

Principles for Approving Faculty Members for Interdisciplinary Courses

Faculty for interdisciplinary courses will be approved according to the following principles. Specific application of these principles for each interdisciplinary component of the curriculum is delineated in the relevant statement of structural parameters for that component.

1. Each interdisciplinary component of the curriculum is recognized as having one or more foundational disciplines which delineate the context within which the respective courses are designed and taught.
2. The General Education Committee is responsible for articulating the respective foundational disciplines as part of the structural parameters assigned to each interdisciplinary component of the curriculum.
3. Faculty members proposing and teaching courses are expected to have an appropriate level of expertise in the respective foundational discipline(s).
4. Appropriate expertise in the foundational discipline(s) can be achieved through a variety of means, including but not limited to, graduate course work, independent study, and life experience.
5. As part of each course proposal, sponsoring faculty members will include a short statement by means of which they will "self-certify" their expertise in the respective foundational discipline(s). The narrative will be reviewed by the General Education Committee in a manner consistent with the other parts of the proposal.
6. In team taught courses, achievement in the foundational discipline(s) may be demonstrated through a combination of the expertise brought to the course by each member of the faculty team.
7. Faculty members who desire to teach courses which have been previously approved by the General Education Committee will be requested to provide the self-certifying statement described above for review by the Committee. The Committee's review of this narrative should be completed prior to the annual assignment of course loads for faculty contracts.