to 17ch into SLU as Core, if they have coursework from another accredited university / AP / IB / Proficiency exam credit that maps to Core.
 - 1818 credit will be treated as "at SLU" credit, and would not count as transfer. For instance, if a student took ENGL 1900 through 1818, and then took 15 more credit hours at another university that could be articulated as Core credit, they would be able to bring all 15 into SLU as transfer. The

ENGL 1900 taken via 1818 would count as part of the 18ch they must take AT SLU.

7. **UCC agreed to hold a formal vote next week, Tuesday September 3rd. A VOTE WILL OCCUR ON SEPTEMBER 3RD. It is crucial that all voting members attend, or send an email by Tuesday 9/3 at 10am indicating how they vote: yes, no, abstain**

We will vote on this question:

Is there enough here (total credit hours, composition / structure, broad guidelines) that I am ready to endorse this core and move forward as a committee with refining and polishing the whole for dissemination to the SLU community as our UCC Core Proposal?

Summary of key decisions from this meeting:

- **Multiple attributes:** UCC agreed that, as a general principle of openness, any course—other than the FYS, Cura Personalis 1-3, and EP 1 and 2—can be submitted to carry as many attributes as the instructor feels the course warrants. These attributes are: 5, 6, 7, 9 and Advanced writing. In practice, however, we know that the likelihood of this happening is slim—because we have such clear and ambitious rubrics for all of these attributes.
- **No credit hours associated with attributes:** UCC agreed that no attribute (5, 6, 7, 9, Writing Intensive) will be listed as requiring a specific # of credit hours. Instead, in the “Credit hours” box, we will state “attributed course” (or in the case of SLO 9, “attributed course / experience”)
- **Transfer policy:** UCC agreed on a core transfer policy that mirrors the 50% rule for amount of a major program of study that must be completed at SLU: A student must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of the core AT SLU. Of those 18, nine (9) must be comprised of the First Year Seminar, Cura Personalis 1, 2, 3, and Collaborative Inquiry. The other 9 are up to the student. 17ch of the core may be transferred in from AP / IB / proficiency exam / other accredited university, as long as the student can successfully show that prior coursework does articulate to the SLU common core.

8. Adjourn