

APPROVED

2023-24 Annual Report of the Subcommittee on the Breadth
 Requirement in American Cultures

In fulfilling its charge as established in the Bylaws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the AMCULT carried out the following activities during the 2023-24 academic year. Professor Ronit Stahl (History) served as chair and as an ex-officio member on the Committee on Courses of Instruction for the 2023-2024 Academic Year.

The Subcommittee reviewed a total of 72 course and instructor proposals and student petitions for satisfaction of Berkeley Division Regulation 300, American Cultures Breadth Requirements. Subcommittee members evaluated proposals and petitions to ensure courses were integrative and comparative; addressed theoretical and analytical issues relevant to understanding race, culture, and ethnicity in American history and society; and, took substantial account of groups drawn from at least three of the following: African Americans, indigenous peoples of the United States, Asian Americans, Chicano/Latinos, and European Americans.

I. Finished Business

A. Actions on Course and Instruction Approvals and Student Petition Requests

The following chart summarizes the actions of the Subcommittee.

	Total	Approved	Denied	Pended or Tabled
New Berkeley Course	6	5	0	1
Review of New Instructor for Existing Berkeley Course	26	24	0	2
New Off-Campus Course	0	0	0	0
Student Petition (Berkeley Course)	5	3	2	0
Student Petition (Non-Berkeley Course)	35	13	22	0
TOTAL	72	45	24	3

B. Completed Issues – NONE

II. AMCULT Correspondence for Review of Academic Senate Policies and Issues

- A. Chair Stahl, on behalf of the Subcommittee, sent COCI Chair David Landreth a letter on 4/5/24 with feedback on the Key Disabled Students' Program Information,

Procedures & Protocols for Implementation of UCOP PACAOS 140, 143 et seq
(Provision of Academic Adjustments) compilation document.

III. Unfinished Business

- A. AC Articulation Agreements with California Community Colleges: The Office of the Registrar proposed reviewing Course Outlines of Record (CORs) and sample syllabi for Community College courses that fulfill the AC requirement. The Subcommittee would review these documents with an eye to whether it believes these courses with existing AC articulation agreements do indeed satisfy the AC requirement. This review is part of a larger Subcommittee discussion about the potential of no longer accepting AC coursework from other colleges. Should articulation agreements no longer apply, the number of Berkeley AC course offerings, and seats within them, must be increased to meet demand.
- B. American Cultures Proposal Supporting Documents: The Subcommittee discussed how increasing support and guidance for faculty submitting AC proposals would produce a smoother, less complicated approval process. The Subcommittee favored considering changes to AC guidelines, and the criteria for course approval, that would improve accessibility and inclusivity within the proposal process.
- C. Update Version of “Guidance for American Cultures Course Proposals”: The Subcommittee discussed ways to give faculty better guidance and tools for submitting successful AC proposals and petitions. Members proposed revising language in AC guidelines or correspondence to sound less bureaucratic and more collegial. Also discussed was the possibility of academic department involvement to ease Subcommittee disciplinary hurdles during the AC approval process.