

# FHSU General Education Committee

---

## Minutes

### Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

**Date:** Thursday October 22, 2020

**Time:** 3:30-5:00

**Location:** <https://fhsu.zoom.us/j/94675596647>

### Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Christina Glenn (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman Miller (Ed)

Phillip Olt (Ed)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Denise Orth (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Lanee Young (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Isaiah Schindler (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

---

3:31 (1 minute) Determined that a quorum was met. All members were eventually present (Miller, Orth, and Smith arrived late to the meeting).

3:32 (1 minute) The minutes from the October 15 meeting were approved.

3:33 (13 minutes) The committee had considered a proposal last week for PHYS 208: Elementary Meteorology to satisfy outcomes 2.1D.1-2 (natural scientific mode of inquiry, non-lab portion). As the assignments and rubric did not connect with the two outcomes, we had decided to table the proposal and speak with the Department of Physics about what is needed for this course to meet these objections. In the interim, a revised syllabus had been added to the proposal, but it had not been revised in a way that addressed our concerns. After coming to a consensus about this, the committee met with Gavin Buffington, chair of the department, about the disconnect between the course as proposed and the required outcomes. The committee decided to **table** the proposal until further action from the department.

3:46 (29 minutes) Attention turned next to a proposal from the Department of Criminal Justice for CRJ 101: Introduction to Criminal Justice to satisfy outcomes 1.5.1-2 (lower-division critical thinking). As with the meteorology course, the assignments and rubric here did not connect with the two outcomes. After coming to a consensus about this, the committee met with Tamara Lynn, chair of the department, about the disconnect between the course as proposed and the required outcomes. The committee decided to **table** the proposal until further action from the department.

4:15 (2 minutes) The committee briefly reviewed our new practice of asking faculty members who are proposing CORE courses to wait outside our meeting and join us only after we've discussed the proposal as a committee. It seems to be working well enough for us to continue doing it this way for now.

4:17 (13 minutes) Our experience with the two courses this week indicates that, even at the level of department chairs, it is still less than perfectly clear to our colleagues that the new CORE program is based on *a foundation of outcomes*, and that for courses to be suitable for acceptance into the program, they must be designed to teach students how to meet those outcomes. Two suggestions (decisions?) were made for getting the word out on this: (1) that the primacy of outcomes be emphasized in any rubric workshops being organized by the Faculty Development Committee, and (2) that the nature of the CORE as an outcome-based program be made the study topic for one or more meetings of the A.A.L. (Academy of Academic Leadership, which is to say, the chairs and deans).

4:30 (1 minute) Chair reminded the committee that the online assessment conference we were invited to participate in will take place this weekend.

4:31 Meeting ended. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 29 in cyberspace. In the docket are the revision of HIST 379: Historical Methods for satisfying outcomes 1.4 (information literacy), and the revision of HIST 675: Seminar in History for satisfying outcomes 1.1A.1-2 and 1.5.3 (written communication and upper-division critical thinking).

---

**Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary**

