

General Education Oversight Committee  
Report for 2011-12  
4/27/12

1. Course Review: The primary work of the committee continues to be reviewing proposals for courses to be designated to meet critical perspectives requirements. During the 2009-10 academic year, the committee approved (and the Committee on Instruction and the Faculty confirmed) 35 courses to fulfill the Diverse Cultures and Critiques requirement, 4 courses to fulfill the Scientific Inquiry requirement, and 4 courses to fulfill the West-in-Time requirement.

As a reminder, the committee meets on the first Wednesday of each block, so that courses may also be reviewed by the Divisional Executive Committees and passed on to Committee on Instruction at the beginning of the second week of each block. Course requests that reach the committee after that first Wednesday will be considered in the following block.

2. Assessment: The committee began carrying out the assessment plan presented to the faculty in April 2011. Our intention is to review critical perspectives courses taught by roughly one-third of the faculty who teach these courses each year. Because we needed to wait until Fall to make the initial assignments, we were unable to include faculty teaching courses in the first two blocks and did include many faculty teaching in block 8. So GEOC will receive reports from all partners through the end of this academic year or shortly thereafter. The next GEOC committee will review and analyze these. The current committee has recently assigned partners for the 2012-13 year. In general, GEOC will assign partners in block 8 for the following year, but review those results in the academic year after the assessment has taken place.

3. Change in Requirements: The Curriculum Committee proposed and the faculty passed new requirements effective with the incoming class. GEOC asked all faculty to respond quickly to the changes by getting courses approved so the new students will be able to tell what classes meet college requirements. In Block 7, GEOC presented fifty courses to the faculty for designation for the new Quantitative Reasoning requirement, and these were passed. In block 8, GEOC is bringing a list of all current courses designated as meeting Diverse Cultures and Critiques along with the responses we received from department and program chairs as to which of the new requirements these courses would meet (responses were Social Inequality, Global Cultures, Both, or Neither). New courses that have not been reviewed previously are not included in this list. All the DCC courses will continue to count until current students are gone. There are 104 courses being forwarded for Global Cultures, 123 for Social Inequality, and 89 that will meet both of these. Note that this includes cross-listed classes, so the actual count of seats is probably about two-thirds to three-quarters of this, but well in excess of the number we need.

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