

**COMMITTEE OF CHAIRS OF ACADEMIC BOARDS/SENATES
OF UNIVERSITIES IN NSW AND THE ACT**

MEETING (06/1)

30 MARCH 2006

Item 4 HSC Category A Course Reviews

ACTION REQUIRED

1. Approve (as a group) all those Category A courses listed on the Checklist for which the recommendation for Category A was unequivocal.
2. Consider reports (attached) received since the last Committee of Chairs meeting:
 - Dance
 - Modern Greek Studies
 - Russian
3. Consider the recommendations for those courses (reports attached) for which a second opinion has been received, viz:
 - Agriculture
 - Arabic (Continuers and Extension)
 - English (Standard)
 - ESL
 - Industrial Technology (awaiting a third opinion)
4. Consider the action needing to be taken in relation to those remaining courses for which there is no recommendation or review report, viz:
 - Arabic (Beginners) (second opinion)
 - Classical Greek
 - Community & Family Studies
 - Drama
 - Health & Physical Education
 - Latin
 - Music 1 and 2 and Extension
 - Personal Development
 - Senior Science (second opinion)
 - Studies of Religion
 - Visual Arts

As at 22 March 2006

CATEGORY A REVIEWS 2005/2006

CHECKLIST

As at 22 Mar 06

COURSE	INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW	REVIEW REPORT RECEIVED and RECOMMENDATION	COMMENTS
1. ARTS AND PERFORMANCE			
Dance	UNSW	A	
Drama	WOLLONGONG		
Music 1	UWS		
Music 2	UWS		
Visual Arts	WOLLONGONG		
<i>HSC Music Extension</i>	UWS		
2. ENGLISH			
English (Advanced)	UNE +SYDNEY	A	
English (Standard)	SYDNEY CSU	A? A	Initial remarks. Second opinion.
English as a Second Language (ESL)	SYDNEY UTS	A? A	Initial remarks. Second opinion.
<i>HSC English Extension</i>	SYDNEY	A	
3. MATHEMATICS			
General Mathematics	UTS	A	
Mathematics	UTS	A	
<i>HSC Mathematics Extension 1</i>	UTS	A	
<i>HSC Mathematics Extension 2</i>	UTS	A	
4. SCIENCE Agriculture	UNE SYDNEY	A (“marginal”) A	Initial report. Second opinion.
4. SCIENCE			
Biology	SYDNEY +WOLLONGONG	A	
Chemistry	SYDNEY	A	
Earth and Environmental Science	SYDNEY	A	
Physics	SYDNEY	A	
Engineering Studies	SYDNEY	A	
4. SCIENCE			
Food Technology	UNSW	A	
4. SCIENCE			
Senior Science	UTS WOLLONGONG	B (pending)	Initial report. Second opinion.
5. SEPARATE CATEGORY			
Personal Development	SCU		
Health and Physical Education	SCU		
Community and Family Studies	SCU		

6. SOCIAL SCIENCES			
Ancient History	MACQUARIE	A	
Business Studies	NEWCASTLE	A	
Economics	MACQUARIE	A	
Geography	MACQUARIE	A	
Legal Studies	MACQUARIE	A	
Modern History	MACQUARIE	A	
Society and Culture	MACQUARIE + NEWCASTLE	A	
<i>HSC History Extension</i>	MACQUARIE	A	
6. SOCIAL SCIENCES			
Aboriginal Studies	SYDNEY	A	
6. SOCIAL SCIENCES			
Studies of Religion I	ACU		
Studies of Religion II	ACU		
Studies of Religion Stage 6	UNE	A	
7. TECHNOLOGY	UNSW		
Design and Technology		A	
Information Processes and Technology		A	
Software Design and Development		A	
Textiles and Design		A	
7. TECHNOLOGY			
Industrial Technology	CANBERRA UNSW UTS	B B pending	Initial report. Second opinion. Third opinion.
LANGUAGES			
Arabic Beginners	UWS SYDNEY	“difficult to categorise” pending	Second opinion.
Arabic Continuers <i>HSC Arabic Extension</i>	UWS + SYDNEY UWS + SYDNEY	A A	
Armenian Continuers			
Chinese Beginners Chinese Continuers <i>HSC Chinese Extension</i> Chinese Background Speakers	SYDNEY	A A A A	
Classical Greek Continuers <i>HSC Classical Greek Extension</i>	UNE ACU		
Classical Hebrew Continuers <i>HSC Classical Hebrew Extension</i>	SYDNEY	(Not categorised)	
Croatian Continuers			
Dutch Continuers			
Filipino Continuers			
French Beginners French Continuers <i>HSC French Extension</i>	SYDNEY	A A	
German Beginners German Continuers <i>HSC German Extension</i>	SYDNEY	A A A	
Hindi Continuers			
Hungarian Continuers			
Indonesian Beginners Indonesian Continuers <i>HSC Indonesian Extension</i> Indonesian Background	SYDNEY	A A A A	

Speakers			
Italian Beginners	SYDNEY	A	
Italian Continuers		A	
<i>HSC Italian Extension</i>		A	
Japanese Beginners	SYDNEY	A	
Japanese Continuers		A	
<i>HSC Japanese Extension</i>		A	
Japanese Background Speakers		A	
Khmer Continuers			
Korean Beginners	SYDNEY	A	
Korean Continuers		A	
Korean Background Speakers		A	
Latin Continuers	UNE		
HSC Latin Extension	ACU		
Macedonian Continuers			
Malay Background Speakers			
Maltese Continuers			
Modern Greek Beginners	UNSW	A	
Modern Greek Continuers		A	
<i>HSC Modern Greek Extension</i>		A	
Modern Hebrew Continuers	SYDNEY	A	
Persian Background Speakers			
Polish Continuers			
Portuguese Continuers			
Russian Background Speakers	UWS	A	
Serbian Continuers			
Spanish Beginners	UWS	A	
Spanish Continuers		A	
<i>HSC Spanish Extension</i>		A	
Swedish Continuers			
Tamil Continuers			
Turkish Continuers			
Ukrainian Continuers			
Vietnamese Continuers			

Extract from the Minutes of Meeting (05/2) of the Committee of Chairs held at 9.30 am on Thursday 9 June 2005 at the University of Wollongong.

4.1 Category A Reviews

The following documents were received for consideration:

- a checklist of all Category A subject review reports received to date;
- review reports for the following courses:
 - Ancient History
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Earth and Environmental Science
 - Engineering Studies
 - Geography
 - History Extension
 - Industrial Technology
 - Legal Studies
 - Modern History.

It was noted that UNSW would also review Industrial Technology, and that the final decision would also take into account the previous discussion about Industrial Technology during the Category B reviews. Members were asked to ensure that, where several universities are considering a course review, they present a final report reflecting the consensus of the joint reviews.

It was agreed that any comments made by reviewers about the substance of particular courses (such as the syllabus and examination papers) should be forwarded to the Board of Studies for consideration in future curriculum changes.

In further discussion, it was agreed that those contributing to the reviews should be formally thanked by the Committee of Chairs. The Chair undertook to do this. Members also agreed that the Committee's report back to the Board of Studies should outline the review process adopted by the Committee, including a statement to the effect that a wide range of academic experts in the discipline areas and educationists with expertise in the HSC syllabi had been involved, and including a consolidated list of those of the experts who consent to the inclusion of their name.

It was agreed to hold over final consideration of the review reports to the next meeting.

Extract from the Minutes of Meeting (05/3) of the Committee of Chairs held at 9.30 am on Thursday 11 August 2005 at the University of New England, Armidale.

4. HSC CATEGORY A COURSE REVIEWS

4.1 Category A Reviews

The following documents were received for consideration:

- a checklist of all Category A subject review reports received to date;

- review reports for the following courses:
 - Agriculture
 - Ancient History
 - Biology
 - Business Studies
 - Chemistry
 - Design and Technology
 - Earth and Environmental Science
 - Economics
 - Engineering Studies
 - English (Advanced) and English (Extension)
 - Food Technology
 - Geography
 - General Mathematics
 - History Extension
 - Information Processes and Technology
 - Industrial Technology
 - Legal Studies
 - Mathematics and Mathematics (Extension)
 - Modern History
 - Senior Science
 - Society and Culture
 - Software Design and Development
 - Studies of Religion
 - Textiles and Design

- review reports for the following language courses:
 - Arabic
 - Chinese
 - Classical Hebrew
 - French
 - German
 - Indonesian
 - Italian
 - Japanese
 - Korean
 - Modern Hebrew
 - Spanish.

It was agreed that the Secretary would again send Board website details to Committee members who would pass these on to colleagues they were asking to undertake reviews.

The checklist was updated as follows:

- UNSW to review Dance and Modern Greek
- Wollongong to review Drama, Visual Arts and Senior Science (as a second opinion)
- UWS to review Music 1 and 2, and Russian
- Sydney to review Agriculture and Arabic (as a second opinion)
- UNE to review Classical Greek and Latin
- CSU to review English Standard and ESL (as a second opinion).

The Committee agreed that, in any case where a course is recommended to be changed from Category A to Category B, or where there is some doubt about the categorisation of the course (for example, if the categorisation is marginal), a second opinion from a different institution would be obtained.

The committee agreed that in those cases where a clear opinion had been expressed and there was no dissent within the committee, there was no need to obtain a second opinion.

It was agreed that all outstanding review reports must be submitted to the Secretary by 12 September.