

TOPIC: APPROVAL OF gtPATHWAYS COURSES

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I. SUMMARY

This consent item recommends approval of eight courses that were reviewed by faculty on March 9, 2012 for inclusion in the state general education core, gtPathways.

II. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-125(3), the commission has the authority to approve courses nominated for inclusion in gtPathways. Per CCHE Policy I, Part L (Statewide Transfer Policy), gtPathways is a curriculum of general education courses for which the state guarantees transferability among all public and participating private institutions in Colorado. Receiving institutions agree to apply gtPathways courses to a student's general education or major requirements for liberal arts and sciences degrees. Courses approved for gtPathways meet state content and competency criteria.

Courses are reviewed and recommended for approval by subcommittees of discipline-specific faculty under the direction of the General Education (GE) Council. The GE Council is comprised of faculty members and system governing board staff from the state's two- and four-year institutions.

Since January 2003, the commission has approved over 1,200 courses in over twenty disciplines. Most recently, in December 2011, the Commission approved thirteen courses.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

On March 9, 2012, the following courses were evaluated by discipline-specific faculty subcommittees and either recommended for approval or deferred, following the guidelines established by the GE Council. The subcommittees' recommendations are in the far right column entitled "Action." Courses marked as "Recommended" are those that have been determined to meet the state content and competency criteria and are recommended for inclusion in gtPathways. Courses marked as "Deferred" do not meet state content and competency criteria and may be revised and resubmitted by the institution for inclusion in the next review cycle.

Content Area	Course #	Course Title	Institution	Action
Arts & Humanities (AH-3)	CHIN 216 (resubmission)	Masterpieces of Chinese Literature	UNC	Recommended
Arts & Humanities (AH-1)	ARTS 1450	Popular & Visual Culture: Ways of Seeing	UCD	Recommended
Arts & Humanities (AH-3)	PHIL 200 (resubmission)	Philosophical Figures	UNC	Recommended
Arts & Humanities (AH-2)	LIT 246	Literature of Women	CCCS	<i>Deferred</i>
Arts & Humanities (AH-3)	PHIL 120	Ethics	CMU	<i>Deferred</i>
Arts & Humanities (AH-3)	PHIL 130	Philosophy of Religion	CMU	<i>Deferred</i>
Natural & Physical Sciences (SC-1)	BIO 202 (resubmission)	Plants & Human Affairs	FLC	Recommended
Natural & Physical Sciences (SC-1)	SES 220 (resubmission)	Anatomical Kinesiology	UNC	Recommended
Natural & Physical Sciences (SC-2)	SCI 105	Science in Society	CCCS	Recommended
Natural & Physical Sciences (SC-2)	GEOL 106 (resubmission)	Earth & the Environment	FLC	<i>Deferred</i>
Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS-1)	POS 215	Current Political Issues	CCCS	Recommended
Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS-3)	CS/SW 230	Chicanos: Social & Psychological Study	CSU-P	Recommended
Social & Behavioral Sciences (HI-1)	HIS 203	Civil War Era in American History	CCCS	<i>Deferred</i>

Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS-1)	POLSC 202	Comparative Politics	CSU-P	<i>Deferred</i>
Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS-3)	SOCI 120	Technology & Society	CMU	<i>Deferred</i>

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the courses recommended above for inclusion in gtPathways, effective August 2012 (fall semester 2012).

V. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all materials included in course submissions as well as copies of faculty reviewers' evaluations are on file in the Academic Affairs Division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

23-1-125. Commission directive – student bill of rights – degree requirements – implementation of core courses – on-line catalogue – competency test. (3) Core courses. The department, in consultation with each Colorado public institution of higher education, is directed to outline a plan to implement a core course concept that defines the general education course guidelines for all public institutions of higher education. The core of courses shall be designed to ensure that students demonstrate competency in reading, critical thinking, written communication, mathematics, and technology. The core of courses shall consist of at least thirty credit hours, but shall not exceed forty credit hours. Individual institutions of higher education shall conform their own core course requirements with the guidelines developed by the department and shall identify the specific courses that meet the general education course guidelines. Any such guidelines developed by the department shall be submitted to the commission for its approval. If a statewide matrix of core courses is adopted by the commission, the courses identified by the individual institutions as meeting the general education course guidelines shall be included in the matrix. The commission shall adopt such policies to ensure that institutions develop the most effective way to implement the transferability of core course credits.