

English Department Meeting Minutes (October 12, 2017)

Present: Eric Furuseth, Robert Kibler, Ash Bowen, Sarah Aleshire, Patti Kurtz, Ron Fischer, Harold Nelson

Eric Furuseth presented a proposal for a change to the graduation requirements for English majors. He said the previous program review added World Literature, and he suggested the World Lit course be retained. All Bachelor of Science in English Education candidates must enroll in one diversity course, and Patti Kurtz suggested the World Lit class be used to satisfy this requirement.

Eric Furuseth moved that English 191 and English 391 be deleted from the English curriculum in order to reduce the number of credit hours required for graduation from its current number to 120-122 credit hours. Harold Nelson and Robert Kibler seconded the motion. Sarah Aleshire suggested the loss of classes would weaken the overall program. Furuseth added that the cuts to the program were a “practical matter” to help Minot State University stay competitive with North Dakota State University and University of North Dakota. Aleshire suggested the faculty members develop several models of which courses to cut so faculty could vote on a particular plan. Kurtz agreed with Aleshire’s suggestion.

Harold Nelson moved that the number of credits to graduate with an English degree be reduced to 120. Kurtz objected to deciding on a number of credit hours without reviewing the curriculum. Motion passed.

Furuseth and Ash Bowen will complete the English program assessment report. Kibler said there is funding for an external program review, though such a review isn’t required.

Aleshire suggested the department establish a promotions committee to better promote the English program.

Furuseth, Kurtz, and Kibler will present a long course rotation schedule at the November 9 department meeting.

Bowen apprised that Senior Seminar will be held December 2.