

Discovery Committee May 14, 2025

Present: Nicky Gullace (Chair) and Lisa MacFarlane (English 401 Coordinator). *Because of the departure of Discovery Program Manager Lara Demarest for a new position and the lack of a quorum for our regularly scheduled May 13, 2025 Discovery meeting, the Discovery Office switched into “summer mode,” which entails executive decision-making on urgent petitions. Lisa MacFarlane and I discussed and adjudicated the following cases.*

I. Student Petitions:

- 1) Ocean Engineering (CEPS) Jr, requests HUMA 510 C count as FPA, even though his section was clearly marked as HP. The student claimed that the course catalogue said the sections were “equivalent,” an issue we brought to the attention of the COLA Associate Dean and the HUMA department Chair. Nevertheless, the student’s syllabus said very clearly and in large lettering that section A not section C was FPA. Given the clarity of the instructions and the students failure to switch into the section (held at the same time) which actually fulfilled FPA, we did not think the student would benefit from simply being permitted to ignore information he was provided with. CEPS students are now regularly taking the wrong sections of HUMA courses and have become habituated to simply petitioning them. The DC has been sympathetic when syllabi are unclear, but in this case it was very clear that the student was in the wrong section. **Petition denied.**
- 2) Ocean Engineering (CEPS) Jr, requests HUMA 510 C count as FPA, even though his section was clearly marked as HP. (*Same as above*) **Petition denied.**
- 3) Civil Engineering (CEPS) Sophomore asks to have HUM 512A count as HUMA. The course content for the student’s section seemed to meet the requirements of a HUMA course and the Discovery Category of the section he took was nowhere written on the syllabus, making such a mistake understandable. **Petition Approved.**
- 4) COLA First Year who lived in Nepal for eight years and was educated in the Mariana Islands petitioned to have WC waived as a foreign student. Committee requested additional information and student replied promptly. **Petition Approved.**