

Undergraduate Research Curriculum Committee

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Meeting Minutes

WebEx Meeting 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Attendees

Members present: F. Bloetscher, E. Williams, E. Bennett, M. Cooley, T. Hindle, M. DeDonno and D. Chamely-Wiik

Others present: P. Sampedro and Chris Boudreaux (BUS)

I. Course submitted for RI Designation:

ECO 2023 Honors Principles of Macroeconomics – Dr. Chris Boudreaux

Course package uploaded to CANVAS

C. Boudreaux answered questions from Committee

Course was taught last spring and students did a presentation. For the RI version, he had change the presentation section to add a research component. Students will work on data analysis with data that he provides.

MD. What kind of data services do you provide? He uses a variety of public access data sets

DCW. Are you intending to teach this course only as RI? All will depend on his experience the first time.

DCW. If you plan of offering both options, you have to submit a new course form

EW: New course form was submitted

C. Boudreaux will send updated version of syllabus to all parties

Motion to approve: F. Bloetscher and E. Bennett

II. Approve October 27, 2022 - meeting minutes

Motion to approve: E. Williams and E. Bennett

III. UG Research Certificate Petition for waiver/substitution

- a. Al-Hraki, Leena - OURI approved Petition for waiver/substitution of dissemination requirement. Leena presented at the 2021 and 2022 UG Research symposium
Committee agreed

IV. Discussion of RI Designation guidelines to include considerations for Lit review type assignments within lower division courses, (T Hindle based on example of previously approved exception of two sequence DIR for 6 credits)

Discussion for consideration of creating separate language and criteria for RI designated courses at the lower division.

- T Hindle discussed whether we should consider synthesis paper or critical literature review type assignments for RI designation at the lower division. Often within IFP courses, faculty can incorporate this level of research activity. T. Hindle also proposed that if we were to establish criteria for lower division RI designation, then the Undergraduate Research Certificate language would be edited to require RI at the upper division.

- F. Bloetscher discussed that certain literature reviews could in-fact be quite comprehensive and constitute research intensive activities (in history for example), and that perhaps we should be considering number of articles summarized as a factor.
- E. Williams suggested that through submission of syllabi from the faculty and discussion with the committee, those syllabi and courses that constitute research intensive can be deciphered without additional language or definitions.
- M. Cooley added that those and others that include methods or parameters of synthesis where the students engage in research and critical thinking beyond just reading and summarizing the literature could be part of the URCC process, but also suggested providing guidance to faculty interested in submitting literature review type assignments as RI. In past correspondence Morgan shared the below language, which could be shared with faculty or updated on the website as guidance for these kinds of submissions.
- Type of language which could be shared
RI courses which propose primarily a literature review, need to either include methods or parameters of synthesis where the students engage in research and critical thinking or a fully comprehensive review of the field summarizing the literature (certain number of papers for example). A literature review assignment however can be modified to expect students to analyze content, quality etc. of prior research and synthesize those questions/problems across a variety of research articles/studies. Some tangible examples include
 - The PRISMA methods for conducting a systematic literature review as an example [PRISMA \(prisma-statement.org\)](https://prisma-statement.org)
 - Chapter 9 Methods for Literature Reviews <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK481583/>
 - Literature review as a research methodology: An overview and guidelines <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0148296319304564>
 - The Critical Literature Review https://sociology.fas.harvard.edu/files/sociology/files/literature_review.pdf

Committee decided to not pursue any additional definitions of RI for lower division at this moment, but to continue to have conversations as new courses come through the committee.

V. Undergraduate Research Certificate Updates:

OURI have been tracking the numbers of students getting the UG Research certificate and it is slow and steady. The message is out that this is available and we need to encourage people to do it.

VI. Faculty incentive plan updates:

- Liaisons just approved an expanded version of the FIP that we are going to be advertising. DCW shared screen with new version
 1. Faculty submitting course syllabi for Research Intensive (RI) designation
 2. Successful completion of RI 5-year course review
 3. Departmental Challenge to increase the number of students receiving the Undergraduate Research Certificate
 4. Faculty mentoring students in undergraduate research using the Directed Independent Research (DIR) course code.

5. New Spring 2023 Faculty Learning Community Opportunity: Integrating research intensive activities into large lecture classes.
 - o To bring back faculty development and opportunities to discuss independent of the course outcome. Sharing best practice resources, then a faculty can take these resources and build out a syllabus

Updates:

- Support for Faculty teaching RI designated courses-Spring 2023:

The following RI courses applied for a total of 6 GRCs.

- i. A&L/Broderick – ART3911C – 1 GRC
- ii. EDU/Meredith – EDF3913 – 1 GRC
- iii. EDU/Krill – PCB4832C – 1 GRC
- iv. ENG-OME/Beaujean – EOC4804 – 2 GRC
- v. HON/Rowell – PSY3213 – 1 GRC

These petitions were approved by Liaisons at today's meeting, except for EDU/Krill – PCB4832C – 1 GRC (pending number of students enrollment, minimum 12)

Meeting adjourned 1:27 pm.