HASS-D courses required to have final exams

(Continued from page 1)

- HASS-D subjects should be 12 units.
- There must be a minimum of three hours of class per week, including a recitation period of at least one hour. Discussion sections must have fewer than 25 students.

The Overview Committee is in the process of sending letters to every member of the HASS faculty to solicit proposals for HASS-D courses, Khoury added. The subcommittees will review the proposals and recommend changes, explained William L. Jarrold '89, student member of the Overview Committee. After the final proposals are completed in early December, each of the subcommittee chairmen will present the proposed HASS-D subjects to the Overview Committee for approval.

After the Overview Committee has made its selections, ultimate approval for HASS-D subjects comes from Dean of Humanities and Social Science Amin F. Friedlander PhD '64. Any current HUM-D subject that is accepted for HASS-D status will be granted only a provisional license of one year as a HASS-D, since it may be replaced by new subjects introduced in subsequent years, Khoury said. Any new subject accepted for HASS-D status will hold that status for three years and then must be reconsidered.

Opportunities for expressing student opinions

Every committee has one student member. These students were chosen by the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs, by the UA Nominations Committee, by recommendations from faculty, and ultimately by the chairmen of the subcommittees.

Students were placed on the committees in order to "prevent the kind of thing that happened last spring," when the faculty tried to reform the HASS system without consulting students, Jarrold said.

The original HASS-D proposal included a cap of 50 on the number of HASS-D subjects. Following strong student opposition, that cap was lifted.

But Jarrold was not convinced that student concerns had been answered. "Last year, they proposed a cap of 80 HASS-D subjects. Now, there is no cap, but they still want fewer HASS-Ds than there were under the old system," Jarrold said.

Since anyone teaching a course that satisfies a requirement is guaranteed to get students, faculty are expected to compete for the limited number of HASS-D slots.

As the number of available subjects goes down, the number of students taking a given HASS-D class will go up, and this will adversely affect humanities teaching, Jarrold asserted. "You've got to have interaction with other students, and you have to learn how to interact with other people," which is impossible if the classes are too large, he said.

The current proposed cap on recitation size is 25 students, and professors are strongly encouraged to keep the size under 30, Jarrold said. But humanities courses will not be very effective unless the number is reduced to 10 or 15, he claimed.

The transition from HUM-Ds to HASS-Ds will pose problems because it will be difficult to predict student interest and enrollment in the new HASS-D courses, according to Professor Irene Taylor, chairman of the literature subcommittee.

The six committees are permanent, and the reviewing of HASS-D subjects is a continuing process, Khoury said. The committees will review HASS-D subjects every three years to propose changes, he continued.

Within four years, the HASS-D system should be completely in place and the HUM-D system will be phased out, Khoury said.

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**Criteria for HASS-D subjects**

- Each HASS-D category should consist of subjects that are appropriate for students who never taken another subject in that area of learning. HASS-D subjects should have a broad intellectual range and include a generous view of the alternative and often competing assumptions, perspectives, and intellectual tendencies in the field.
- HASS-D subjects should incorporate, where appropriate, materials and insights drawn from the full range of contemporary scholarship, including that on women, minorities, and non-Western cultures.
- HASS-D subjects should aim at developing both substantive knowledge and analytical skills.
- HASS-D subjects should not have prerequisites except in the case of language subjects, and subjects within the five HASS-D categories should offer a range of choices suited to the intellectual range and include a generous view of the alternative and often competing assumptions, perspectives, and intellectual tendencies in the field.
- The HASS-D requirement is meant to complement the requirements in science and mathematics by emphasizing modes of inquiry and discourse that are qualitative and contextual.

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