

UConn

NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Curricula & Courses Committee

To: C&C Committee Members

From: Jaci VanHeest, Chair

Date: November 11, 2021

Re: Minutes of the Curricula & Courses Committee Meeting held November 9, 2021

In attendance via Microsoft Teams: Jaci VanHeest, Michele Back, John Zack, Saran Stewart, Adam McCready, Natalie Olinghouse, Ann Traynor and Dorothea Anagnostopoulos

1) Approval of October, 2021 meeting minutes

- *Jaci began the meeting at 10:02 am.*
- *John Zack made a motion to approve the October minutes, Ann seconded, and they were passed unanimously.*

2) New Courses

a) **EPSY 6710: Conceptions of Human Potential (CAR 21-9624)**

Explanation: Students in the doctoral program in Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development have traditionally participated in a series of doctoral seminar courses, taught by different members of our program faculty, addressing advanced learning in the content area. We are seeking to provide greater specification in the overall curriculum for the program by instead providing and requiring a series of named courses. This course represents content that would have been addressed in one of the doctoral seminars. The course is primarily aimed at doctoral students in the Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development program but would be open to interested doctoral students in other program areas as well.

Course Description: Conceptions of Human Potential will focus on a broad approach to understanding potential in various manifestations related to intelligence and giftedness. Central questions will include What is intelligence? What is giftedness? Are the constructs synonymous? How do we promote the talents and gifts among adults and children?

Proposed Catalog Copy:

EPSY 6710 Conceptions of Human Potential

Focus on a broad approach to understanding potential in various manifestations related to intelligence and giftedness.

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: November 5, 2021

APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: November 7, 2021

b) **EPSY 6730: Contemporary Issues in Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development (CAR-21-9625)**

Explanation: This course is being submitted as part of a set of numbered courses designed to replace a generically numbered seminar for the doctoral program in EPSY with emphasis in Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development. This course is being proposed in combination with EPSY 6710 and EPSY 6780 as well as a revision to the existing course EPSY 6770.

Course Description: Students explore a variety of contemporary issues related to giftedness, creativity, and talent development. Students enhance their identity as a scholar by examining contemporary issues the field is facing through exploring, reading, reflecting upon, and discussing current literature that culminates in a collaborative scholarly product suitable for publication and presentation.

Proposed Catalog Copy:

EPSY 6730: Contemporary Issues in Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development
Collaborative study of contemporary issues in the field of giftedness, creativity, and talent development.

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: November 5, 2021

APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: November 7, 2021

c) **EPSY 6780: Affective Issues in Achievement and Talent Development (CAR-21-9644)**

Course Description: This class examines the social and emotional development of high potential, academically talented and gifted students. The goal is for all doctoral students in this class to understand the broad level of social and emotional challenges, benefits and risks for this population. It is also to understand and investigate various strategies, methods, and counseling models for addressing the social and emotional issues in the lives of gifted and talented students. Finally, each doctoral student will develop advanced knowledge of one specific area in social and emotional development and write an introductory article, suitable for submission for publication, about this area by the end of the semester

Proposed Catalog Copy:

EPSY 6780: Affective Issues in Achievement and Talent Development
Study of social and emotional issues in the development of advanced potential, with emphasis on theory and research regarding these areas of development and implications for services.

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: November 5, 2021

APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: November 7, 2021

3) Revised Courses

a) **EPSY 6770: Concepts in Curriculum and Instruction for Talent Development (CAR 21-9645)**

Explanation: Students in the doctoral program in Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development have traditionally participated in a series of doctoral seminar courses, taught by different members of our program faculty, addressing advanced learning in the content area. One of those seminars overlapped somewhat in content with the content of EPSY 6770, so we are revising EPSY 6770 to reflect the advanced content emphasis and to form part of that series

of courses. The course is primarily aimed at doctoral students in the Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent Development program but would be open to interested doctoral students in other program areas as well.

Course Description: This course explores major curriculum models designed to support advanced learning, approaches to curriculum and instruction linked to talent development programs, and issues related to intervention-focused research in schools. We will also explore the role of scholars as curriculum planners and instructors in a variety of contexts. The course is designed to be interactive; participants will read and prepare content for class discussion and participate actively during class sessions.

Current Catalog Copy:

EPSY 6770: Curricular Options for High Ability Learners

Curriculum theory and techniques with special attention to the development of instructional materials.

Proposed Catalog Copy:

EPSY 6770: Concepts in Curriculum and Instruction for Talent Development

Major models and strategies for curriculum and instruction in support of advanced-level learning, with focus on underlying concepts, organizational models, and approaches to research on curriculum and instruction in learning environments.

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: November 5, 2021

APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: November 7, 2021

- *After a lengthy discussion about course content and how the course content relates to education issues broadly, a motion was made to table the 4 courses until additional discussion by chair and faculty involved. Adam made the motion to table, Michele seconded, and all voted in favor.*
- *Jaci will send an email to Catherine Little to review the Committee's concerns and ask her to revise and resubmit for review at the December C&C meeting.*
- *The Committee reiterated their collective agreement to follow the 2-week rule for submissions to allow for ample time to review all materials.*
- *The meeting adjourned at 10:25am.*