True Blue Core Committee Minutes

November 17, 2023

Meeting started at 12:30 and there was a check on quorum which was met with 11 members.

**Voting members in attendance:** Leon Alligood, Nita Brooks, Laura Cochrane, Janet Colson, Teresa Davis, Rebecca Fischer, Keith Gamble, Natalie Griffin, Suzanne Mangrum, Ann McCullough, Scott McDaniel (Zoom), Keely O’Brien, Amy Sayward, Jorge Vargas

**Voting members absent:** Yi Gu, Angela Hooser, Sungyoon Lee, Giselle Noel, Kera Reynolds, Stephen Salter,

**Ex Officio in attendance:** Jeff Gibson (Zoom), Susan Myers-Shirk

**Implementation Team in attendance:** Tammy Melton, Kristen West, Beth Wright

**Faculty Senate Observers in attendance:** Kari Neely

**True Blue Core Team in attendance:** Thomas Hudson

**Guests:** Natalie Hoskins, Joseph Morgan, Jenna Gray-Hildenbrand, Mohammad Meerzaei, Kate Goodwin, Sara Shirley, Qiang Wu, Moses Tesi

## THEA 1005 Acting for Non-majors

Department Representative, Kate Goodwin, requested to be first on the agenda and the chair, Ann McCullough, granted the

Approved: 13/13

The meeting then returned to the order of the meeting as published.Minutes were approved No questions or comments. The minutes were accepted and approved.

Susan: Update – Planning a launch party on January 24th from 1-3 in the afternoon complete with a hot chocolate bar. The provost will not be there because he will be at a conference. There will be a ribbon cutting in Peck Hall. The President will be in attendance.

The assessment pilot is being kicked off with the courses in Foundational Skills. Only four of the outcomes will be assessed. There will be an emphasis on how artifacts are collected and other logistics. Artifacts will be collected at the end of this semester. When the True Blue Core is launched next year, the first 3 SLOs will be assessed.

Amy: Gave an update on the State of FL legislature where there is a discussion about what can and cannot be taught as part of their Gen Ed program. Currently, Sociology might be eliminated from Florida’s General Education programs.

## Comm 2300 Interpersonal Communication

Approved 12-2

Natalie Hoskins the guest representing the department

There was a discussion about why this course was not being proposed in “intercultural understanding” and was instead proposed under “critical thinking”.

Natalie answered questions about the fit of the program within the critical thinking rubric.

Susan: There are going to be courses that really could go either way. But they are thinking about the primary outcome of this course and whether or not the course has SLOs and a signature assignment that fits those outcomes in the category.

Susan: We didn’t want to get into that debate about whether or not something needs to be a social science.

There was further discussion about the number of sections of the course that would be taught each year since the proposal said 125. Natalie assured everyone that is was a typographical mistake.

Vote: 12/2 out of 14

## Data 2025 Communicating with Data

**Tabled:9/4/1**

Keith: This is an interdisciplinary department across four departments. This is not a course for the major that is going in Gen Ed. This is a course built for Gen Ed.

Discussion: There were concerns about the course’s fit in the “non-written communication” group. Additional concerns were about the class size: 100. Keith is thinking ahead, down the road, hoping this class will be popular with students and there would be that kind of need. Others suggested that given the SLOs and what is being asked of students, 25 students is more realistic. There was discussion about why this isn’t being proposed in “quantitative literacy” and Keith responded that there isn’t enough math in the class to fit that category, but rather this is using math in more of a “a picture is worth a thousand words” way.

Ultimately, the proposal was tabled with the committee asking for a rubric for the assessable assignment and explanation of terms.

Amy: motion to table, a fleshed-out assessable assignment with a rubric.

Vote: 9/4/1 abstain; motion carries

**MES 2100 Introduction to Middle East Studies**

**Approved: 12/2**

Discussion: Most of the discussion was centered on why this course was being proposed in “Critical Thinking” instead of “Intercultural Understanding”. Mohammad Meerzaei talked about how this course is meant to challenge the way that people think of the “Middle East” as a monolith. It challenges the entire notion of a “Middle East” and asks students to examine how the construction of this entity takes place and is shaped by our positionality. The course asks students to dismantle the reified construction of the “Middle East”. Others talked about how most of our courses could be designed to fit multiple categories and how we shouldn’t let our own biases about what constitutes this or that discipline limit the way that experts in their fields decide to teach their topics. Ultimately, each department should decide their categories and it’s up to the committee to make sure that the SLOs align with the TBC SLOs and that their assessable assignment is assessing the SLOs for that category.

Vote: 12/2 out of 14

**PS 1040 Dystopias, Dictators, Democracies**

**Tabled: 7/6**

Discussion: There was concern that only one professor was listed as being qualified to teach the course. However, several other professors in the department are qualified and could teach the course if needed. There was a concern that this was more of a “writing course” and that there is the potential for the assignments as currently constructed to be very “AI-friendly”. Finally, there was confusion about which assignments were being used for the assessable assignment and since the proposer was not there to answer the questions, there was a motion to table.

Amy: I would like to move to table until we get clarification.

Vote: 7/6 so tabling to next time.

**MUHL 1615 Nashville and Its Music**

**Approved: 13/0/1**

Had been tabled at the last meeting and was taken off the table.

Discussion: Amy Sayward said she would like to see a change in Curriculog to allow people to demonstrate through emails that conversations with other departments that might be impacted be provided in a box/space. There was a discussion about staffing and if the people teaching the class would be adjuncts. Additional conversation focused on the classification of “women” as being “marginal” within the syllabus. John assured the committee that the syllabus would be changed to make it clear that women are not marginal in music but this was in relationship to “Brocountry”music.

Vote: 13/0/1 abst.

Susan prepared the committee that there might be a lot of additional proposals since some were currently being heard in the UCC meeting. There was a suggestion that if some of them could be considered as a group that would make the committee’s work more efficient.

There is the possibility for a meeting in January but the committee would like to avoid that. If courses are not in by January that is it. That is the final deadline.

The meeting adjourned.