UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

HUMANITIES CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING (FOR OVERFLOW BUSINESS)

MINUTES OF THE HUMANITIES CURRICULUM COMMITTEE held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 9:00 am
in the Governing Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall

Present
Mary Pugh (Acting Vice-Dean)  Joseph Berkovitz  Michael Ratcliffe
Thomas MacKay  Michael Kessler  Jeffrey Steele
Martha Harris  Terry Lago  Rob Vipond
Kevin Mak  Naomi Nagy
Christine Babikian  Manuel Ramírez

Call to Order and Welcome/Remark from the Acting Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 am by the Acting Vice-Dean, Undergraduate & International, Mary Pugh, who welcomed everyone and signaled the meeting would continue from where it was left off on the previous day.

2. Course Proposals for Full Review (Continued)

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

Professor Joseph Berkovitz, Director of Undergraduate Studies from the Institute presented proposals to create three new courses and retire two courses. Vice-Dean Pugh raised a question regarding the status of instructors proposed to be teaching the new courses. Professor Berkovitz responded that tenured faculty members including himself would be teaching the courses. Another question was raised about the possibility of first-year students attempting to take the new HPS401H1 (Scientific Artifacts) course. Professor Berkovitz responded that students taking this course would likely have background in HPS in order to bridge the connection to the subject matter. All course proposals were approved.

History, Department of:

Acting Vice-Dean Pugh presented a revised version of a new course proposal for HIS436H1 (Stalinist Terror) on behalf of the Department of History. A revision was made in the course’s Prerequisites. The change in Prerequisites was to ensure first-year students would not enrol in this course but at the same time make the course accessible enough to students. This course proposal was approved.

Spanish and Portuguese, Department of:

Professor Manuel Ramírez, Undergraduate Coordinator of the Department presented proposals to create three new SPA courses and one new PRT course. Professor Ramírez indicated that permanent Associate Professors would be teaching these new courses. A concern was raised regarding the SPA327H1 (Catalan) proposal as the new course code might create confusion for students who were used to the previous course code of SPA325H1. Professor Ramírez responded that SPA325H1 was last offered four years ago. A follow-up question was asked regarding the need to retire the full-year version of the course, SPA327Y1, and it was confirmed that this should be retired.
In response to the SPA387H1 (Latin American Performatve Expression) course proposal, a comment was made regarding the course’s potential overlap with other departments. It was clarified that the course would be taught in English, so the experience would be very different from other courses in performance topics. Professor Ramírez added that unless it was specified in the Calendar that a course was taught in English, all courses would be taught in Spanish. All course proposals were approved.

Trinity College:

Professor Michael Kessler, Raymond Pryke Chair and Director of the Margaret MacMillan Trinity One Program presented proposals to create two new courses. Vice-Dean Pugh asked about the College’s plan to increase the number of students enrolled in Trinity One. Professor Kessler responded that increasing the Trinity One streams from six to seven would mean 25 additional students would be able to enrol in this program. All course proposals were approved.

United States, Centre for the Study of the:

Professor Robert Vipond, Director of the Centre for the Study of the United States and American Studies Program, presented nine course modification proposals. He provided background information leading to the proposed assignment of breadth categories to the Centre’s USA 300- and 400-level courses. In the United States, American Studies is generally more humanities-based, whereas in Canada, there is more intersection of various disciplines. To that end, half of the USA envelope/shell courses were proposed to have the Category 1: Creative and Cultural Representations classification, while the other half were proposed to have the Category 3: Society and Its Institutions classification. Students in the American Studies program also indicated that they would like to see more Category 1 courses being offered in the program. All course proposals were approved.

3. Other Business

There was no other business.

4. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:46 am.