

# UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION

## MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 5, 2023

VIA ZOOM: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/84229621673>

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

**Present:** Angela Anderson, AJ Bass, Stephen Biscotte, Aaron Goldstein, Molly Hall, Earl Kline, Victoria Lael, Jason Malone, Yejin Moon, Nicole Pitterson, Annie Ronan, Hannah Shinault, Khanh Ngoc Tran, Zack Underwood, Sparkle Williams

**Absent:** Aaron Ansell, Briana Ermanni, Corinne Guimont, Janet Hilder, Jeremy Sudweeks

**Guests:** None

Call to order by Hannah Shinault at 2:31 pm

Announcements

### 1. Study Abroad & Special Study Reviews

Review of [STAT 2984: Introduction to Biostatistics](#) for concept 5f (Foundational Quantitative and Computational Thinking)]

Unanimously approved with following modifications:

- Align the Pathways student learning outcomes (SLOs) to the course objectives by indicating which SLOs will be met within each course objective
- Remove the last two sentences of the course description since they address pedagogy (not course content)
- Change the verb “understand” in course objectives #4 and #5 to a measurable verb (e.g., explain, demonstrate)

For future consideration if you bring the course through full governance for Pathways approval:

- You only need to align the course with a majority of the quant/comp SLOs, so four of the six.
- You may want to start thinking about which integrative outcome you will align the course with: Ethical Reasoning or Intercultural & Global Awareness

Re-review of [PHS/ALS 2984: Population Health Sciences](#) for concept 4 (Reasoning in the Natural Sciences), which was tabled last meeting.

Proposal unanimously tabled again by committee. They do not see sufficient alignment with Reasoning in the Natural Sciences. A. Anderson will reach out to the proposer to share the committee’s concerns and offer advice for revision.

In addition to the concept alignment, the committee offered the following feedback:

- The proposal only needs to align with a majority of SLOs, so three of the four

- Align the Pathways student learning outcomes (SLOs) to the course objectives by indicating which SLOs will be met within each course objective.
- Expand the catalog description, aligning it with the topic syllabus and learning objectives
- In the course description, remove references to pedagogies only include the content that will be covered
- Clarify what the title is: Human, Animal, and Environmental Connections or Exploring One Health
- Consider aligning the course with Advanced Discourse (instead of Natural Sciences)

Review of [ENGE 2984: Art in Engineering](#) for concept 6a (Critique and Practice in the Arts)

Committee voted unanimously to not approve ENGE 2984 for Critique and Practice in the Arts.

They cited a general lack of alignment between the learning objectives and the concept's SLOs. They felt the course was applying tools and methods of engineering to the arts, instead of applying tools and methods of the arts to engineering. They also felt it did not fit the spirit of Pathways, which is to serve students outside of the major.

## 2. Subcommittee Reports

- Advising
  - Z. Underwood reported that the subcommittee sent out the advising survey and are currently analyzing the results. They will present the results to the committee at the May meeting.
- Pathways Program Review
  - M. Hall reported that the Office of Gen Ed sent a survey to instructors about using Canvas for Pathways assessment. Respondents indicated that they would like to see additional functionality added to the rubrics and quiz features. M. Hall shared the feedback with TLOS, who is working to see if this can be accomplished. Committee members are encouraged to share the survey link with anyone who may still want to submit the survey: <https://virginiatech.questionpro.com/t/ARfSRZxJqN>.
  - M. Hall also raised prospect of pausing assessment data collection for AY 23-24 to allow the UCCGE time to revise the assessment process. At the May meeting, she will present a detailed proposal for assessment revision for committee consideration.

**Meeting adjourned** by Hannah Shinault at 3:08 pm.

*Minutes compiled by Jenni Gallagher*