

General Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2018 at 9 a.m.
HSS 3035

Voting Members Present: Zahid Hossain, Rebecca Oliver, Joseph Rukus, Marc Williams, Lillie Fears, David Harding, Paige Wimberley, Ferebee Tunno, Hong Zhou, Zahid Hossain, Robert Schichler, Bert Greenwalt, Gauri Guha, Karen Yanowitz

Ex-Officio Members Present: Summer DeProw

Staff Support: Mary Elizabeth Spence, Elizabeth Wakefield

Members Absent: Ali Khalil, LTC Brian Mason (proxy CPT Robert Anderson)

Called to order at 9:01 am by Chair Paige Wimberley

- I. Meeting minutes from October 29, 2018 – The committee deferred approving minutes until the next meeting.
- II. Dr. Lynita Cooksey's discussion about the Academic Program vision Strategy for reviewing Social Science General Education Learning Outcomes and/or all General Education Learning Outcomes – Dr. Cooksey discussed the method the Deans have taken to begin preparing for strategic planning which should begin University wide in the Spring of 2019. The main theme that has emerged from all of the meetings is that employers are looking for more digitized skills from their employees and thus the University will need to teach them these skills before the students graduate. Dr. Cooksey then talked to the committee about what this could mean for the General Education Program. Dr. DeProw handed out two handouts (see attached) for the committee to review, one for the ACTS background, and ACTS Math Review. Dr. Cooksey stressed that we need to make our general education unique and show that it has an intrinsic value so that students don't go take the general education courses elsewhere. Dr. Cooksey also mentioned that currently the legislature is working on common course numbering for general education courses across the state and that she has made it known in ADHE that this is not something she supports. The committee had a large discussion over the ACT Math Review handout, and the three courses that could be made available for the math general education requirement. Two of which we have at the university currently, college algebra and quantitative reasoning, but that a third option would be a freshman or sophomore level statistics course. Dr. Zhou asked if there are other institutions that have implemented the lower level stats class and if students their students have been successful later in their programs. Dr. Cooksey stated that there hasn't been any research on this yet, but other institutions have implemented this. Dr. Cooksey stated that we could gear the stats course towards their specific major to make the course more relevant to the student. Rebecca Oliver expressed concerned over students that don't have to take college algebra, and Dr. Cooksey agrees that we want our students to take College Algebra, but we also have to recognize that College Algebra is a gateway course. Dr. Harding stated maybe we should instead of looking at another

course, the University should look at really revamping the College Algebra course. Dr. Cooksey said that they are working on revamping the College Algebra by doing co-requisite courses that meet 5 days a week, but still count for 3 hours. The state has basically said college algebra cannot be the only math course available as a general education requirement. We need to continue to make sure, because the foundation of education is our general education that students want to take those general education courses because we are doing something unique and exciting here. Dr. Guha stated that until we make them (students and parents) see the intrinsic value of our courses, they are always going to flock to the cheaper courses. Dr. Cooksey mentioned that we are now using Civitas to go deeper into the data that we have. Dr. Yanowitz asked about the general education outcomes and how transfer credit will work if we add value to the general education courses. Dr. Cooksey replied by stating that we hope to make our General Education courses significantly different so that we can set ourselves apart from other places in the state, like UCA and Arkansas Tech.

The committee ran out of time for the day and deferred the rest of the meeting agenda to November 26th. If we get through the material for this meeting, then we won't meet on dead day, but if we don't we will discuss meeting on dead day as well.

- a. Strategy for reviewing Social Science General Education Learning Outcomes
- b. Appoint a chairperson
- c. Faculty fellow opportunity

Old Business

- III. Sub-committee #3 Presentation
 - a. ECON 2312 Principles of Macroeconomics-**REVISED REPORT**
 - b. ECON 2333 Economic Issues and Concepts

New Business

- IV. Sub-Committee Reports—IF TIME ALLOWS
 - a. Sub-committee #1: HIST 2763 US History to 1876; HIST 2773, US History since 1876
 - b. Sub-committee #2: None for this meeting
 - c. Sub-committee #3: HIST 1013 World Civilization to 1660; HIST 1023 World Civilization since 1660

If time allows:

Old Business for Future Meetings

- I. Task Force for Book of Committee
- II. ULO Report from Assessment Office
- III. Report from Teaching Award Committee
- IV. Substantive changes to assessment plan discussion

ACTS Background

Act 672 of 2005 directed the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to implement a transfer curriculum for all public colleges and universities in the state, effective December 1, 2006. Beginning in November 2004, 14 chief academic officers (CAO) from two- and four-year institutions began meeting to discuss developing a transfer system. The primary goals of the CAO Transfer Committee were to: (1) identify and reduce barriers to enable students to reach the highest attainment level possible; (2) comply with statutes that provide for seamless transfer; (3) reduce the number of individual articulation agreements by establishing a single statewide course transfer agreement that is simple, accessible, and student friendly; (4) provide an ongoing process for course transferability rather than a temporary fix; and (5) address course transfer issues identified by the Governor, legislators, institutions, and students.

Act 672 of 2005 specified that all freshman and sophomore general education courses must be accepted for full transfer credit in the appropriate subject area and that the criteria for course transferability would be determined by faculty teams grouped by discipline. Twenty-two faculty teams composed of college and university faculty met by disciplines in March 2006 to determine course transferability criteria for 88 courses. These faculty review teams determined appropriate course index numbers and index names and established course descriptions and learning outcomes for courses in their disciplines. All faculty who served on review teams were nominated by their institutions and appointed by the Executive Council of Presidents and Chancellors of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The CAO Transfer Committee will meet at least annually to determine inclusion of additional courses for the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS). All additional courses to be included in ACTS will be governed by the same process as detailed in Act 672 of 2005. Phase II of ACTS will add courses from accredited Arkansas private institutions that want to participate and submit syllabi that meet the criteria specified by the faculty review teams.

Colleges and universities will submit syllabi annually by March 15th to be considered for inclusion in the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) courses. As required by Act 672 of 2005, Arkansas colleges and universities will file a report annually with the Arkansas Department of Higher Education indicating the number of students requesting transfer credit for a completed course listed in ACTS and identifying the number of students denied credit for courses listed in ACTS.

ACTS Course List

1. ANTH1013 Introduction to Anthropology
2. ANTH2013 Cultural Anthropology
3. ARTA1003 Art Appreciation
4. ARTA2003 Art History Survey I
5. ARTA2103 Art History Survey II
6. BIOL1004 Biology for Non-Majors
7. BIOL1014 Biology for Majors
8. BIOL1024 Botany for Non-Majors
9. BIOL1034 Botany for Majors
10. BIOL1054 Zoology
11. BIOL2004 Introductory Microbiology
12. BIOL2404 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
13. BIOL2414 Human Anatomy and Physiology II
14. CHEM1004 Chemistry I for General Education
15. CHEM1214 Chemistry for Health Related Professions
16. CHEM1224 Chemistry II for Health Related Professions
17. CHEM1414 Chemistry I for Science Majors
18. CHEM1424 Chemistry II for Science Majors
19. CPSI1003 Introduction to Computers
20. CRJU1023 Introduction to Criminal Justice
21. DRAM1003 Theatre Appreciation
22. ECON2103 Principles of Macroeconomics
23. ECON2203 Principles of Microeconomics
24. ENGL1013 Composition I
25. ENGL1023 Composition II
26. ENGL2013 Introduction to Creative Writing
27. ENGL2023 Introduction to Technical Writing
28. ENGL2113 World Literature I
29. ENGL2123 World Literature II
30. ENGL2213 Western Literature I
31. ENGL2223 Western Literature II
32. ENGL2653 American Literature I
33. ENGL2663 American Literature II
34. ENGL2673 British Literature I
35. ENGL2683 British Literature II
36. FREN1013 French I
37. FREN1023 French II
38. FREN2013 French III
39. FREN2023 French IV
40. GEOG1103 Introduction to Geography
41. GEOG1113 Human Geography
42. GEOG2103 World Regional Geography
43. GEOG2113 Cultural Geography
44. GEOG2223 Physical Geography

45. GEOL1114 Physical Geology
46. GEOL1124 Environmental Geology
47. GEOL1134 Historical Geology
48. GERM1013 German I
49. GERM1023 German II
50. GERM2013 German III
51. GERM2023 German IV
52. HEAL1003 Personal Health
53. HIST1113 World Civilizations I
54. HIST1123 World Civilizations II
55. HIST1213 Western Civilization I
56. HIST1223 Western Civilization II
57. HIST2113 United States History I
58. HIST2123 United States History II
59. MATH1003 College Math
60. MATH1103 College Algebra
61. MATH1203 Plane Trigonometry
62. MATH1305 Pre-Calculus
63. MATH2103 Introduction to Statistics
64. MATH2203 Survey of Calculus
65. MATH2405 Calculus I
66. MATH2505 Calculus II
67. MATH2603 Calculus III
68. MUSC1003 Music Appreciation
69. PHIL1003 Introduction to Critical Thinking
70. PHIL1103 Philosophy
71. PHSC1004 Physical Science
72. PHSC1104 Earth Science
73. PHSC1204 Introduction to Astronomy
74. PHYS2014 Algebra/Trigonometry-Based Physics I
75. PHYS2024 Algebra/Trigonometry-Based Physics II
76. PHYS2034 Calculus-Based Physics I
77. PHYS2044 Calculus-Based Physics II
78. PLSC2003 American National Government
79. PLSC2103 State and Local Government
80. PSYC1103 General Psychology
81. PSYC2103 Developmental Psychology
82. SOCI1013 Introduction to Sociology
83. SOCI2013 Social Problems
84. SPAN1013 Spanish I
85. SPAN1023 Spanish II
86. SPAN2013 Spanish III
87. SPAN2023 Spanish IV
88. SPCH1003 Introduction to Oral Communication
89. MATH1113 Quantitative Literacy/Mathematical Reasoning



Arkansas Department of Higher Education

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Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Maria Markham, Ph.D.
Director

April 11, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to endorse the recommendations of the ACTS Math Review Committee regarding the applicability of Quantitative Literacy/Mathematical Reasoning toward the fields and degrees described herein. The Committee issues these recommendations after much thoughtful consideration and faculty lead debate. I ask that you, as institutional leaders, implement these recommendations in the upcoming academic year and move our state toward better alignment of mathematics pathways and stronger transfer of courses between institutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Markham".

Maria Markham, Ph.D.
Director

As provided by (ACA - § 6-61-218), the Department of Higher Education has convened an ACTS Mathematics Review Committee to comprehensively consider the issues of alignment and applicability in the State regarding Mathematics Pathways and appropriate competencies for degree programs. The legislation which grants this group the authority to determine the appropriate student learning outcomes for ACTS Mathematics courses was crafted with the intention of "strengthening the transfer of courses between institutions of higher education." The Committee is also attuned to identifying and recommending an appropriate mathematics pathway for Non-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) degree programs that will lead to higher degree completion from both two and four-year institutions. To that end, the committee has recognized the lack of mathematics transfer credit alignment and is concerned with students losing credits when transferring within the state.

College Algebra has long been the default for the general education mathematics requirement for all majors, including those considered Non-STEM. In recent years, institutions of higher education in the State of Arkansas, as well as in other states, have taken steps to provide additional mathematics pathways for students that would be more appropriate for their majors. While many students are benefiting from the development of the additional pathways, it is particularly challenging for students who intend to transfer from one institution to another. In addition, two-year transfer institutions have struggled to provide clear pathways for transfer students.

In an effort to better align degree programs and strengthen the Non-STEM mathematics pathways across the State, the ACTS Mathematics Review Committee has issued recommendations to guide institutions as they determine which degrees/programs should accept Quantitative Literacy/Mathematical Reasoning (ACTS Course MATH1113) as the general education mathematics requirement. The attached list was developed by the committee using a preexisting list of programs and institutions already accepting QL/MR in Arkansas, the aggregated data on the top transfer programs in the past five (5) years, and the most current research on Forging Relevant Mathematics Pathways in Arkansas published by the Charles A. Dana Center. The chart below outlines the broader fields that were identified by the committee, while the attached list is a detailed list of bachelor level programs currently available at four-year institutions in Arkansas.

Recommended QL/MR Fields
Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
English Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies, and Humanities
Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services
Public Administration and Social Services
Visual and Performing Arts
History
Sociology, Political Science
Elementary Education K-6
Special Education
Middle Level Education (Language Arts & Social Sciences)

Sincerely,
ACTS Math Review Committee

Inst	College Name	Award	Degree Name	CIP Block	CIP Detail
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	Communication Studies	09	0100
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BS	Multimedia Journalism	09	0499
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BS	Creative Media Production	09	0799
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BS	Strategic Communications	09	0999
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BSE	Special Education K-12	13	1099
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BSE	Elementary Education	13	1210
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	World Languages & Cultures	16	0101
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	English	23	0101
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BGS	General Studies	24	0102
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BS	Interdisciplinary Studies	24	0102
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BS	Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management	43	0302
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BSW	Social Work	44	0701
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	Political Science	45	1001
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	Sociology	45	1101
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BFA	Graphic Design	50	0402
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	Theatre	50	0501
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	Art	50	0701
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BFA	Art	50	0701
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	Music	50	0901
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BM	Music	50	0903
ASUJ	Arkansas State University Jonesboro	BA	History	54	0101
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Communication	09	0101
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Journalism	09	0401
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BS	Elementary Education	13	1202
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Foreign Language	16	0101
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	English	23	0101
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BFA	Creative Writing	23	1302
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Criminal Justice and Criminology	43	0104
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BS	Emergency Administration & Management	43	0302
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Political Science	45	1001
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Sociology	45	1101
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Graphic Design	50	0409
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Game and Interactive Media Design	50	0411
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Fine Arts	50	0701
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Music	50	0901
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	History	54	0101
ATU	Arkansas Tech University	BA	Public History	54	0105
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Communication	09	0100
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Mass Media Communication	09	0401
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Innovative Media	09	0702
HSU	Henderson State University	BSE	Special Education K-12	13	1001
HSU	Henderson State University	BS	Educational Studies Elementary	13	1202
HSU	Henderson State University	BSE	Elementary Education	13	1202
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Spanish	16	0905
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	English	23	0101
HSU	Henderson State University	BIS	Integrated Studies	24	0102
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Criminal Justice	43	0104
HSU	Henderson State University	BS	Criminal Justice	43	0104
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Public Administration/Public Management	44	0401
HSU	Henderson State University	BS	Human Services	44	0701
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Political Science	45	1001
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Sociology	45	1101
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Theatre Arts	50	0501
HSU	Henderson State University	BFA	Studio Art	50	0701
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	Music	50	0901
HSU	Henderson State University	BM	Music	50	0903
HSU	Henderson State University	BM	Music, Education K-12	50	0903
HSU	Henderson State University	BA	History	54	0101
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BA	Mass Communications	09	0401
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BSE	Elementary Education	13	1210
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BA	Foreign Language	16	0905
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BA	English	23	0101
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BUS	University Studies	24	0102
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BS	Criminal Justice	43	0104
SAUM	Southern Arkansas University - Magnolia	BS	Human Performance, Recreation, & Community Service	44	0201