

Minutes
COAS Requirements Task Force Committee
December 2, 2008

Members Present: I. Mallin, K. Bordens, L. Corbin, P. Dragnev, R. Hile, A. Livschiz, D. Kline, B. Kingsbury (chair), M. Jordan, L. Hess, N. Tuschling, G. Wang, M. Wolf, C. and H. McDonald-Lara

The meeting began at 12:00.

Peter Dragnev had emailed us text to introduce Part C: *Distribution*. We discussed this and this led us to consider 1. Science and Mathematics. There were concerns and confusion about why certain requirements included grade components (i.e., “C or better”), while in other places a D would suffice, and also why there appeared to multiple paths to satisfying that requirement which might not be equivalent. Most obviously, some paths would apparently not require a laboratory experience.

The grade requirement differences appeared to relate to Gen Ed requirements. We considered making these requirements across the board, but concluded that doing so would have unintended or unanticipated affects within departments and affect the graduation status. We decided to leave things as they were with respect to grades.

To tease apart the confusion regarding alternative paths, Irwin Mallin agreed to draft text for use throughout the document. Mark Jordan would examine the narrative regarding the laboratory experience, and provide additional text for Irwin to use.

We also began to consider the introductory language for Part D, *Cultural Studies* provided by Ken Bordens. This led to consideration of what was intended by Western and Non-Western Culture, and the notion of changing the requirement names from Western Tradition and Non-Western culture to more contemporary (appropriate?) names. We also talked about the history of why certain courses were included as options, and concluded not to make any decisions about that, focusing instead on what to call the groupings. Doug Kline agreed to explore the naming issue and propose alternatives.

We decided that we would wait to meet again in January, and concluded meeting for fall term.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15.