

**Arizona State University at the West campus**  
**Curriculum Action Form**

*Note: Complete and submit with proposals for Minors, Concentrations and Certificates, and changes to existing Degree Programs.*

Humanities, Arts, & Cultural Studies  
Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Literature  
Certificate Fall, 2010  
Unit Program Effective (Semester, Year)  
Brief Summary of Proposal: (Attach the proposal)

**Description**

The certificate in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature (PRL) within the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences is an interdisciplinary program that works across the humanities by examining philosophical approaches to literary studies, disputes between rhetoric and philosophy, and rhetorical elements of literature and theory. The Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature Certificate will enable students to explore where and how the boundaries among philosophy, rhetoric and literature are constructed, maintained and changed. This certificate is transdisciplinary and aimed at integrating Continental philosophy (including philosophy of religion), critical theory (both in its broader origins within literary cultural studies and its historically specific genealogy from the Frankfurt School), rhetoric, literary criticism, aesthetics and communication. This certificate will prepare students in the humanities, social and behavioral sciences and the arts for lifelong learning, advanced study in a variety of fields, and successful careers in an increasingly diverse society.

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**To:** NCIAS Curriculum Committee

**From:** Monica J. Casper, Ph.D., Director, Division of Humanities, Arts, & Cultural Studies;  
Professor of Social & Behavioral Studies and Women's Studies

**Date:** February 10, 2010

**RE:** Proposed establishment of **Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature Certificate**

**Certificate Description:**

The certificate in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature (PRL) within the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences is an interdisciplinary program that works across the humanities by examining philosophical approaches to literary studies, disputes between rhetoric and philosophy, and rhetorical elements of literature and theory. The Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature Certificate will enable students to explore where and how the boundaries among philosophy, rhetoric and literature are constructed, maintained and changed. This certificate is transdisciplinary and aimed at integrating Continental philosophy (including philosophy of religion), critical theory (both in its broader origins within literary cultural studies and its historically specific genealogy from the Frankfurt School), rhetoric, literary criticism, aesthetics and communication. This certificate will prepare students in the humanities, social and behavioral sciences and the arts for lifelong learning, advanced study in a variety of fields, and successful careers in an increasingly diverse society.

**Certificate Justification/Need:**

The Division of Humanities Arts and Cultural Studies (HArCS) wishes to establish this certificate as a stand-alone program rather than bury it as a concentration within existing undergraduate degrees, particularly as no major or existing degree currently exists under which to attach a concentration in Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Literature. The certificate in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature requires students to cross three disciplines, and it pools together faculty and curriculum from two divisions (HArCS and SBS). There is no other existing degree or faculty cluster at ASU that combines the study of Continental philosophy with the study of rhetoric and literature. NCIAS has gathered a unique group of interdisciplinary faculty working in these transdisciplinary areas. This certificate has the potential to draw students from a variety of sectors, including critical theory, Continental philosophy, cultural studies, literature and arts foundations, social and human sciences, and education. Interdisciplinarity is a foundational piece of this certificate, as participating faculty represent multiple divisions within New College. The stand-alone certificate will work effectively in tandem with degree programs in English, Philosophy, Communication Studies, Religious Studies, Gender Studies, Jewish Studies, and others.

## **Participating Faculty:**

The listed faculty members currently teach the proposed course offerings and are qualified to teach any additional new or current course offerings in the future. Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature was originally formed as a faculty research cluster with a grant from The Institute of Humanities Research (IHR) at ASU. This was the first award of its kind to a faculty research cluster at the West campus. Professor Emil Volek has served as a faculty cluster coordinator at Tempe.

## **Faculty**

### **Full Professors**

Monica Casper, Division Director of HArCS, Professor of Sociology and Cultural Studies  
Cultural Studies, Foucault, Trauma Studies, Women's Studies

Patricia Huntington, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Continental Philosophy and Continental Philosophy of Religion (including Existential Philosophy, Phenomenology, Postmodern Thought), Feminist Theory, Gender and Religion, Asian Traditions, Philosophy and Literature, Philosophy of Love, Death and Dying

Martin Matustik, Lincoln Professor of Ethics and Religion  
Continental Philosophy and Philosophy of Religion (including Existential Philosophy, Phenomenology, Postmodern Thought), Critical Social Theory, Religion and Ethics, Philosophy of Love, Death and Dying, Pastoral Care Ethics, Redemptive Critical Theory, Czech and Slovak Philosophy and Literature

Elizabeth Langland, Dean of NCIAS, University Vice President, Professor of English  
Victorian Literature, Feminist Theory and Gender Studies, Cultural Studies, Theory of the Novel

Thomas McGovern, Professor of Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies  
Moral Psychology, St. Augustine, multicultural and narrative approaches to Philosophical and Religious Literature

Eric Wertheimer, Professor of English and Director of the Center for Critical Inquiry & Cultural Studies  
Critical Theory, Hegel, Postmodern Literary Theory, American Philosophy and Poetics, Cultural Studies

### **Associate Professors**

Patricia Friedrich, Associate Professor, English  
Applied Linguistics, Rhetoric, Critical Theory (Habermas, Foucault, Derrida) and Hermeneutics

Majia Nadesan, Associate Professor, Communication Studies  
Rhetorical Theory, Foucault, and Critical Theory

Ramsey Eric Ramsey, Associate Professor, Barrett, The Honors College  
Continental Philosophy (including Ancient Philosophy, Existential Philosophy,  
Phenomenology, Postmodern Thought), Rhetoric, Hermeneutics and Communication,  
Critical Theory

Arthur Sabitini, Associate Professor, Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance  
Semiotics, Epistemology, Aesthetics

Bill Simmons, Director of M.A. in Social Justice and Human Rights, Associate Professor of  
Political Science, Levinas, Political Philosophy, Human Rights

Greg Wise, Associate Professor, Communication Studies  
Cultural Studies, Critical Theory, Philosophy of Technology, Semiotics and Visual  
Communication

### **Assistant Professors**

Patrick Bixby, Associate Professor of English  
Rhetoric, Modernism, Postmodern Literature, Literary Criticism, Continental  
Philosophy, Nietzsche, Beckett, Shaw and Irish Literature, Postcolonial Theory

Mary Bjork, Assistant Professor, English  
Shakespeare, Neo-Platonic and Renaissance Philosophy and Literature

Sharon Kirsch, Assistant Professor, English  
Rhetorical theory and history, Literary theory and history, Gender and Critical Theory,  
Rhetoric and Literature, American Philosophy, Poetics

Judd Ruggill, Assistant Professor, Communication Studies  
Critical Theory, Cultural Studies, Media, Film

Michael Stancliff, Assistant Professor, English  
Critical Race Theory, Literary Criticism, Cultural Studies, Poetics

### **Lecturers**

Jackie Gately, Lecturer, Philosophy  
Existential Philosophy, Continental Philosophy

Cynthia Gaffney, Lecturer, Communication Studies  
Rhetoric. Media, Consumerism

Diane Gruber, Senior Lecturer, Communication Studies

**Admission Requirements:**

The certificate in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature is open to any student admitted to study at Arizona State University. The certificate program is recommended also for nondegree students, students majoring in professional programs, and the **non-matriculated students**. **This certificate may be of interest to professionals and life-long learners**. Contact advisors in the Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies or in the Division of Social and Behavioral Science at NCIAS for admission to the certificate program.

**Program Requirements:**

A certificate in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature is awarded for successful completion of 18 upper division credit hours of course work including at least one course (3 credit hours) in rhetoric and at least one course (3 credit hours) in Continental philosophy (see core requirements) and remaining 12 elective credit hours from the approved course list in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature. All elective course offerings from the course bank will be regularly updated and overseen by the facilitators of PRL. Students must meet with the program academic advisor to review the requirements and sign the certificate check sheet. The student should also consult with an academic advisor in the college or department of his or her major to make sure the college or department of the major recognizes the certificate. All course work in the program must be completed with a grade of “B” (3.00) or higher.

**Residency Requirement:**

Of the 18 upper division credit hours required for the certificate, 12 credit hours must be completed at ASU.

**I. Core Requirements (6 credit hours)**

**Rhetorical Perspectives: (3 credit hours from the approved course list in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature)**

ENG 472 Rhetorical Studies

COM321 Rhetorical Theory and Research

ENG 494 Rhetoric and Literature

ENG 394/494 Special Topics (taught by current faculty in PRL or from the approved course topics in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature)

**Philosophical Perspectives: (3 credit hours from the approved course list in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature)**

Courses in this group were previously taught in 2008-10 under omnibus numbers by the newly hired senior faculty in HArCS. No new faculty resources will be required. Courses will be submitted through ACRES.

PHI 394/REL 394 Studies in Contemporary Continental Philosophy  
PHI 494/REL 494 Studies in Critical Theory  
PHI 394/REL 394 Philosophy and Literature  
PHI 494/REL 494 Continental Philosophy and Religion

**II. Electives (12 credit hours, 6 credit hours each from pools A and B). Electives come from the course bank of approved courses for Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature and courses previously taught in 2008-10 under omnibus numbers by the newly hired senior faculty in HARCS.**

**Pool A (6 credit hours)**

ENG 400 History of Literary Criticism  
ENG 401 Topics in Critical Theory  
ENG 421 Studies in Shakespeare  
ENG 431 Whitman and Dickinson  
ENG 440 Studies in American Literature and Culture  
ENG 450 The British Novel  
ENG 454 Gender and Literature  
ENG 461 Studies in Women and Literature  
ENG 472 Rhetorical Studies  
ENG 478 Modernist Literature  
ENG 479 International Postmodern Literature  
ENG 494 Special Topics: The Postcolonial Novel  
ENG 394/494 Special Topics (taught by current faculty in PRL or from the approved course topics in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature )  
HON 394/494 Special Topics (taught by current faculty in PRL or from the approved course topics in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature )

Note: If the standard prerequisite for taking 400-level ENG courses is not met, then the student may receive permission from the instructor to take a course, with oversight of the PRL facilitators.

IAP 310/IAS 310 Women in Art  
IAP 371 Verbal Art  
IAP 372 The Critical Artist  
IAP 472 Theories of Arts and Performance  
IAP 471 Language, Culture, and Performance  
IAP 473 Aesthetic Research  
IAS/ENG 477 World Literature  
IAS/ENG 420 Multicultural Autobiographies

**Pool B (6 credit hours)**

COM 321 Rhetorical Theory and Research  
COM 324 Rhetoric and Media Criticism  
COM 421 Rhetoric of Social Issues

COM 429	Semiotics and Visual Communications
COM 394/494	Special Topics (taught by current faculty in PRL or from the approved course topics in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature )
REL 300	Thinking, Writing & Research in Religion and Applied Ethics
REL 301	Comparative Mysticism
PHI 304	Existentialism
REL 305	Ritual, Symbol, and Myth
PHI 308	Philosophy of Art
REL 314	Jewish Philosophy
REL 345	Asian Religious Traditions
REL/WST 390	Women and Religion
PHI 324/IAS 324	Existential Ethics
PHI 391	Historical Perspectives on Philosophy and Religion
REL 405	Problems in Religious Studies
PHI 394/REL 394	Love in Philosophy and Literature
PHI 394/REL 394	Death and Dying in Philosophy and Literature
PHI 394/494	Special Topics (taught by current faculty in PRL or from the approved course topics in Philosophy, Rhetoric and Literature )
HON 394/494	Special Topics (taught by current faculty in PRL or from the approved course topics in Philosophy Rhetoric and Literature )

Courses for which we will request permanent course numbers are needed to fulfill the objectives of the PRL certificate. These courses were previously taught in 2008-10 under omnibus numbers by the newly hired senior faculty in HArCS. No new faculty resources will be required. Courses will be submitted through ACRES.

#### 300 level

PHI/REL	Studies in Contemporary Continental Philosophy
PHI/REL	Love in Philosophy and Literature
PHI/REL	Death and Dying in Philosophy and Literature

#### 400 level

ENG 494	Rhetoric and Literature
PHI/REL	Studies in Critical Theory
PHI/REL	Continental Philosophy and Religion
PHI/REL	Philosophy and Literature

#### **Administration of Certificate:**

- Projection of student enrollment: 40 students by the third year.
- Requirement of new courses: All courses are currently housed within New College and are taught by current faculty. Omnibus courses developed in the past two years by the newly hired faculty are being submitted to ACRES as new prefixes for the HArCS division.
- The certificate will be administered by the faculty and advising staff in the division of Humanities, Arts & Cultural Studies. Students will apply to the certificate program and will then be tracked through to completion. The procedures for processing the

Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Literature certificate will be consistent with established certificate offerings and processes within New College.

- Budgetary requirements: No additional resources are required to launch this certificate.
- Student recruiting funding and staffing: No new resources will be required for recruitment. The current recruiting staff in New College will add the Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Literature certificate to their offerings.