

Curric Affairs Committee 8 October 2012 Agenda 9-10 am
1-800-893-8850 Participants' PIN: 1109306 Convener's PIN (Rainer): 1109371
THIS WEEK AND FOLLOWING WEEKS: MEET AT REICHARDT 301

1. Approve minutes of last meeting

2. GERC-related issues

- a. J Rosenberg call in at ~ 9:15 for brief report
- b. new GERC business as required (?)

3. Report on Wintermester conflict resolution (maybe)

- a. 2013-2014: Wintermester faculty were polled and agreed to 9 or 10 days (can choose) including an extra Saturday. **Crisis solved.**
- b. 2014-2015 has 8 days between HARD CLOSURE & the first day of classes. .
- c. 2015-2016 has 8 days between HARD CLOSURE & the first day of classes ***THE SUBCOMMITTEE has been CHARGED TO FIND SOLUTIONS THAT DON'T INVOLVE CLASSES DURING THE HARD WINTER CLOSURE. We (the subcommittee) will be meeting in person with Wintermester faculty to discuss the 2014-2016 problems and find some resolution....before next year.***

4. CONTINUING EFFORTS AT ADDRESSING THE ATHLETIC ABSENCE PROBLEM

The problem in a nutshell: UAF requires as a condition to athletic scholarships that students skip class. UAF consequently has a moral obligation to (a) not punish said students and (b) provide them with an education. Providing each team with tutors is a logical, but financially problematic, solution. Pretending that there really isn't a problem has been the historical substitute. . The current wording is ambiguous [WHAT CONSTITUTES 1ST WEEK?]

Subcommittee has approved the following change in wording:

a. Proposed modification of absence notification (Catalog, pg. 49)

Current: You must notify your instructor(s) of all scheduled UAF-required absences for the semester (e.g., travel to athletic events) during the first week of classes.

Suggested modification: You must notify your instructor(s) of all scheduled UAF-required absences for the semester (e.g., travel to athletic events) by the first Wednesday of the semester.

b. Yet to be solved....the whole issues of 'excused' vs. 'unexcused' absences. Given that a faculty member IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ANYTHING to students with excused absences....what's the point?? How do we reconcile the problems athletic absences?? See next page: 'one suggested version of attendance policy...'

5. Suggested change to Syllabus policy....(from Curricular Review Committee):

"If the course includes project(s), include general project description(s) and evaluation methods (e.g., rubric)" SEE BELOW: EXCERPT FROM SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS... unclear—is this required? Does it need to go through the Faculty Senate?

Excerpt from Syllabus requirements...

7. Instructional methods:

Describe the teaching techniques (eg: lecture, case study, small group discussion, private instruction, studio instruction, values clarification, games, journal writing, use of Blackboard, audio/video conferencing, etc.).

8. Course calendar:

A schedule of class topics and assignments must be included. Be specific so that it is clear that the instructor has thought this through and will not be making it up on the fly (e.g. it is not adequate to say "lab". Instead, give each lab a title that describes its content). You may call the outline Tentative or Work in Progress to allow for modifications during the semester.

9. Course policies:

Specify course rules, including your policies on attendance, tardiness, class participation, make-up exams, and plagiarism/academic integrity.

10. Evaluation:

Specify how students will be evaluated, what factors will be included, their relative value, and how they will be tabulated into grades (on a curve, absolute scores, etc.) Publicize UAF regulations with regard to the grades of "C" and below as applicable to this course. (Not required in the syllabus, but may be a convenient way to

ONE POSSIBLE VERSION OF THE ATTENDANCE POLICY....."You are expected to attend classes regularly; unexcused absences may result in a failing grade. **SOME INSTRUCTORS DROP STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ATTEND THE FIRST CLASS MEETING. IF YOU MUST MISS THE FIRST CLASS MEETING, YOU SHOULD [attempt to] OBTAIN APPROVAL FOR YOUR ABSENCE FROM YOUR INSTRUCTOR BEFORE THE FIRST CLASS MEETING. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFERRING WITH THEIR INSTUCTORS IN ADVANCE CONCERNING PLANNED ABSENCES AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING ALTERNATE WAYS OF LEARNING MISSED COURSE MATERIAL AND making up missed work.**

If you are **required** to participate in either military exercises or UAF-sponsored activities that will cause you to miss class, you must notify your instructor(s) as soon as possible of your absence. You must notify your instructor(s) of all scheduled UAF-required absences for the semester (e.g., travel to athletic events) by the first Wednesday of the semester, **AND MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION OF THE REQUIREMENT FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT, MILITARY COMMANDER, OR OTHER OFFICIAL SOURCE. YOUR NAME, ROLE, AND DATES OF ABSENCES MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE DOCUMENTATION.**

You and your instructor will make a good-faith effort to make REASONABLE AND suitable arrangements to assure that you can make up classes and work you miss and are not penalized for your excused absence. **THE INSTRUCTOR HAS AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE WHETHER ARRANGEMENTS ARE REASONABLE AND SUITABLE. IF YOU PROVIDE NOTIFICATION AND SUCH** arrangements cannot be made, you will be allowed to withdraw from the course **without penalty. [meaning...what???** However, your instructor is under no obligation to allow you to make up missed work for unexcused absences or if notification and arrangements are not made in advance of the absence.

Everyone REALLY REALLY screaming and shouting...followed by adjournment.