

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE**

HUMANITIES CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

**MINUTES OF THE HUMANITIES CURRICULUM COMMITTEE held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 10:00 am
in the Governing Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall**

Present

Mary Pugh (Acting Vice-Dean)	Dina Georgis	Josh Scott
Thomas MacKay	Sol Goldberg	Kaitlyn Simpson
Martha Harris	Jade Hazell	Sara Solis
Kevin Mak	Tamara Jones	Jeffrey Steele
Christy Anderson	Alexei Kochetov	Bart Testa
Alexander Andrée	Paul Kutasi	Tamara Trojanowska
Christine Babikian	Terry Lago	Anne Urbancic
Erol Boran	June Larkin	Berenice Villagomez
Imogen Dickie	Jennifer Mori	Rob Vipond
Sharon English	Mirella Pasquarelli-Clivio	
Linda Rui Feng	Mary-Ann Pouls-Wegner	
Carol Finlay	Michael Ratcliffe	

Call to Order and Acting Vice-Dean's Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by the Acting Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International, Mary Pugh, who welcomed everyone.

1. Report from the Acting Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International

Vice-Dean Pugh first acknowledged the approximately 100 pages of course proposals to be reviewed today and possibly tomorrow, then proceeded to addressing a couple of larger matters.

The first matter addressed was with respect to the declining undergraduate enrolment within the Faculty and the disproportion of students enrolled in the various programs. Undergraduate enrolment is declining, and the Faculty is not in a growth mode. She encouraged all departments and units to treat the students well, as well as help them get from start to finish with the appropriate resources, opportunities and support.

Second, Vice-Dean Pugh discussed the importance of completing all proposal fields in submissions for committee, including notes on consultation conducted with other departments as opposed to just internally. It is important to be thorough with proposals and consult with each other instead of working in silos. Proposal submissions are viewed as crucial documents. When questions arise regarding previously approved courses, these documents can then be retrieved and utilized to locate and identify the root of the issue. While part of the consultation process can take place in curriculum committee meetings, it is better to do things properly than rubberstamping.

The third item addressed was with respect to the treatment of longtime untaught courses currently found in the Calendar. It came to the attention that departments were keeping a number of courses that had not been offered in the last three, five or ten years in the Calendar. This presents the risk of giving students, particularly those interested in transferring to the Faculty of Arts and Science, a false sense of expectations regarding actual course availability and options. Vice-Dean Pugh immediately followed with a question to the Committee. The question

involved determining the appropriate amount of time a course that had not been taught would remain in the Calendar. There was considerable support for a period of between three and five years. Having said that, some of the other issues raised for consideration included the size of a department (and the resulting impact of sabbaticals and a higher proportion of sessional lecturers teaching in certain years); the not-so-rare occurrence of courses being taught every second year; and the difficulty of cross-listing courses in the case of a small department or program. It was also mentioned that in certain departments such as French and Mathematics, each course could be taught by at least three faculty members. This topic was raised for the purpose of discussion and consultation and that it was not going to become an automatic practice, but at the procedural level, it would be useful to help students better identify and plan their course choices.

2. Course Modifications for Abbreviated Review: Questions/Discussions

Vice-Dean Pugh solicited feedback from the Committee regarding course proposals containing changes that were viewed and perceived as benign to the Dean's Office at the Faculty of Arts and Science, and invited comments on items that warranted additional attention. No issues were raised.

4. Proposals for First-Year Seminars for Full Review

Note: This item was brought before item #3 at the Acting Vice-Dean's request.

Vice-Dean Pugh solicited feedback from the Committee regarding proposals for First-Year Seminars. These courses were intended to be "as broadly appealing... as possible." A member commented on the TBB199H1: Exploring Heritage Languages course proposal, stating that she had students who would be interested in taking such a course, but would like to seek clarification on the definition of "Heritage Languages" in the context of this course. Professor Alexei Kochetov from the Department of Linguistics indicated that he would consult with instructor of this course to clarify. All course proposals were approved.

3. Course Proposals for Full Review

Innis College:

Ms. Sharon English, Director of the Writing & Rhetoric Program presented proposals to create one new course and retire one course. Both course proposals were approved.

Religion, Department for the Study of:

Professor Sol Goldberg of the Department for the Study of Religion and the Centre for Jewish Studies presented proposals for two new joint courses, one with New College and the other with the Department of Political Science. Vice-Dean Pugh commented on how the prerequisites for JPR459H1 (Fanaticism: A Political History) had recognized the relevance of various courses and communicated a certain amount of sophistication without actually listing specific courses. Both course proposals were approved.

New College:

Professor June Larkin, Vice-Principal of New College presented proposals to retire two courses. Both course proposals were approved.

Art, Department of:

Professor Christy Anderson, Associate Chair of Undergraduate Studies presented proposals for three new courses. Vice-Dean Pugh commented on the numerous programs listed for which FAH326H1 (Cultural History of Islamic Spain) might be suitable and solicited feedback regarding this course proposal. Multiple departments expressed interest in cross listing this course. Professor Anderson also indicated that FAH472H1 (Studies in Modern Architecture) would appear in the Daniels Faculty Undergraduate Academic Calendar, but Arts and Science students would have enrolment priority in this course. All course proposals were approved.

Cinema Studies Institute:

Mr. Bart Testa, Undergraduate Coordinator of the Institute presented proposals to create three new courses and retire one course. Vice-Dean Pugh thanked the Institute for consulting with the Book and Media Studies Program regarding the three new course proposals given the courses' new/digital media focus. All course proposals were approved.

Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, Centre for:

Professor Tamara Trojanowska presented proposals for one new course and four course modifications. She highlighted the growing interest in indigenous studies as an important factor for the creation of DRM363H1 [Storying the Possible: Talking Treaties, Rehearsing (Re) conciliation]. It was confirmed that INS201Y1 (Introduction to Indigenous Studies: Foundations, History and Politics) should be added as an exclusion to DRM363H1. This course proposal was approved with the added INS course exclusion.

In addressing the course modifications, she sought clarification on breadth requirements and categories for full-year and half-year courses, as the DRM Undergraduate Curriculum Committee was investigating the broadening of breadth courses. It was confirmed that only one breadth category could be assigned for a half-year course, while two breadth categories could be assigned for a full-year course. All of the course modification proposals were approved.

East Asian Studies, Department of:

Professor Linda Rui Feng, Undergraduate Coordinator of the Department presented seven new course proposals. It was confirmed that EAS103H1 (Premodern East Asia) should be added as a prerequisite for EAS248H1 (Marxism and East Asia). The EAS248H1 course proposal was approved with the added EAS103H1 prerequisite. Political Science representative noted they would consult their Undergraduate Coordinator for any feedback. Contemporary Asian Studies was not present to offer feedback. The rest of the course proposals were approved, noting that the Department of Political Science would further consult with the Department of East Asian Studies as necessary.

French, Department of:

Professor Jeffrey Steele, Associate Chair of Undergraduate Studies presented proposals to create six new courses as well as retire seven courses. In response to the JFG388H1 (Bilingualism, Multilingualism, and Second Language Acquisition) course proposal, a question was raised regarding the difference between bilingualism and second language acquisition, which Professor Steele addressed, commenting that second language acquisition is a form of bilingualism but acquired at different stages. In addition, the Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations expressed interest in collaborating with the Department of French in this area in future years. Vice-Dean Pugh reiterated that consultation in best practice involves more than just speaking with stakeholders internally within the department.

It was confirmed that JFL477H1 (Issues in French and Linguistics I: Neurolinguistics) and JFL478H1 (Issues in French and Linguistics II) should be added as exclusions to FRE486H1 (Special Topics in French Linguistics). The FRE486H1 course proposal was approved with the addition of JFL477H1 and JFL478H1 as exclusions. The rest of the course proposals were also approved.

Germanic Languages & Literatures, Department of:

Professor Erol Boran, Associate Chair of Undergraduate Studies presented proposals for three new courses. For GER391H1 (iPRAKTIKUM Experiential Learning and Internationalization Internship), Vice-Dean Pugh raised questions regarding enrolment numbers and possible enrolment controls to be implemented. Professor Boran suggested that this course would have an enrolment capacity of approximately 20. Given the experiential learning nature of the GER391H1, Vice-Dean Pugh suggested to incorporate this course into the German Specialist program to allow international students to apply for an opportunity, and might also make the program more attractive to students. She also confirmed with the representative from History that they were satisfied with consultation regarding GER290H1. Regarding GER391H1, it was confirmed that this course would replace an internship course, and 20 was suggested as an enrolment cap. All course proposals were approved.

History & Philosophy of Science & Technology, Institute for the:

As there was no one from the Institute to speak to the new course proposals, these were held for the remainder of the meeting (for overflow business) scheduled to take place on the following day (Wednesday, November 15).

History, Department of:

Professor Jennifer Mori, Associate Chair, Undergraduate presented proposals to create seven new courses and retire twelve courses. HIS436H1 (Stalinist Terror) was held as Professor Mori would like to further discuss the proposed prerequisite requirements with the course instructor. Vice-Dean Pugh commented on the year-long nature of HIS417Y1 (The Oldest Profession in Canada: Sex Work Histories in Comparative Contexts), stating that having/creating a year-long course at the 400-level would be a real investment and somewhat unusual. Professor Mori responded that the methodology and issues covered in the course would be extensive enough to warrant a full-year course/classification.

In response to the HIS465H1 (Gender and International Relations) course proposal, Mr. Thomas MacKay, Director of Faculty Governance & Curriculum Services inquired about the rationale for the creation of this half-year course while keeping the year-long version of the course. Professor Mori responded that this arrangement would provide flexibility for the course instructor depending on the workload and commitments in place. With the exception of HIS436H1, all course proposals were approved.

Italian Studies, Department of:

Professor Mirella Pasquarelli-Clivio, Undergraduate Coordinator presented proposals to create six new courses and retire one course. The creation of the various 300- and 400-level Special Topics courses was to focus on four areas: linguistics, literature, cinema, and culture. Vice-Dean Pugh asked whether the Department of Italian Studies would like to restrict enrolment in third-year Special Topics courses to second-year students, similar to what was proposed for 400-level Special Topics courses. Professor Pasquarelli-Clivio indicated that the Department would be comfortable with first-year students taking these 300-level courses.

A couple of comments and questions were raised with respect to the number of Special Topics courses and the course titles being proposed. These resulted in the Department seeking clarification on the way Special Topics courses would appear on a student's transcript. Vice-Dean Pugh and Dr. Martha Harris, Manager of Governance & Curriculum Services at the Faculty of Arts and Science, clarified that as long as the subtitles of the Special Topics courses were different, students would be able to take the same course again and again in sequence but not simultaneously. All course proposals were approved.

Linguistics, Department of:

Professor Alexei Kochetov presented proposals to create one course and modify another. In response to the LIN402H1 (Linguistic Typology and Constructed Languages) course proposal, the Department of French indicated that they had responded to the course description that was circulated for consultation regarding potential overlapping. Vice-Dean Pugh confirmed that the Department of French (FRE) would be added to the proposal as one of the departments/programs that have confirmed the circulation of the course description. Both course proposals were approved.

Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, Department of:

Professor Mary-Ann Pouls-Wegner, Undergraduate Coordinator presented proposals to create ten new courses and retire five courses. She indicated that the Department was moving away from survey courses and shifting its focus to topics courses. A question was raised in response to the new NML461H1 (Persian Literature: Ethical, Erotic, and Mystical) course proposal as the course code is currently in use for another course (Modern Persian Poetry). Professor Pouls-Wegner expressed her intention to look into using other course codes that had not been used for a few years, such as NML467H1, NML468H1 or NML469H1. Vice-Dean Pugh raised a question regarding the "Archaeology of Stuff" title as appeared in the NMC264H course proposal. Professor Pouls-Wegner confirmed that the Royal Ontario Museum was consulted on this course proposal and was satisfied with the course title. With the exception of the course code modification for NML461H1, all course proposals were approved.

As there were only ten minutes remaining, Vice-Dean Pugh asked if there were any departments who would not be present at the meeting (for overflow business) the next day to present their proposals. Four additional departments/programs/units were able to present their proposals.

Victoria College:

Professor Anne Urbancic, Director of Academic Programs presented proposals to create two new courses, modify one existing course, and retire one course. The creation of the VIC338H1 (Renaissance in the City) half-year course was due to the difficulty in hiring a faculty member in teaching a full-year course. This half-year course would focus on one city as opposed to multiple cities. The College would like to keep the VIC348Y0 course for Summer Abroad purposes. All course proposals were approved.

Philosophy, Department of:

Professor Imogen Dickie, Associate Chair of Undergraduate Studies presented proposals to create three new courses and retire one course. In response to the PHL339H1 (Indian Philosophy) course proposal, a question was raised with respect to the appropriateness of excluding students who had completed RLG366H1 (Hindu Philosophy) from taking this course due to the overlap as identified in the proposal. All course proposals were approved, noting that further consultation would take place between the Department of Religion and the Department of Philosophy as necessary.

regarding PHL339H1. (*Addendum:* Following consultation between RLG and PHL, no concerns were noted regarding overlap.)

Women and Gender Studies Institute:

Professor Dina Georgis, Undergraduate Coordinator presented four new course proposals. These four new courses were created to provide fourth-year students with more choices to fulfill their requirements in order to graduate. Vice-Dean Pugh noted regarding the WGS380H1 course proposal, that the Department of English already had a course on comics and superheroes. Professor Georgis did not feel overlap would be a concern since WGS380H1 would take a different perspective on this subject. All course proposals were approved.

St. Michael's College:

Professor Alexander Andrée, Undergraduate Coordinator of the Centre for Mediaeval Studies presented proposals to create three new courses and retire one course. All course proposals were approved.

5. Other Business

Please see Minutes of the Humanities Curriculum Committee held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017.

6. Adjournment

Since time ran out, the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 pm. The rest of the departments who had not presented their proposals would do so the next morning on Wednesday, November 15.