

MEMORANDUM

TO: Richard Zack, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee and
Jonathan Yoder, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee

FROM: Marc Evans and Scot Wherland
Co-Chairs, Catalog Subcommittee

DATE: September 13, 2013

SUBJECT: Need for an opinion concerning conjoint UCORE and graduate courses

Late last year, the UCORE committee sent forward to the Catalog Subcommittee (CSC) two courses, History 432 and Engr 421. These two courses passed the UCORE committee as capstone courses. However, the UCORE committee did not notice that these two courses were also to be conjoint listed with graduate courses, especially as no graduate syllabus was included with them. Upon receiving the two courses, the CSC determined that these two courses were to be conjoint with graduate courses. It is the understanding of the CSC that no UCORE course currently in the catalog is conjoint listed, nor were there any GER courses previously conjoint listed. This is new territory for the CSC and as such the CSC is in need of a policy statement from both AAC and GSC.

The CSC sees the conjoint listing of UCORE and graduate classes as being contrary to the basic idea of an undergraduate education. We do not see any benefit for undergraduate students in having a conjoint listing of UCORE courses with graduate courses. On the contrary, we believe that a two track course would be detrimental to the undergraduate education. Furthermore, the founding premise for conjoint listing was that some graduate courses suffered from a lack of enrollment and the addition of undergraduates, through conjoint listing, would help make the courses more viable.

In order to sort out this problem, the CSC would appreciate the AAC's and GSC's consideration of the issue of conjoint listing of UCORE and graduate courses, and set policy as to whether or not UCORE courses can be conjoint listed with graduate courses.