

## Senate Committee Annual Report

Academic Year  
2018-2019

Senate Committee:

**University Studies Committee**

What is the duty of this committee?

1.32(11)

### 11. University Studies Committee

#### a. Charge

The University Studies Committee shall oversee the institution, maintenance, and development of the University Studies (general education) curriculum.

Specifically, the Committee will:

- Review and recommend modifications, as needed, to the general education program, including the associated goals and proficiencies.
- Develop and maintain criteria for courses meeting specific goals.
- Review and recommend new courses to Faculty Senate through the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee that will meet University Studies criteria.
- Develop and maintain a systematic process for reviewing existing courses that are approved for University Studies at least once every five years to assure they continue to meet current criteria.
- Recommend policy changes or additions needed to support general education at Southern Oregon University.
- Assist faculty or staff responsible for evaluating transfer courses.
- Work with the Institutional Assessment Committee regarding the effectiveness of the general education component of Southern Oregon University's undergraduate degrees.

#### b. Membership

The University Studies Committee will be composed of eight faculty members, one each from the following Divisions:

- Oregon Center for the Arts
- Business, Communication and Environmental Science and Policy
- Education, Health, and Leadership
- Humanities and Culture
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Social Sciences
- Undergraduate Studies
- Library

#### c. Ex Officio Membership and Administrative Contact

The Associate Provost; Director of University Studies, Chair of the Academic Assessment Committee (or designee), and one professional advisor from Academic Support Programs serve ex officio. The Associate Provost is the administrative contact for this committee.

#### d. Reporting, Meetings and Workload

The University Studies Committee makes recommendations to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. The Committee meets every other week. The workload is consistent throughout the academic year.

2. **What did the committee accomplish during this academic year?** University Studies met 11 times over the Academic Year. Also, a half-day J-Strand Template update workshop was conducted winter term. A total of 14 courses were approved and sent forward to Faculty Senate. Twenty-three courses were reviewed. A total of 23 courses were received.

<b><u>Explorations:</u></b> <i>Strand E Arts &amp; Humanities</i>	<b><u>Explorations:</u></b> <i>Strand F Social Science</i>	<b><u>Explorations:</u></b> <i>Strand G Science</i>
GL 201 TA 169	MUS 210 DCIN 202	CH 104/104L
<b><u>Integrations:</u></b> <i>Strand H Science, Technology &amp; Society</i>	<b><u>Integrations:</u></b> <i>Strand I Citizenship &amp; Social Responsibility</i>	<b><u>Integrations:</u></b> <i>Strand J Diversity &amp; Global Awareness</i>
COMM 486 ENG 383 BI 383 BI 384	COMM 442 COMM 446 BA 411	GSWS 301 SOAN 323

#### Courses Reviewed:

Course #/ Title	Strand	Status
BA 330: Principles of Marketing	I Strand	DENIED
BA 411: Sustainable Tourism	I Strand	APPROVED
BI 383: How and Why Do Animals Behave?	H Strand	APPROVED
BI 384: Where Did We Come From? (A Scientific Exploration into the Origin of Life	H Strand	APPROVED
CH 104 + CH 104L: Survey of Chemistry + Lab	G Strand	APPROVED
COMM 322: Online Journalism	I Strand	WITHDRAWN
COMM 442: Global Communication & Social Change	I Strand	APPROVED
COMM 446: Risk & Crisis Communication	I Strand	APPROVED
COMM 486: Health, the Internet & Technology	H Strand	APPROVED
CW 220: Introduction to Creative Writing	E Strand	--
DCIN 202: History of Cinema	F Strand	APPROVED
EMDA 330: Virtual Reality & Algorithmic Culture	H Strand	WITHDRAWN
ENG 383: Intermediate Topics in Rhetoric: Environmental Writing	H Strand	APPROVED
ENG 447: Race in Britain: Literature After 1945	J Strand	APPROVED
GL 210: Intermediate: German Language and Culture I	E Strand	APPROVED
GSWS 301: Global Gender Movements	J Strand	APPROVED
MUS 210: American Country Music	F Strand	APPROVED
PHL 213: Existentialist Philosophy and Literature	E Strand	--
SOAN 323: Sociology of Sport	J Strand	APPROVED
SOAN 339: The Vikings in History & Contemporary Society	J Strand	--
TA 169: Elements of Design	E Strand	APPROVED

TA 352: Advanced Script Analysis	J Strand	WITHDRAWN
TA 484: CAD for Theater	H Strand	DENIED

Suggested work and accomplishments for the AY:

**TASK: Revisit Faculty Templates for Integration Courses** (*\*based on the number of courses not approved or sent back for revisions*) the committee revisited the faculty templates. This task will continue into academic year 2018-2019. The H-strand template is posted in the Google shared drive for Faculty Senate review, and was also presented at the final meeting June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting. Strands I & J still are still under consideration and the work will continue in AY 2018-2019.

Accomplished (2018-2019): The **J Strand template** updates completed. Final voting was achieved end of May, 2019, discussion item for last Faculty Senate meeting June 2019.

**TASK: Created a pathway for Integration intensive writing course to submit student samples for Institutional assessment review.** A pathway for Writing Intensive Courses (WIC) in Integration was created through the course maximum work completed across campus. The goal is to work with faculty who have identified their Integration course as WIC. Through a transparent assignment design, the student writing sample will be collected for Institutional Assessment. As WIC for Integration move forward, samples will be collected and scored. Starting fall, 2018, the faculty will receive a reminder from the Division of Undergraduate Studies noting the process for collection (insert link in Moodle student to self - submit or??...work in progress). With the assistance of the Center for Instructional Support, transparent assignment assistance will be offered to support faculty working through this process.

Accomplished (2018-2019): Not completed. Provisions in the bylaws and intensive writing courses do not align for request. **Still working to create a pathway** to this goal.

**TASK: Promoted Awareness of University Studies through Raider Registration, Preview Day, & Advising**

Through the Office of Undergraduate Studies, presentations for parents, prospective students, families and the community continue to occur across campus and beyond. Raider Reg. opportunities allow for parents to become acquainted with the liberal arts education and our SOU University Studies model. The shift from a high school to college, how to be successful in college, and understanding the difference in workload.

Accomplished (2018-2019): Attend and presented at all **Raider Registration** in summer 2018. Worked the Preview Days in fall 2018, winter 2019, and spring 2019. Will continue to present to parents at **Raider Registration** in summer 2019.

**Special TASK: Language clarification for Integration strands H, I, J**

The Registrar's office asked University Studies Committee to clarify the intent of the integration language noted on the Website. The language stated, two of the three courses could be from the major. This language confused DegreeWorks and students. The final verbiage reflects the original intent of the Committee. This has been adopted by UStudies and Faculty Senate:

*9 to 12 credits, earned by 1 course in each of the following categories (H, I, J); two of the Integration courses can carry the same prefix and one must be different.*

**3. Given what you have learned this year, what goals do you recommend this senate committee focus upon in the upcoming year?**

- PLP Work for General Education. Completed, several have put their names forward for the taskforce.
- Continued Review Foundations. Completed.
- Continue Campus conversation concerning General Education. Ongoing.
- Alignment with HB 2998. Foundations completed, overall work, ongoing.

**4. Who currently serves on this committee? AY 2017-2018 membership?**

<b>One Year Term</b>	<b>Two Year Terms</b>	<b>Three Year Terms</b>
de Vries, Kylan - SS/HC Colley, Brook – HC (Spring) Marianne Golden Roni Adams- DEHL (Winter) Younghee Kim	Vidmar, Dale - LIB - chair Whitman, Elizabeth - US	Weldon, Charles - STEM Eldridge, Leslie – BCE (Spring) Erik Palmer

Ex Officio members include: SSC: Donny Nickelson, Division Director UGS: Lee Ayers, Associate Provost: Jody Waters, *spring term* SSC: Edward Derr

**5. Work Completed for the PLC General Education**

As of **Spring 2019**, the following represents the eligible Exploration and Integration courses offered for each strand.

<b>Foundation Strands A – D</b>	<b>First Year Experience</b>	
Strand A, B, C	Seminar (traditional) (several theme options)	101, 102, 103 required <i>*other options see catalog</i>
Strand D	Mathematics	10 possible classes

<b>Exploration</b>	(100 – 200) level	Required
Strand E	74	3 classes
Strand F	38	3-classes
Strand G	33* 5 non-lab	3-classes
<b>Integration</b>	(300 – 400) level)	
Strand H	56	1 class
Strand I	71	1-class
Strand J	78	1-class

Since the University Studies review our offerings have expanded to:

<b>University Studies</b>	<b>Possible Courses</b>	<b>Growth Since 5-YR Review (2 Academic Years 2017/18 to 2018/19)</b>
Explorations	145	27
Integrations	205	45
Total Offerings (E – J)	350	72

### University Studies Petition For Substitution: Approved

Many transfer courses are articulated and directly come to SOU as equivalent. Classes that do not directly articulate to University Studies may be petitioned for substitution by a student. Below is a snapshot of courses Strands E – J, Academic Years 2013 – 2019.

#### Explorations

	AY 13/14	AY 14/15	AY 15/16	AY 16/17	AY 17/18	AY 18/19	Total
E Strand Humanities	58	179	81	61	102	100	581
F Strand Social Science	23	77	28	26	30	36	220
G Strand Science	46	289	116	112	154	118	835
Grand Totals	127	545	225	199	286	254	1,636

#### Integration

	AY 13/14	AY 14/15	AY 15/16	AY 16/17	AY 17/18	AY 18/19	Total
H/ I/ J Strands	65	89	54	53	62	48	371

Respectfully Submitted, University Studies Committee AY 2018-2019