Dear Department Chairs,

As you begin to think about scheduling for next fall, I wanted to alert you to a decision reached at the last meeting of the Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB). As you know, the Pathways program requires that each student complete a capstone course (which is also by definition a writing intensive course) in order to graduate; this requirement may be met by a GE capstone course, or by a capstone course in the major that has been approved by CAB as a substitute (see the list of approved substitutes here). We expect next year to see full implementation of the new program, including upper division writing intensive and capstone courses.

To increase scheduling flexibility and ease the pressure on low-enrollment WI courses, CAB has voted to allow departments to offer non-capstone versions of GE capstones courses. That is, in addition to scheduling at least one section per semester as a capstone, departments may also offer higher enrollment, non-capstone variants of that same course. For instance, ANTH 340, a capstone in the Food Studies Pathway, may be offered as 340 as well as 340C in the same semester, one of which would meet the student’s WI and capstone requirement, the other of which would not. (The non-capstone course would still fulfill the upper division social science requirement in that Pathway.) Please note that at least one section of the capstone version of the course must still be offered each semester.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this policy.

Thanks very much for your support of the Pathways program.

Kate

Kate McCarthy
Professor of Religious Studies
California State University, Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0740
(330) 896-4483
lmcCarthy@csuchico.edu