

GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (GEAC) MEETING MINUTES

Resubmissions need to be received by March 18, 2026, for the April 8th meeting and by April 22 for the May 13th meeting.

March 11, 2026, 9:30 – 11:00

Present: Sarah Ra, Sarah Johnson, Lisa Slevich, Stacy Takas, Kelva Hunger, Howard Sanborn, Amy Martindale, Don Colley, Chris Francisco

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### **HONR 1010 - Introductory Honors Seminar in Social Sciences**

**Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.

**Description:** Introduction to topics in social science disciplines by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for freshman and sophomore students in the University Honors College. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours.

**Credit hours:** 1-3.

- **Cults in American Society**, requests the S designation with written competency, one-time only, effective Fall 2026. Offered for 3 cr. hrs.

Members approved the S designation with written competency, one-time only, effective Fall 2026.

- **Mapping Mental Illness** - requests the S and D designations with written competency, one-time only, effective Fall 2026. Offered for 3 cr .hrs.

Members approved the S and D designations with written competency, one-time only, effective Fall 2026.

### **HONR 1020 Introductory Honors Seminar in STEM**

**Prerequisites:** Honors College Participation.

**Description:** Introduction to topics in STEM disciplines by faculty from the undergraduate colleges for freshman and sophomore students in the University Honors College. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours.

- **Citizen Science Campus** – requests the N designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2026. Offered for 3 cr, hrs.  
Members approved the N designation, one-time only, effective Fall 2026.

### **HONR 1030** Introductory Honors Seminar in Arts and Humanities

**Prerequisites:** Honors College participation.

**Description:** Introduction to topics in arts and humanities disciplines. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 12 credit hours.

**Credit hours:** 1-3, offered for 3 credit hours.

- **Tattoos As Text** – requests the H and D designations with written competency, one-time only effective Fall 2026.

Members approved the H and D designations with written competency, one-time only, effective Fall 2026 pending receiving a syllabus that includes more information regarding how students receive feedback on writing assignments and how the course addresses present-day subject matter for the D designation, meeting the required 25% threshold. (Delineating which content meets that designation would be helpful; “present-day” is defined as approximately the last five years, so when texts are older than that, the Council will often ask for additional justification.)  
Chair will make final decision.

### **LL 1253 - Bread & Circuses: Sport and Festivals in Greece and Rome** – requests the H and D designations with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

From the Olympics to Gladiator, from college sports to the WWE, our culture contains echoes of the ancient world. This course explores the range and role of sport and festivals in Greece and Rome, their origins in the ancient Mediterranean, and their relevance to our modern world. While learning about these practices, displays, and competitions, students will also learn about their importance to the politics, religions, and daily life of these ancient cultures. Taught in English.

Members tabled the H and D designations with written competency. If a student skips any of the five in-class writing assignments, they would not meet the 1,000-word threshold, and this would not have a major impact on the student’s grade. The assignments should be structured to ensure that students are very likely to complete all of them.

### **LL 1313 - Tsar Wars: Introducing Russia**, requests the H designation with written

competency, effective Fall 2026.

Chaos, Murder, Mayhem. Wars of Aggression. Why does Russia act the way it does? Why does it destroy so many of its own people? Why are windows and tea so dangerous?

Through an examination of brief Russian texts in translation, this course introduces key Russian cultural and political concepts that explain how Russia sees its place and role in the world today and why it acts the way it does. Taught in English.

Members approved the H designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

**LL 1403 - The Languages of Oklahoma**, requests the H designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

From Anadarko to Prague, Oklahoma maps show the history of its languages. This course explores that history from Indian nations' tribal languages to those brought by migrations from Europe and Asia to American Sign Language. Students will be introduced to writing systems, sounds, and vocabularies of Oklahoma languages. Topics include ethnic groups who brought languages to Oklahoma, the history of language policy and education in the state, and Oklahoma languages in media. Taught in English.

Members approved the H designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

**LL 1603 - Love and Ethics in the Middle Ages** requests the H designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026

Why did medieval writers think love could save your soul—or ruin your life? This course dives into the world of troubadours, poets, and storytellers who shaped Europe's first great love literature and explores how ideas about romance, desire, and power shaped medieval culture and still influence us today. Taught in English.

Members tabled the H designation with written competency pending receiving a syllabus including evidence that the course meets the fourth learning objective for the H designation: "Enhance critical thinking, connect sources, and apply disciplinary concepts to generate coherent arguments related to the human experience."

**LL 1703 - From Dragons to Dumplings: China's Cultural DNA**, requests the H designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

This course explores the foundations of Chinese culture with traditional and contemporary examples. Students will analyze the cultural elements that are widely considered to constitute "Chinese culture" historically and today, including historical, literary, and artistic traditions, philosophical and religious ideas, political institutions, the common writing system, and food. The influence and presence of Chinese cultural expressions in the U.S. are also considered. Taught in English.

Approved the H designation and written competency pending receipt of a syllabus that includes evidence that the students receive feedback on the writing assignments in time to use in subsequent assignments.

**UNIV 2020** – Horizon Scholars Seminar in STEM, requests the Q designation, effective Fall 2026.

Proposed new course for Horizon Scholars. Creating a topics course to accommodate the courses for the new Horizons Scholars program, which requires students to take special courses in social sciences, STEM, and arts and humanities.

3 cr. hrs.

Members approved the Q designation effective Fall 2026 pending receiving a syllabus with information about how the course is graded. The Chair will make the final decision.

**UNIV 2030** – Horizon Scholars Seminar in Arts and Humanities: Religion, Food, and Farming requests the H designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

Proposed new course to accommodate the courses for the new Horizons Scholars program, which requires students to take special courses in social sciences, STEM, and arts and humanities.

3 cr. hrs.

Members approved pending the H designation and written competency, effective Fall 2026 pending receiving a syllabus with additional information explaining how the second H learning objective is met (“Assess how ideas, events, texts, artifacts or arts shape diverse individual identities,”) and how religion, food, and farming are synthesized in the course.

### **Information Only:**

**AFAM 3523** – Language and Identity in the African Diaspora, requests the H and D designations with written Competency, effective Fall 2026.

This course will take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the relationship between language, culture, and identity, primarily focusing on the Black and African Diasporic communities in the United States. Drawing on sociolinguistics, literature, film, critical theory, history, and anthropology, we will examine how language is not only a means of communication, but also a powerful symbol of identity, cultural preservation, and a tool of resistance.

Prerequisite: None

Members approved pending the H and D designations with written competency, pending receiving a syllabus describing how the course relates to 25% present-day subject matter and evidence of students receiving feedback on writing assignments and how the discussions are related to the H and D designations.

2/11/26 - Members approved pending the H and D designations with written competency, pending receiving more details on the syllabus describing how the course meets the 25% threshold for present-day diversity content. Identifying the specific weeks/assignments would help, as might an explanation of the Afropop assignments.

Chair will make the final decision.

2/24/26 – Revised syllabus received, chair approved the H and D designations with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

**ASL 2723/LL 2723 - American Deaf Culture**, requests the D designation with written competency, effective Fall 2026.

This course provides an analysis of the development and historical overview of Deaf culture in the United States. Topics include education of the D/deaf; Deaf Films, theaters, arts, and clubs; preservation of American Sign Language; technology and services in the Deaf community. The student's acculturation process is facilitated by active participation in the Oklahoma Deaf community. This course will be voiced/taught in English.

Prerequisite: None, Equivalency: LL 2723

2/11/26 - Members approved the D designation and written competency pending receiving a syllabus that clarifies how the course meets present-day general education expectations. (The textbooks are 9-15 years old, so it would help to explain how 25% of the course is still present-day; is that material still current, or is there other material to make up the required 25%?)

2/17/26 – Revised syllabus received and chair approved the D designation with writing competency, effective Fall 2026.

**MICR 1213 – Biology of Health**, requests the N designation, effective Spring 2027.

An introduction to the biology of human health and factors that impact health including infectious and genetic diseases and contributions from the environment. Students will learn about the role of microbes in our health and the cellular and molecular processes associated with diseases. The course will also introduce challenges associated with treating diseases and maintaining health. Student knowledge will be assessed through quizzes, exams and writing projects that explore related topics.

2/10/26 – Received revised syllabus and chair approved the N designation, effective Spring 2027.