

University Curriculum Committee

Minutes # 4

September 23, 2020

Members Present: Jia, Paolucci, Johnston, Califf, Leonard, Sawyer, Howell, Carlson, Hurd, Savage, Kroesch, Lippert, Pence

Members Absent: Allen

Guests: Danielle Lindsey – Registrar’s Office, Ian Gawron – Registrar’s Office, Jess Ray – Registrar’s Office

1. Convene: Califf convened September 23, 2020 UCC Meeting

2. Introductions:

3. Approval of Minutes: Califf asked the UCC members if any changes/edits should be submitted. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.

4. Proposed Discussion and Action:

a. School Health Education Sequence (HSC) – Carlson, Newport

Carlson indicated that the changes are straightforward. The only change is that HSC 292 is being replaced by HSC 211. Carlson indicated that this was a mandate by an accrediting body. No credits were added to the program. Califf prompt Newport and Newport affirmed the simplicity of the proposal. Newport motioned a vote. Carlson seconded. 13 voted in favor. Zero abstentions. Zero votes against. Below is the approved catalog copy.

Major Requirements

Minimum required credit hours: 62 (includes 29 credit hours in Professional Education courses)

- HSC 190
- HSC 211
- HSC 290A02
- HSC 293
- HSC 294
- HSC 296
- HSC 387
- HSC 390
- HSC 391
- SOC 123

Take 1 of the following

Consult your advisor.

- FCS 102
- HSC 105
- HSC 156
- HSC 170
- HSC 207

Professional Education Requirements

- PSY 215
- SED 344
- STT 399A35

- TCH 212
- TCH 216
- TCH 219

Take 1 of the following

- EAF 228
- EAF 231
- EAF 235

Notes

University-Wide Teacher Education Requirements

b. Minor in Religious Studies (IDS) – Johnston, Leonard

Johnston explained the difference between the old copy and new copy and indicated his preference for the new copy format. He expressed positive sentiments with the changes being made with interesting options for students. Johnston explained the changes overall, such as the move to concentrations, and how they are generally themed. Califf asked if anyone had questions about the proposal. A general conversation occurred concerning the concentrations, what courses were included and not included, and the difference between “concentrations” and “pathways.” This discussion included Paolucci, Kroesch, Johnston, Howell, Lindsey (guest), Pence, and Califf. Lippert indicated the difference between “concentrations” and “required elective groups.” Lindsey (guest) affirmed and reiterated that concentrations are not required, are not on transcripts, and are only advisory. Pence asked about the notes concerning “refer to advisor” about some subjects. Lindsey (guest) indicated advisors can guide students to specific courses that can better fit students’ interests. Gawron (guest) explained the asterisks concerns with some of the courses and resolved the concerns during the UCC meeting. Johnston motioned a vote of approval. Pence seconded. 13 voted in favor. Zero abstentions. Zero voted against. Below is the approved catalog copy.

Minor in Religious Studies

Contact: Daniel Breyer, Department of Philosophy; dbreyer@IllinoisState.edu

Students are encouraged to explore religion as they see fit, in consultation with the program director, by taking whatever approved courses they find most interesting. The only restriction is that no more than 9 credit hours from a student’s major field of study may be used to satisfy the requirements of the minor.

18 total credit hours required

Approved Courses: These are the approved religious studies courses, listed alphabetically by discipline:

Art

- ART 240
- ART 241
- ART 242
- ART 244
- ART 263
- ART 275*
- ART 283

English

- ENG 250

- ENG 251
- ENG 352
- ENG 355

History

- HIS 104a02
- HIS 104a04
- HIS 217
- HIS 222
- HIS 271
- HIS 275
- HIS 276
- HIS 307

Interdisciplinary Studies

- IDS 121a59
- IDS 254

Music

- MUS 253
- MUS 392

Philosophy

- PHI 207
- PHI 208
- PHI 222
- PHI 224
- PHI 257

Sociology/Anthropology

- SOC 268

Concentrations

Although students can take any combination of approved courses to satisfying the requirements of the minor, they also have the option of taking courses associated with four suggested “Concentrations,” depending on their interests:

World Religions Concentration

- IDS 254
- PHI 207
- PHI 208
- ART 275*
- SOC 268
- HIS 271

Religion in the Arts Concentration

- IDS 254
- IDS 121a59 or MUS 253
- ART 242 or ART 244

- ART 275*
- ENG 250
- ENG 251

Philosophy of Religion Concentration

- IDS 254
- PHI 207
- PHI 208
- PHI 222
- PHI 224
- PHI 257

History of Religion Concentration

- IDS 254
- ART 275*
- HIS 217
- HIS 271
- HIS 276
- PHI 224

Note:

* Topics in ART 275 may vary. See the Religious Studies advisor to verify.

Additional Courses: From time to time, faculty might offer religion-related courses not listed here. If students notice any such courses and would like them to count toward the minor, they are encouraged to contact the program director.

c. IDS Minor Review – Children’s Studies – Jia, Savage

Before beginning the review, Paolucci asked Hurd to explain IDS Minor Reviews in more detail. Hurd gave some of the history of IDS Minor Reviews and that IDS Minors are reviewed every eight years. Hurd indicates this is largely a direct approach where the program submits their review to the UCC, the UCC reviews, and then sends a 1-2-page memo recommendation for the program. Savage asked if the UCC can ever say “no” to a program. Hurd generally indicated that the UCC cannot, or historically has not, ever said “no” to a program, but can frame the recommendations in the memo strong recommendations including viability of the minor. She provided an anecdote example. Califf indicated that classes of an IDS Minor are taken from various departments and are not intrinsically in the program, thus making it hard to evaluate these programs. Jia begins the review. She indicated that the program coordinator met with various parties/stakeholders and discussed the history of the program. Jia brings up her concerns that much of the review appeared to be copy and pasted from an older/previous version of the review and suggested they update their language/copy. Califf indicated that this would be a fair and reasonable thing to bring up in recommendations for improvements. Jia indicated that the word “recognize” concerning what childhood is was potentially problematic and suggested reworking the language of the goals section of their program. Jia highlighted the proposed improvements they were hoping to make, such as reducing the total hours for the minor, adding courses, and removing inactive courses. Jia indicated that some of these goals appeared to be insufficient and/or unclear. Specifically, she drew issue with the courses being added having prerequisites and being major blocked. Jia also indicated that the groupings in the minor appeared to be obsolete where they have a humanities group, but the only humanity course in the group was English. A general conversation occurred discussing what “major blocking” is, and the nuances of it. This conversation included: Lindsey (guest), Savage, Jia, and Califf. Kroesch expressed concern that they did not list education courses, or SED courses specifically in the minor. Lippert highlighted the curious language where they appear to mention “education” but then did not list education-type courses. A general conversation occurred about which departments would/could work in the IDS minor. Savage expressed concern about some of the cross-through text, specifically, the

apparent removal of CJS 215 concerning juvenile justice. Savage indicated that she taught that course, that it is still active, and the removal seems to be accidental.

Jia moved on with the review and explained, while also expressing concern for, the program's assessment outline. Jia indicated that the assessments provided by the program appear to be ignored and concluded that they did not have the funds to do assessment. Hurd indicated the difficulty of doing assessment of IDS Minors. Lippert expressed the sentiment that there had to be some way to do some sort of assessment and indicated three possibilities that immediately came to his mind. A general discussion occurred about potential ways to do assessment. This conversation largely included: Lippert, Hurd, Jia, Savage, Califf, and Paolucci. Paolucci and Lippert asked if other IDS Minors have some sort of an assessment model and if this should be required. Califf referenced history of ISU and that program review is comparatively new (within the last 15 years) and that putting "teeth" behind UCC reviews of IDS Minors might be a possibility but is difficult. Paolucci asked who is technically responsible for these programs and for assessment and expressed sentiment with financial concerns about assessment but indicated that there are university resources/offices that are specifically in place to support assessment. A general conversation occurred about assessment, and how to know they do what the UCC recommends they do. This conversation involved: Lippert, Califf, Savage.

Jia continued the review by covering the enrollment numbers. She explained the numbers and explained the program coordinator's definition of the terms used. She expressed concern with the math and how it added up, and also expressed concern with the terms used. The terms were "undergraduate" and "graduate." A general conversation occurred about the terms used, the terms that should have been used, how the numbers appear incorrect, and the statistical/data nuances these numbers may sometimes include. This discussion occurred primarily between: Paolucci, Hurd, Ray (guest), Newport, Jia. Ray (guest) indicated that "graduate minors" do not exist. Hurd indicated that Julie Huber provides the data to these programs and it is dependent on the programs to interpret the data. The term "graduate" should have been "completers" instead and the columns not added together.

Jia briefly highlighted the associated faculty. Jia moved on to the short/long term goals and reiterated her concerns already expressed previously, such as limited number of courses, obsolete course groupings, and the goals being seemingly a "wish list." Jia expressed assessment being more important and Califf asked how the program has an advisor. Hurd indicates that the advisor is in UCollege. Hurd indicated that the advisor and the program coordinator do not communicate about recruitment. Hurd goes on to indicate the wider history of IDS Minors and how they relate to the university generally. Hurd indicated the difficulties of making IDS minor more integrated and efficient. She posited possibilities such as a separate IDS department, funds, etc. Hurd indicated that there may be some dissatisfaction between IDS minors concerning how they are treated in relation to each other and other programs. A general conversation occurred about how IDS Minors usually start, if the university prioritizes IDS minors (or not), how these processes/policies look in relation to IDS Minors, and the future of having IDS Minor reviews reviewed by the UCC. This conversation primarily occurred between: Lippert, Hurd, Paolucci, Califf, Savage, and Jia. Lippert indicated that, since the UCC has no teeth to enforce recommendations on the program, what does the UCC do? Paolucci recommended that they submit program revisions through Curriculum Forms to make substantial changes. Hurd indicated that the various concerns of the UCC concerning IDS Minor reviews will be discussed with the new Provost.

Jia asked if the minor review is voted on. Hurd indicated that there is no vote. However, Hurd did indicate that Gawron (guest) and Hurd would work together to draft a memo for recommendations. Lindsey (guest) asked Jia to provide the document she used with her notes to Gawron (guest) to facilitate the process. Lindsey (guest) also expressed support for them submitting a program revision in Curriculum Forms. Lindsey (guest) responded to general questions about inactive courses, major blocks, and provided an advisor perspective of the concerns expressed, given her previous experience at ISU.

5. Liaison Assignments:

a. Council of General Education:

Nothing reported.

b. Council for Teacher Education:

Nothing reported.

c. Academic Affairs Committee:

Nothing reported. AAC meets the same night as UCC.

6. Staff Report:

Nothing reported

7. Miscellaneous:

Nothing reported

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Paolucci motioned. UCC adjourned approximately 4:25 pm.