The University of Kansas
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE STUDIES

AGENDA
April 12, 2012, 11:00AM
STRONG HALL – ROOM 210

I. Approval of the March 29, 2012 CGS Minutes

II. Curricular Changes Subcommittee Report
   A. New Courses: ASTR 792, PHSX 702
   B. Course Changes: ENGL 800, PHSX 792

III. Petitions & Program Changes Subcommittee Report
   A. Change in Geography MA program
   B. Change in Geography PHD program
   C. Geography R(S)2

IV. Policy, Procedures, & Awards Subcommittee Report

V. New Business

I. Approval of the March 29, 2012 CGS Minutes

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The University of Kansas
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COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE STUDIES
MINUTES
March 29, 2012 11:00AM
STRONG HALL – ROOM 210

Members Present: Ed Morris (Chair), Tanya Hart, Eve Levin, Gina Westergard, Kees van der Veen, Stephanie Meador, John Korba, Jim Mielke (ex officio), Kristine Latta (ex officio),

Others in attendance: Lea Smith (COGA)

The meeting was called to order by Ed Morris at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 8, 2012 minutes of the Committee on Graduate Studies. The motion was approved unanimously.
Report of the Policies, Procedures, and Awards Subcommittee
(Eve Levin reporting)

• In response to Dean’s Charge #3 on best practices and learner outcomes for GTA/GRAs, the Subcommittee presented a draft of a survey to be directed to all Directors of Graduate Study in the College regarding GTA learner outcomes. The committee voted to approve the survey with changes. Jim Mielke will vet the survey with Human Resources and University Counsel to ensure that it in no way conflicts with the GTA MOA.

New Business
Eve Levin presented the concerns of HR and University Counsel regarding three questions on the GTA survey, as approved by the CGS in their March 8, 2012 meeting. The concerns centered on questions related to GTA workload. The decision was made to delete two of the three questions, and substantially rewrite a third question. Jim Mielke will confirm these changes with HR and University Counsel.

Respectively submitted,
Leatrice Smith

II. Curricular Changes Subcommittee Report
The Curricular Changes Subcommittee recommends the following to the CGS:

A. NEW COURSES

ASTROPHYSICS

ASTR 792: Topics in Advanced Astrophysics (3) This course will address one or more of the following advanced topics in astrophysics: high energy astrophysics, nuclear astrophysics, galactic and extragalactic astrophysics, space physics, cosmology, astrophysics, and the interstellar and intergalactic media (ISM/IGM). This course may be repeated for credit if topical content differs. (Same as ASTR 792). Prerequisite: ASTR 692 or permission of instructor. LEC

JUSTIFICATION
We have created a catalog entry called ASTR 792 that is cross-listed with PHSX 792. The courses and descriptions are identical and the creation of the new course listing makes it clear on student transcripts that they have taken a course in astrophysics.

PHYSICS

PHSX 702: Introductory Physics Pedagogy (1) This course will address basic elements of pedagogy in specific relation to the teaching of physics and astronomy labs. It contains such elements as: peer and instructor evaluations of teaching, reading and discussion of pedagogical materials, development of online
course material, and discussion of teaching methods. This course may be repeated for credit. Permission of instructor. LEC

JUSTIFICATION
The purpose of this motion is to establish a permanent course PHSX 702 - Introductory Physics Pedagogy- that will be required for all first time GTAs.

B. COURSE CHANGES

ENGLISH

CHANGE: TITLE

(OLD)
ENGL 800: Introduction to Graduate Study in English (3) Acquaintance with resources and practice in techniques that are essential to other graduate courses. Major concerns include the writing and documentation of scholarly papers; basic reference and bibliographical aids; critical approaches to literature and literary historiography; and the place of language and rhetoric in English studies today. LEC

(NEW)
ENGL 800: Methods, Theory, and Professionalization (3) Acquaintance with resources and practice in techniques that are essential to other graduate courses. Major concerns include the writing and documentation of scholarly papers; basic reference and bibliographical aids; critical approaches to literature and literary historiography; and the place of language and rhetoric in English studies today. LEC

JUSTIFICATION
The current title of 800 is too broad and vague to provide an accurate description of the course. The proposed new title names the major components that are and ought to be taught in the course. Since MA students no longer have to take 800 to fulfill the Theory and Methods requirement, this new, more descriptive title will give them a better idea of the nature of the course and, hence, whether or not it will meet their needs better than one of the alternatives (708, 709, or another course per approval by the DGS). For doctoral students, all of whom still have to take 800, the new title will indicate that the course goes beyond teaching the skills they have already developed as Masters students, to include those they will need throughout their doctoral career and beyond.

PHYSICS

CHANGE: DESCRIPTION

(OLD)
PHSX 792: Topics in Advanced Physics (3) This course will address one or more of the following advanced topics in astrophysics: high energy astrophysics, nuclear astrophysics, galactic and extragalactic astrophysics, space physics, cosmology, astrobiophysics, and the interstellar and intergalactic media (ISM/GSM). This course may be repeated for credit if topical content differs. Recommended preparation may vary depending on the topics scheduled. Prerequisite: ASTR 692 or permission of instructor. LEC

(NEW)
PHSX 792: Topics in Advanced Astrophysics (3) This course will address one or more of the following advanced topics in astrophysics: high energy astrophysics, nuclear astrophysics, galactic and extragalactic astrophysics, space physics, cosmology, astrobiophysics, and the interstellar and intergalactic media (ISM/IGM). This course may be repeated for credit if topical content differs. (Same as ASTR 792). Prerequisite: ASTR 692 or permission of instructor. LEC
JUSTIFICATION
We have changed the course description to have a less ambiguous prerequisite. We have also cross-listed this class with ASTR 792. The two classes are identical and the addition of a cross-listing makes it clear on student transcripts that they have taken a course in physics.

III. Petitions & Program Changes Subcommittee Report

The Petitions & Program Changes Subcommittee recommends the following to the CGS:

GEOGRAPHY

A. MA program change

Current Courses Requirement: One course in each of the following areas of study: Geographic Information Science, Human Geography, Regional Geography, Physical Geography. GEOG 805 GEOG 806 GEOG 714

Proposed: One course in each of the following areas of study: Geographic Information Science, Human/Regional Geography, Physical Geography, GEOG 805, GEOG 980 (Seminar in Geography: Colloquium) for 1 credit hour during each of the first two semesters. Non-credit two-day field course before classes begin in the fall semester. The field course requirement needs to be fulfilled only once during the student’s program of study. Recommended: Non-credit 8-hour Responsible Scholarship session held before classes start in the spring semester.

The change(s) to this program will first take effect

Fall 2012

Justification for this change:

The proposed changes to the M.A. program are in response to recommendations made by an external review panel in Spring 2011.

B. PHD program change

Current Research Skills Requirement: Responsible Scholarship Requirement: 1 credit Ethics in the Geosciences course. This course will present fundamental topics, and elicit discussion, in ethics as they apply to academic and post-graduate activities in the Geosciences. Topics include but are not limited to: protection of human subjects, conflicts of interest, data management and ownership, mentor/student responsibilities, appropriate research conduct and research misconduct, collaborative research, authorship, publication, plagiarism, copyright, peer review, professional practices and maintenance of confidentiality. The course will be taught in four modules co-taught by both Geography and Geology faculty members.

Proposed: Responsible Scholarship Requirement: As part of the University requirement that all
PhD students receive "training in responsible scholarship relative to the field of study," the Department of Geography conducts a non-credit training seminar in responsible scholarship to be held at the beginning of spring semester each year. This requirement must be completed prior to taking the comprehensive examination. The seminar consists of eight (8) contact hours between seminar leaders and PhD students. Seminar leaders will include faculty members in the Geography Department who represent the broad range of research fields in Geography and who have expertise and experience in the topic(s) they cover. Topics to be addressed will include (but are not limited to): human subjects, data management, conflicts of interest, appropriate research conduct, collaborative research, authorship of research articles and grant applications, citation ethics, plagiarism, copyright, peer review, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements, mentor/student responsibilities, classroom behavior and ethics, and professional liability. The format will consist of readings, policy reviews and resources, short presentations, case studies, and discussion. The Progress to Degree form will be used to report the completion of the Responsible Scholarship requirement.

The change(s) to this program will first take effect
Spring 2012

Justification for this change:
Our original intent was to conduct a combined course with Geology. We subsequently, and mutually, found that to be impractical and have decided to implement a solution within Geography.

C. RS(2) Requirement

Current Courses Requirement: GEOG 714

Proposed: GEOG 805, GEOG 980 (Seminar in Geography: Colloquium) for 1 credit hour during each of the first two semesters of residence at KU. Attend a non-credit two-day field trip course before classes begin in the fall semester. The field course requirement needs to be fulfilled only once during the student’s program of study.

The change(s) to this program will first take effect
Fall 2012

Justification for this change:
The proposed changes to the PhD program are in response to recommendations made by an external review panel in Spring 2011.

IV. Policy, Procedures, & Awards Subcommittee Report
(Eve Levin) Update on Survey

V Old Business
List of Stale-dated courses for Deletion

HISTORY OF ART
766, 783, 785, 786, 806, 807, 820, 825, 826
POLITICAL SCIENCE
824

HDFL
709, 723, 730

HISTORY
812, 821, 899

COMMUNICATION STUDIES
784, 843, 942, 943, 944, 949, 954, 956, 957

VI New Business