

**UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XXIII – M25**

Motion on awarding Transfer and Study Abroad Discovery Credit

1. Motion presenter: Nicky Gullace, on behalf of the Discovery Committee
2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 04/15/2019, 04/29/2019

3. Rationale:

Failure to Receive Discovery Credit: Transfer students arriving at UNH are not getting Discovery credit for courses that fulfill the spirit of the Discovery Category Description and the requirements of the Discovery Category SLOs unless the course matches a Discovery course currently taught at UNH. These students are often misadvised during their initial visit to their destination departments since faculty, seeing courses that seem clearly to fit Discovery categories, advise students that the work done at their prior institution will transfer with “no problem.” Students on Study Abroad programs frequently face similar challenges. Because foreign offerings can change before the student arrives, the pre-approval process is not foolproof and students are often dismayed to find themselves severely limited in the curricular offerings Discovery will allow. Instead of being encouraged to explore the rich offerings at a foreign university, students can only fulfill Discovery requirements if they enroll in courses that replicate those they already have access to at UNH.

The burden of Petitioning: If the Registrar’s Office cannot easily resolve a student request for Discovery credit, the student is required to submit a petition to the Discovery Committee with complete documentation (syllabus, course description, etc.) regarding the course. At the Discovery Committee meeting, the Registrar correctly reminds committee members that precedent dictates that any course that is not a designated Discovery option at UNH should be denied. Denial occurs with little explanation to the student as to why a course such as Advanced Statistics was rejected for QR, Painting for FPA, or Computer Science for ETS. Transfers and Study Abroad students thus arrive and find themselves mired in a time-consuming petition process and scrambling to fulfill Discovery requirements they believe they had fulfilled abroad or at their prior institution.

Motion: To award Transfer and Study Abroad Discovery credit based on whether a course taken at another institution (and transferred with sufficient credit hours) aligns with the UNH Discovery Category Description and Student Learning Outcomes.

4. Senate action: The motion unanimously with 60 in favor and 1 abstention.

5. 

Senate Chair, Robert S. Smith

Forwarded to the following on May 9, 2019:

President James Dean
Provost Wayne Jones
P.T. Vasudevan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Rob McGann, Interim Vice President, Enrollment Management
Kerryellen Vroman, Associate Vice Provost for International Programs
Andy Colby, UNH Registrar
all deans
all department chairs