Present: Dave Ballantine (CLAS), Kate Cady (COMS), Omar Chmaissem (PHYS), Amanda Durik (PSYC), Jeremy Groves (ECON), Frances Jaeger (FL&L), Joel Stafstrom (BIOS)

Suzanne Hogan (CLAS)

A. Action on Minutes

Minutes from the #9 meeting on October 29, 2014, have been approved electronically and forwarded to the catalog editor.

B. Miscellaneous

Dave followed-up on some questions and concerns about the prior meeting.

C. Curriculum – Old Business

None.

D. Curriculum – New Business

Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

The addition of FLKH courses to the B.A. foreign Language Requirement options was approved.

LGBT Studies

Revisions to the minor in LGBT Studies, the Certificate of Undergrad Study in LGBT Studies, and the Certificate of Graduate Study in LGBT Studies were approved.

Department of Public Affairs

Revisions to the admission requirements for the MPA and removal of the GRE requirement were approved.

Tabled:

None
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Other Catalog Change 2014-2015 Undergraduate Catalog

Other Graduation Requirements

Foreign Language Requirements for the B.A. Degree

- American Sign Language: AHRS 101, AHRS 102, AHRS 201, AHRS 202
- Japanese: FLJA 101, FLJA 102, FLJA 201, FLJA 202
- Khmer: FLKH 103, FLKH 104
- Korean: FLKN 103, FLKN 104
- Thai: FLTH 103, FLTH 104

Successful completion of FLST 181 and FLST 182, in the same language.

Four years of one foreign language with no grade lower than C at an accredited high school.

Rationale: Khmer has been taught for over 10 years and it's currently listed as one of the languages we offer as FLST 181 and FLST 182, which satisfies the requirement. We would like it to be listed as a separate option for the B.A. foreign language requirement.

Department of Public Administration

Other Catalog Change 2014-15 Graduate Catalog

Admission to Graduate Study

Graduate Record Examinations (GRE)

In order to be admitted … … the M.F.A., the M.P.A., or the M.A. with a specialization in studio art in the School of Art, … …. 

Other Catalog Change 2014-15 Graduate Catalog

Public Administration

Master of Public Administration

Admission
Application for admission to the M.P.A. program … … three letters of recommendation, and transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions attended, and the official score report on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test.

**Rationale:** NIU is the only university in the metropolitan Chicago area that requires a GRE for admission to the MPA program. The NIU faculty find no evidence that the GRE provides any valuable information to predict whether an applicant will successfully complete the MPA program. We carefully evaluate other information in the application, including the undergraduate (and graduate) GPA, the student’s transcript (especially undergraduate statistics and courses with advanced math skills), the student’s commitment to public service, previous internship and work experience, and letters of recommendation.

Anecdotal evidence in recruitment conversations with prospective students, including out-of-state undergraduates and especially midcareer professionals, suggests that the GRE requirement is an impediment to recruiting students to the NIU MPA program. We are the sole MPA program in metropolitan Chicago that retains a GRE requirement for all applicants.

Our closest MPA program peer in terms of being a research intensive faculty is the University of Illinois at Chicago. Only students applying for financial aid are required to submit GRE scores, presumably for some sort of ranking; otherwise there is no GRE requirement (UIC MPA Student Handbook, p 21):

*Tests Required:* Applicants who wish to be considered for financial aid are required to take the Graduate Records Examination. The GRE is recommended but not required for those not seeking financial assistance.

The University of Illinois-Springfield and Roosevelt University-Chicago only require the GRE for MPA applicants with a low GPA. (See their websites.)

**UI-S:** Applicants who have below a 2.5 undergraduate GPA will also need to submit a GRE score. The GRE is not required for applicants who have an undergraduate GPA above 2.5.

**Roosevelt:** Applicants with an undergraduate grade point average below 3.0 will be considered on the basis of the above plus additional supporting materials. These applicants should submit a history of their work and community experience and two letters of reference. They may also submit aptitude test scores such as the GRE or the GMAT.

Removing the GRE requirement will not negatively affect the quality of our MPA cohorts. On the other hand, removing this unnecessary and unproductive hurdle is expected to increase applications to the program, leading to increased enrollments. Increasing enrollments of high quality MPA students supports the university’s strategic enrollment goal, and it helps the department better achieve its mission of improving the management practices of public service.
organizations by providing more public service managers with the competencies gained in our high quality NIU MPA degree.

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Other Catalog Change 2014-15 Undergraduate Catalog

Minor in LGBT Studies

Requirements (18)

Three of the following (9) to be chosen in consultation with the director

- ANTH 422 – Gender in Southeast Asia (3)
- ENGL 434X – Language and Gender (3)
- OR WOMS 434 – Language and Gender (3)
- HIST 367 – U.S. LGBT History (3)
- HIST 402 – Gender and Sexuality in History (3)

Rationale: Developed by Dr. Amanda Littauer, who is jointly appointed in History and WGS, HIST 367 is a new History course that brings LGBT History into the History curriculum. The course is directly relevant to LGBT Studies, since it provides historical perspective on the development of modern LGBT identities, communities, and social movements.

Impact Statement: The Department of History was consulted regarding the addition of HIST 367 to the list of requirements for the Minor in LGBT Studies. Their department did not identify any negative impact on course availability or enrollment with this change.

Other Catalog Change 2014-15 Undergraduate Catalog

Certificate of Undergraduate Study

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies (12)

Requirements (12)

Three of the following (9)

- ANTH 422 – Gender in Southeast Asia (3)
- ENGL 400 – Literary Topics (3)
- HIST 367 – U.S. LGBT History (3)
- HIST 402 – Gender and Sexuality in History (3)

Rationale: Developed by Dr. Amanda Littauer, who is jointly appointed in History and WGS, HIST 367 is a new History course that brings LGBT History into the History curriculum. The course is directly
relevant to LGBT Studies, since it provides historical perspective on the development of modern LGBT identities, communities, and social movements.

**Impact Statement:** The Department of History was consulted regarding the addition of HIST 367 to the list of requirements for the Certificate of Undergraduate Study in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies. Their department did not identify any negative impact on course availability or enrollment with this change.

**Other Catalog Change**

2014-15 Graduate Catalog

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies (12)**

**Requirements (12)**

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**One of the following (3)**

- ILAS 602 – Internship (3-12)
- Or an equivalent internship course approved by the coordinator. The internship experience must include activities related to LGBT Studies. Students must take 3 semester hours in the internship course.
- LGBT 651 – Research in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies (3)

**Two of the following (6)**

- Any graduate-level special topics course or independent or directed study course focused on sexual orientation and/or gender identity may be counted toward the certificate with the approval of the coordinator of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender studies.

- ANTH 522 – Gender in Southeast Asia (3)
- ANTH 568 – Anthropology of Gender (3)
- **CAHC 594 – Counseling of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Community (3)**
- CAHC 766 – Human Sexuality Counseling (3)

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- WOMS 620 – Feminist Theory (3)

**Rationale:** Helping students gain a deep understanding of the challenges and experiences of LGBT people, this course prepares graduate students in a range of disciplines and professions to work with LGBT populations in culturally competent ways. Focus on unique challenges facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered (LGBT) individuals as well as their families; theoretical understandings, developmental experiences, and multicultural influences; diversity within the LGBT community, societal prejudice, oppression, and other salient themes. This course is appropriate for all graduate-level students of any discipline.

**Impact Statement:** The Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education was consulted regarding the addition of CAHC 594 to the list of requirements in the Certificate of Graduate Study in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies. Their department did not identify any negative impact on course availability or enrollment with this change.