

## Interdisciplinary Studies Committee Minutes

11/15/2018 11:00 am

Martin Room

**Attendees:** Kathy Ure, Izzy Wasserstein, Marguerite Perret, Deborah Altus, Geoff Way, Nancy Tate

**Guests:** James Barraclough

Nancy Tate called the meeting to order, provided a brief overview of the purpose of the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee for new committee members, and facilitated introductions.

James Barraclough, Director of Undergraduate Initiatives in the Center for Student Success and Retention, provided information on the Ichabod IGNITE program and a new 1 credit course proposed for it, WU 105—Life Skills. James explained that the course is designed for the Spring semester of the program and complements the 2 credit WU 120 Major & Career Exploration. Discussion with the committee confirmed that this course would only be open to those students participating in success programs through the Center for Student Success & Retention; the committee recommended that these enrollment restrictions be made explicit in the course description. Deborah Altus offered a friendly amendment to revise the course description for clarity, which James Barraclough accepted and re-submitted as an amendment (see attached proposal).

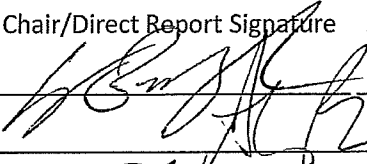
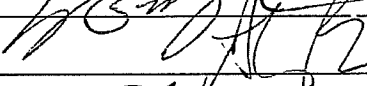
Deborah Altus inquired about the protocol for informing the committee of a name change to a course in the Gerontology minor. Nancy Tate advised that she could notify the committee by email and make the appropriate edits to the forthcoming catalog copy.

Deborah Altus then moved to approve the request, Geoff Way seconded. The request to offer the course WU 105 was unanimously passed.

Nancy Tate adjourned the meeting.

**Washburn University**  
**Interdisciplinary Studies**

**Review Form**

	Chair/Direct Report Signature	Recommendation	Review Date
Department/Area _____		Approve	10/31/18
Dean/Direct Report _____		Approve	11/2/18
Interdisciplinary Committee _____	Nancy A Tate	Approve	11/15/18

**Part I General Information**

1. Exact proposed catalog:

- a. Course Number: WU 105
- b. Course Title: Life Skills
- c. Number of Credits: 1
- d. Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor
- e. Schedule Type (e.g., Lecture, Lecture/Lab, Online, Seminar, etc.): Lecture or Online
- f. Grade Mode (Standard Grade or Credit/No Credit): Standard Grade
- g. Course Description: The WU 105 course focuses on critical thinking, personal development, and the transition into independence. Common themes such as self-exploration, basic auto tech knowledge, and personal finances are covered to introduce students to a series of topics centered on the refinement of life skills. *see appended for amended description*

2. Rationale for offering this course.

An existing component of both the Ichabod Ignite and Ichabod Success Institute programs has been a holistic approach to serving their needs, including those outside the classroom. It is evident that many of our incoming, first-year students lack a significant understanding of life skills that are essential as they transition into independence. Creating WU105 will provide a formal credit-bearing option for students to spend time discussing this transition, learning about personal finances, and even life skills such as basic automotive maintenance. The course will assist our efforts to serve the whole student. Initially, this course will be made available for students in our success programs.

3. Does this represent an added course to your curriculum?

a. No Which course(s) is it replacing? Yes.

b. Yes How is the cost to be underwritten? The only added cost is instructional. Instruction for this course will be provided by existing personnel in Mabee Library & the Center for Student Success and Retention.

4. What will be the extent and nature of the reading required for this course?

Selected readings will be provided from *Lunchmeat & Life Lessons: Sharing a Butcher's Wisdom* by Mary Lucas.

5. Can this course be repeated for additional credit? If so, how many times or how many hours?

NO.

## Part II Content Considerations

6. Will this course be proposed as a General Education course?

Yes No - NO

If yes, please indicate the General Education goals to be served by this course.

NOTE: The deadline for submission to the General Education Committee approval is October for existing courses and February for newly approved courses

7. How will student performance be assessed?

Student performance will primarily be assessed by participation and engagement in online discussion forums and completion of D2L modules.

8. Does the department/area consider the proposed course will primarily attract:

Department majors Non-majors Department majors and majors from specific other departments; Which departments? Majors from all departments will participate in this course but the students will primarily be exploratory in nature.

## Part III Financial/Resource Considerations

9. Has the department/area proposing the course addition reviewed the University Catalog and determined that the proposed course does not duplicate in title or content existing courses?

Yes No – YES.

10. How often does the department/area anticipate the proposed course will be offered?

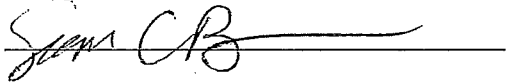
Every Semester Every other semester Every three semesters Irregularly – Every semester.

11. Has the proposed course been offered as a special topic?

Yes No – NO.

If yes, when was it offered?

12. Are current library holdings adequate? ~~Yes~~ No If the answer is “no,” what would be necessary to bring the collection to an acceptable standard for this course offering?



Signature of Librarian

Page 3 of 3

13. Do you currently have the equipment and facilities (including sufficient WWW access, computer software, hardware) to teach this class?

YES.

14. If the answer to #12 is “no,” what additional equipment and/or facilities will be needed? (Be specific as regards any technology needs in the way of WWW access, and computer software or hardware.)

15. What status will the proposed course have within the department’s/area’s overall curriculum?

Elective Required – ELECTIVE

16. Financial Impact:

a. Who will teach this course: current or new faculty, full, part-time, or adjunct? CURRENT

b. If current faculty, how will their other assigned course load be taught?

The majority of the lessons that will be offered in this course are already being taught by our faculty in the Skillshop series offered through the Center for Student Success. This is simply re-assigning that effort to a formal course structure.

c. What is the expected cost? No additional new cost.

d. Please provide an explanation of any other expenses incurred with this proposed course.

**Amended Course Description—WU 105, 11-19-2018**

WU105 focuses on developing the critical-thinking and life skills needed for a successful transition into independence. The course covers topics ranging from basic auto maintenance to personal finance with the goal of promoting the development and refinement of important life skills.

The target audience for this course are students participating in success programs through the Center for Student Success & Retention.