

Core Review Committee Activity Report

2014-2015 Academic Year

The Core Review Committee, which is a subcommittee of the Curricular Affairs committee, met biweekly on Tuesdays during Fall 2014 (for a total of 6 meetings) and biweekly on Thursdays during Spring 2015 (again, a total of 6 meetings, including a final meeting on Thursday 4/30/15 not covered by this report).

The primary occupation of the committee was considering student petitions for core courses; the committee also approved several courses to have Core status.

During the year, the committee considered 52 petitions; most of them were from students who were trying to satisfy an O or W requirement.

One frustration encountered by the committee was that students were submitting petitions for individual or directed study courses developed to satisfy the O or W that they either had already taken or were in the process of taking. The committee felt that this was unreasonable and that such courses should have been approved or denied in advance. The committee worked with the registrar's office, which redesigned the Individual/Directed Study form so that for individual or directed study courses that are to satisfy a core requirement, those forms should be routed through Core Review before approval. However, since students apparently can submit these forms during the semester in which they are taking the course (that is, after the beginning of the semester) it is not clear how much effect the new form will actually have on the problem.

The committee also approved a broadening of the transfer table to include AP and CLEP scores to be used to satisfy Perspectives requirements, following the agreement last year of allowing a broad array of courses to transfer to satisfy those requirements. The committee hopes that soon the General Education requirements will be changed so that students taking courses on-campus will have the same flexibility.

The committee approved the deletion of W from CHEM 455 and ED 412, the addition of W to ANS 478, ED 486, and the addition of O to ED 486. It narrowly approved SOC 100X for compression to Maymester. It approved Core Math status for Math 156 (Precalculus), a new course, and to Math 152, the old Math 108 (trigonometry).

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Berman, Chair.