

Minutes of the New Course Proposals Sub-Committee of the Curriculum Committee
8 October, 2008

Present: Sylvia Carullo, Kathy Granquist, Matt Jobe, Phyllis Larson, Eric Lund, Justin Merritt, John Schade, Gregory Walter.

Guest: Professor Diana Postlethwaite, English, for Film Studies Concentration

Chair Carullo called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

1. Discussion on the following aspects of the Film Studies Concentration with Diana Postlethwaite:

- contemplation of the implementation of a capstone course,
- possible development of the technological aspect of this concentration to be approached in one of its ILOs,
- consideration of the frequency of the teaching of the planned courses,
- reflection on possible interest in the concentration among Art majors.

2. Postlethwaite addressed the above matters as follows:

- The Film Studies Concentration has seriously reflected on the existence and need of a capstone course (or an internship, following the example of Media Studies). The existing resources of available faculty—with expertise and interest on teaching the planned courses—are geared toward an introductory course. The available funds, then, are destined for an introductory course. At present, the plan of action is to have the available FTEs destined for the list of planned courses more than for a capstone course.
- The resource aspect is gradually improving; therefore, some of the funds may be aimed at technological development.
- The (future) Director of Media Studies will take control of, organize and observe the frequency in the teaching of the courses planned for this concentration.
- Also, the Director will respond to those Art majors with an interest in this concentration.

The subcommittee discussed and approved the draft version of the catalog description for Film Studies Concentration. However, more specific references about the mentioning of “audio” skills will be requested from the CC at our next CC meeting as an addition to the phrase “basic skills of visual literacy [...]” As regards the topic of a capstone course, the subcommittee considered relevant and recommends the development of either a capstone course, a seminar or an internship with an experiential component to complete this concentration. This decision led to our need to find out if all St. Olaf concentrations have a capstone course. Kathy Granquist agreed to send us information about the frequency in which the planned courses for the concentration have been / are regularly taught.

The subcommittee expressed its support for this concentration and its goal to endorse it to the CC at our next meeting.

3. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia G. Carullo
Secretary pro tempore