

Curriculum Committee

Mission:

The Curriculum Committee oversees the development and approval of study groups consistent with serious peer learning. The Committee is dedicated to supporting prospective coordinators during the creation of diverse study groups from varied disciplines and to maintaining academic standards.

Activities:

The Committee provides ongoing communication with study group coordinators to ensure the vitality of the learning experience at the IRP. This includes exploring ideas for new study groups, encouraging prospective coordinators, and assisting with study group proposal writing.

The Committee supports the development of study groups having a subject matter, including texts and other written materials, that is appropriately challenging, a clear description and well-designed syllabus, and that are approached so that participants will have a clear understanding of their role as active participants in the learning process.

The Committee meets weekly for approximately 2 hours during the fall and spring semesters. Members are assigned to support potential study group coordinators for guidance, development of proposals, editing and follow-up. The committee regularly solicits ideas from the IRP community for potential study groups and maintains records of study groups that have been scheduled. Additionally, the committee works to achieve a balance in the semester offerings that is responsive to the interests of all IRP members.

Throughout the academic year, the Committee sponsors workshops on topics of interest to coordinators, such as how to lead a good discussion, develop good questions for class discussion, and elements of peer learning. The Committee also organizes meetings to encourage current coordinators to share ideas, methods, and concerns.

Committee Membership:

The Committee typically has 12-14 members. Committee members have a two-year term of service with the option to be renewed for an additional two years.

When openings are anticipated, announcements go out to the IRP community in The Observer. An application form for appointment to the Committee is available on the Zine, and potential members are asked to submit an application to the chair of the committee. Candidates are interviewed and members are chosen by the Committee Chairperson in consultation with the Committee members and the Executive Committee.