

The College of William and Mary  
Educational Policy Committee

Minutes  
Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Attending: James Armstrong, Ryan Corcoran (Student), Joshua Erlich, John Gilmour (Co-Chair), Lu Ann Homza (Ex-Officio), Hiroshi Kitamura, Thomas Linneman, Heather MacDonald, Sallie Marchello (Ex-Officio), Jackson Peterson (Student), April Pisano (Student), Diane Shakes (Co-Chair).

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm.

1. Minutes approved (Sept. 30 and Oct. 7)
2. Course and Curriculum Applications Approved Prior to the Meeting by Electronic Voting

New Courses

CHEM 303 Integrated Physical/Analytical Chemistry Laboratory I  
CHEM 304 Integrated Physical/Analytical Chemistry Laboratory II  
HISP 330 Creative Writing in Spanish: Poetry Workshop  
MSCI 333 Coastal Environments in South Central Alaska: An Introduction  
MSCI 334 Coastal Environments in South Central Alaska: Field Course

Course Change Applications

CHEM 309L Instrumental Analysis (in conjunction with the restructuring of upper-level chemistry lab courses, this 1-credit lab course needs to be spread over 2 semesters)  
MSCI 398 Marine Science Seminar (changed from 1 credit to variable 1-3 credit course)

Curriculum Change Applications

Chemistry Restructuring of upper-level chemistry lab courses specifically for Chemistry majors. Total credits for the Chemistry major reduced from 38 to 37 credits.

Russian & Post-Soviet Studies

Changes in the course options and wording of the requirements for majors and minors. Revision to topics courses: students can take multiple sections of a topics course with the same course number if they cover different topics.

GER Applications

HISP 330 Creative Writing in Spanish: Poetry Workshop. GER6

### 3. Curriculum Review

COLL 300. John Gilmour outlined how the discussion of COLL 300 will proceed at the upcoming FAS meeting on Oct. 29.

- EPC-sponsored amendment originating from our Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Amendment that adds “cross-cultural engagement” to all COLL300 courses
- Potential amendment from the floor.

### COLL 400

After an extended discussion, the EPC adopted a modified version of COLL400 that will be presented for larger faculty discussion at an upcoming FAS meeting.

*Adopted by EPC, 10/21/2013:*

COLL 400. The COLL 400 capstone experience will require students to take initiative in synthesis and critical analysis, to solve problems in an applied and/or academic setting, to create original material or original scholarship, and to communicate effectively with a diversity of audiences. Students can fulfill this requirement through upper-level seminars, independent study and research projects, Honors projects, and mentored internships, as deemed appropriate by departments, programs, or schools. COLL 400 may but need not have an interdisciplinary focus as students can synthesize material within as well as across disciplines. COLL 400 capstone experiences must be at least 3 credits, taught by continuing W&M faculty, and normally be taken in the senior year.

*Explanatory statement: Many or most students will fulfill the COLL 400 capstone requirement through a senior seminar offered through their major. However, COLL 400 does not require that the capstone experience be satisfied through the major.*

*The departments that already have a required capstone course will be largely or entirely unaffected by the COLL 400 requirement. Upon the adoption of the new curriculum, supposing that it is adopted, some departments will decide to introduce a capstone requirement as part of their major. Other departments will probably choose not to.*

*This leaves the question of how students in majors without a capstone course will satisfy COLL 400. Some will do so through an honors project or an internship. For the rest, EPC expects that the College will offer a set of senior seminar style classes on a variety of topics to satisfy the capstone requirement. These courses*

*may be offered by departments that do not require a capstone, or they may be offered outside of any department and be designated as “COLL” classes.*

*Given that COLL 400 is to be a capstone experience in which students draw upon what they have learned over their college years, we expect that students will take their capstone course or experience senior year.*

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00