

IDSOC Minutes 02/26/09

Members Present: Michael Kelrick, Peter Ramberg, Dereck Daschke, Arthur David Gregg, Sara Orel, James Padfield, Pat Gately

I. New JINS Course

- A. Dr. Garry Gordon, Fine Arts professor, submitted a new JINS course called “Hunting in America”
- B. The lack of JINS course offerings for fall 2009
 - a. So far, only 20 courses are confirmed for fall
 - b. This course would be number 22 on the list
- C. Syllabus
 - a. Too long and dense
 - b. Some of the information included could be distributed as handouts later in the semester
- D. Suggestion: Course should include practicum/ field trip to ensure comprehension—outdoor activities, fishing, interview hunters, hunting simulation

II. New IDSM Proposal

- A. Sarah Clarke, American Studies major, advisor Troy Paino
- B. JINS needs to be included as graduation requirement apart from major coursework
- C. History minor
 - a. There is too much double-counting (2 for each minor)
 - b. Major is strongly drawn out of history curriculum; it is historically based
 - c. Should integrate HIST minor courses into the major and only have one minor
- D. Art courses are debatable
 - a. Needs to explicitly state why Art courses are included if there is no specific American Studies focus
 - b. Art courses are related to the major since study focus is visual culture
 - c. American focus is stronger in Contemporary Art than it is in Modern Art
- E. Focus of major is unclear
 - a. Major needs a coherent theme: either gender studies or area studies
 - b. Sarah needs to clean up the narrative to explain what the major will do
 - c. Suggestion: Major proposal should be more flexible; shouldn't explicitly state “gender focus”
 - d. If HIST courses are included in the major, Sarah could pursue a WGST minor as a complement to her major.
- F. Sarah will likely take IDSM 175 in fall 2009 and resubmit the proposal

III. Changes in Jeremy Hellwig's Foreign Relations IDSM

- A. Jeremy will graduate this semester (Spring 2009)
- B. Five out of ten courses are changed.
- C. Reasons for revisions in coursework
 - a. Mentor Dr. Ishiyama had left
 - b. Some courses originally included were never offered

- c. Rationale for changes is stronger; courses fit into major
- D. Committee approves changes

IV. Agenda for next meeting, on March 18, 2009

- A. Dr. Alberts will have IDSM 175 Course Assessment
- B. Dr. Kelrick will bring the draft of the letter to mentors.