

## Discovery Committee Minutes December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Teams)

**Present:** Nicoletta Gullace (Chair), Gregory McMahon, Kathrine Aydelott, Alecia Magnifico, Roger Grinde, Anna Wainwright, Grace Simmons, Maeve Dion, Sachiko Akiyama, Meaghan Dittrich, Catherine Peebles, Qi Zhang

**Absent:** Matthew MacManes, Timothy Montminy, Forrest Schwartz

I. Welcome

II. Action Items

a. Approval of the Minutes from the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Vote:** Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0. **Minutes Approved.**

b. Student Petitions.

i. Petition to allow UNH course MUSI 460 to satisfy Discovery Fine and Performing Arts requirements

**Vote:** Yes, 8 No 0 Ab 0. **Petition Approved.**

ii. Petition to allow UNH course LLC 444i to satisfy the Discovery Historical Perspective requirements

**Vote:** Yes, 7 No 1 Ab 0. **Petition Approved**

iii. Petition to allow URI course COM 361 to satisfy the Discovery World Culture requirement.

**Vote:** Yes, 0 No: 7 Ab: 1. **Petition Denied**

iv. Petition to allow UNH course Tech 411/412 to satisfy Discovery Biological Science requirements.

**Vote:** Yes: 6 No 1 Ab 0 **Petition Approved.**

v. Petition to allow UMass Boston course Latin 220 to satisfy Discovery World Culture requirement.

**Vote:** Yes: 5 No: 1 Ab: 3. **Petition Approved.**

vi. Petition to allow personal experience to satisfy Discovery World Culture requirements.

**Vote:** Yes, 7 No 0 Ab 0. **Petition Approved.**

c. Course Approvals.

i. ANTH 550: Introduction to Forensic Anthropology

**Vote:** Yes: 9 No: 0 Ab: 0. **Course Approved.**

ii. HIST 525: Exploration in History and Humanities

**Vote:** Yes: 9 No: 0 Ab: 0. **Course Approved.**

iii. HIST/HUMA 571: Modern Middle East History

**Vote:** Yes: 8 No: 0 Ab: 0. **Course Approved.**

iv. EDC 732 Reading and Writing in the Mathematics content

Dialogue: The discussion centers on confusion and frustration over a writing-intensive course whose description language was altered despite

already carrying a WI designation, raising concerns about why the changes were made and whether the course still meets WI requirements. There is an acknowledgment that while all WI courses were reviewed for compliance at the time of an institutional merger, courses can be modified from semester to semester without centralized oversight, leading to inconsistency. Review of designated WI courses often relies on quick syllabus checks and informal approval, even when criteria may no longer be fully met. The group notes broader structural problems, including inconsistent guidelines across offices and the difficulty of fairly judging compliance in such a fragmented system. Separately, it is emphasized that peer-review and peer-engagement practices can function effectively even with staggered timelines, but only if instructors receive proper training and guidance on how to implement these methods well. In the discussion, the committee discussed Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its use in Writing Intensive courses. The committee members support AI and are in favor of embracing Artificial Intelligence.

Next Committee meeting is February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026