

Minutes
COAS Requirements Task Force Committee
March 3, 2009

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

The meeting began at 12:00.

Bruce Kingsbury distributed a handout that had both the revised Foreign Language requirements suggested by Rachel and Duston and another version from Bruce and Peter which built on the first version to include more flexibility. Bruce placed italics in several locations to highlight differences between the two versions.

The text of the handout is appended to these minutes, but concise distinctions of the two version follow. In both versions, as suggested by Duston previously, the language and foreign studies requirements were teased apart. The first version required that the two years of language were in one language, while the second only required that two years be taken. In the second version, one year of language had to be an international language.

In terms of foreign studies, in the first version, students could fulfill the requirement by taking two years of an international language (as is currently required), spending a semester outside of the United States formally enrolled in a post-secondary institution, or by completing INTL I200 and another approved course. The second version stipulated that the semester abroad be in a country where English was not the principal language. It also only required one additional course with a global focus rather than two.

Discussion then focused on modifying the second version into an acceptable form. Verbiage requiring that the country of residence for the semester abroad not have English as the primary language was removed. The time abroad was also altered to allow for a variety of options, such as a summer term, by requiring instead that the requirement was met by successfully transferring the equivalent of three credit hours acquired while in residency in the other country. We also clarified that alternatives to INTL I200 would not only need to be approved by COAS Curriculum Committee, but would need to be at the 200 level or higher, and must emphasize global issues.

Given the extent of these adjustments, members requested that we vote again on accepting this alternative language next meeting. This would provide individuals to obtain additional feedback prior to voting.

Our next meeting will be noon March 5, 2009, in SB 176. We will vote on the replacement text for the Foreign Language requirement (now labeled "Global Awareness"), and endeavor to tie up remaining topics so that the proposed COAS Degree Requirements will be ready to present to Executive Committee in time for placing on the Convocation agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15.

Rachel and Duston –

Part B: Language and Foreign Studies Requirement

For the B.A. degree, students must complete both a language requirement and a foreign studies requirement.

Language Requirement: Students will take two years of a language. Students may fulfill this requirement with an international language, American Sign Language, or a formal language (e.g., a computer programming language, symbolic logic).

Foreign Studies Requirement: Choose one of the following options to fulfill this requirement:

1. Complete the four-semester sequence in an international language (this option fulfills the language requirement at the same time).
2. Spend a semester as a formal student in a post-secondary institution outside the United States and its territories.
3. Complete INTL I200 and other course approved by the COAS curriculum committee (note that neither of these courses can be used to fulfill the Arts & Sciences non-Western requirement).

Bruce (and Peter) –

Part B: Global Awareness

The arts and sciences education traditionally includes an acquaintance with the languages and cultures of the world. We identify two requirements that must be satisfied: language and foreign studies.

Language Requirement: Students will take two years *of language* other than English. *At least one year of an international language is required.* Students may fulfill the second year of the requirement with an international language, American Sign Language, or a formal language (e.g., a computer programming language, symbolic logic).

Foreign Studies Requirement: Choose one of the following options to fulfill this requirement:

1. Complete the four-semester sequence in an international language (this option also fulfills the language requirement at the same time).
2. Spend a semester as a formal student in a post-secondary institution outside the United States and its territories *where English is not the principal language.*
3. Complete INTL I200 *or another* course approved by the COAS curriculum committee (note that this course cannot be used to fulfill the Arts & Sciences non-Western requirement).