

Minutes
XIDS Core Review Committee Meeting

Rebecca Reynolds, Presiding

February 22, 2012

1:00 PM – College of Arts and Humanities Dean's Office, TLC 3226

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance Roll
 - a. Present: Aran MacKinnon, John Blair, David Boldt, Maria Doyle, Rebecca Reynolds
3. Approval of Agenda: passed, with additional topic from Aran MacKinnon
 - a. Notetaking will be done by RR today; will rotate amongst the members at future meetings.
4. Committee responsibilities and term limits
 - a. Per discussions with Camilla Gant, Chair, UPC, and Aran MacKinnon, the XIDS Core Review committee reviews proposals for all XIDS courses. XIDS courses in existing course numbers such as XIDS 2001/2002 and XIDS 2100/2300 will be voted on in this committee and the results forwarded to the UPC as information items. Any new course numbers must be voted on by the UPC.
 - b. Term limits: Term limits have not been enforced but will now move to standard 2-year terms. John Blair and Maria Doyle volunteered to rotate off at the end of the year. The rest of the members will be encouraged to consider staying in order to ensure continuity.
 - c. JB brought up a suggestion that the new mission statement opens up opportunities not previously considered before. This led into a discussion of past proposals to allow university staff members to teach XIDS courses. The committee agreed that while the participation of staff was highly valued, the committee's duty is to protect the academic integrity of the courses and the program as a whole, and to that end, instructors would need a minimum of a Masters degree plus 18 hours of advanced work in the discipline. AM reviewed the case of a What Do You Know About Leadership course that involved turning a UWG1101 course into an XIDS2001/2002 course, a proposal that had been denied by Jon Anderson.
 - d. AM brought up new issues, one being to return to the question of establishing credentials to teach XIDS courses, and the other being the question of coordination of XIDS courses. AM asked who schedules the courses and who decides meeting times? In the current structure, department chairs handle this responsibility. As a result, there is no coordination amongst XIDS courses, and potentially, XIDS could be offered at the exact same time and cause registration challenges. It was agreed that the director of the XIDS program should take a greater role in establishing coordination and it was suggested than an information item related to this issue be forwarded to the Senate.
 - e. JB reviewed the credentials of XIDS instructors using the English Department as an examples. Most XIDS courses in the English Department are taught by instructors. A perception exists that XIDS courses seem to be used for

pedagogical training, though MD noted that faculty who teach these courses are fully qualified. MD noted confusion about how XIDS courses are listed on the schedule. AM suggested that we need a review process by which to insure the continued integrity of the program and XIDS courses. MD agreed, noting that such a process could re-establish a relationship between the XIDS committee and the XIDS course as currently taught, noting that once a course has been approved, it can potentially be taught by anyone and potentially modified beyond the parameters by which it was initially approved. Establishing a review process could help the committee track changes to established XIDS courses by reviewing courses on a regular basis. DB asked about XIDS courses in the sciences areas, and some discussion of Farooq Khan's Environmental Science course ensued. Later RR suggested that faculty members submitting proposals to the committee could be invited to committee meetings, using the same model as the UPC. AM remarked that this had been difficult in the past for administrative reasons. Committee members also agreed that it would be helpful if proposals were submitted along with sample syllabi.

5. Course Proposals

a. Area B2: XIDS 2001/2002

- i. African American Male Initiative Learning Community: agreed to send back to submitter for revisions, with the suggestion to add topic-based/academic content in order to differentiate the course from UWG1101
- ii. Geosciences: committee agreed to send back for more detail on writing requirements and grading criteria. Provisionally accepted.

b. Area C1: XIDS 2100

- i. Theatre Arts: MD noted that the XIDS2100 template requires the combination of a Humanities field and a Fine/Performing Arts field. The current proposal, while interesting, looks too focused on the Fine/Performing Arts factor and needs a Humanities discipline. One suggestion was to add readings on the concept of performativity. Another suggestion was to add Writing-to-Learn exercises throughout the course. Such revisions would also help the course meet the expectations for the Critical Thinking overlay and the QEP on Undergraduate Writing. Committee agreed to send back for revisions.
- ii. Sex and Society: from French Fiction to World Cinema: This submission was a revision of a previous proposal and was approved by the committee.

c. Area E4: XIDS 2300

- i. Introduction to Women's Studies: It was reported that this was a cross-listing request, and the committee wondered what course number in Sociology matched this course. Committee agreed to send back for revisions, requesting a syllabus and presentation from a Sociology faculty member. Specifically, the committee asked what differentiated this course from standard courses of its kind, and what set it apart as worthy of XIDS designation.

6. Adjournment: Before adjourning, the committee discussed regular meeting times. JB reported that 3 meetings/semester was standard. RR reported that she would set the next meeting time and distribute notice. Meeting adjourned around 1:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Reynolds

Approved March 28, 2012 with one amendment; Amended April 6, 2012