Course information:

Academic Unit | CLAS | Department | English
---|---|---|---
Subject | ENG | Number | 315 | Title | Medieval Literature in Translation | Units: 3
Is this a cross-listed course? | No |
Is this a shared course? | No |
Course description: |

Requested designation: Humanities, Fine Arts and Design-HU
Note: a separate proposal is required for each designation requested

Eligibility:
Permanent numbered courses must have completed the university's review and approval process.
For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact PhilK.Kece@asu.edu or Lauren.Lee@asu.edu.

Submission deadlines dates are as follows:
For Fall 2015 Effective Date: October 9, 2014
For Spring 2016 Effective Date: March 19, 2015

Area(s) proposed course will serve:
A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study.

Checklists for general studies designations:
Complete and attach the appropriate checklist
- Literacy and Critical Inquiry core courses (L)
- Mathematics core courses (MA)
- Computer/statistics/quantitative applications core courses (CS)
- Humanities, Arts and Design core courses (HU)
- Social-Behavioral Sciences core courses (SB)
- Natural Sciences core courses (NS/SC)
- Cultural Diversity in the United States courses (C)
- Global Awareness courses (G)
- Historical Awareness courses (H)

A complete proposal should include:
- Signed General Studies Program Course Proposal Cover Form
- Criteria Checklist for the area
- Course Catalog description
- Course Syllabus
- Copy of Table of Contents from the textbook and list of required readings/books

Respectfully request that proposals are submitted electronically with all files compiled into one PDF. If necessary, a hard copy of the proposal will be accepted.

Contact information:
Name: Richard Newhauser
Phone: 480-965-8139
Mail code: 0092
E-mail: Richard.Newhauser@asu.edu

Department Chair/Director approval: (Required)
Chair/Director name ( Typed): Mark James
Date: 8/28/14
Chair/Director (Signature):
Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for

HUMANITIES, ARTS AND DESIGN [HU]

Rationale and Objectives

The humanities disciplines are concerned with questions of human existence and meaning, the nature of thinking and knowing, with moral and aesthetic experience. The humanities develop values of all kinds by making the human mind more supple, critical, and expansive. They are concerned with the study of the textual and artistic traditions of diverse cultures, including traditions in literature, philosophy, religion, ethics, history, and aesthetics. In sum, these disciplines explore the range of human thought and its application to the past and present human environment. They deepen awareness of the diversity of the human heritage and its traditions and histories and they may also promote the application of this knowledge to contemporary societies.

The study of the arts and design, like the humanities, deepens the student’s awareness of the diversity of human societies and cultures. The arts have as their primary purpose the creation and study of objects, installations, performances and other means of expressing or conveying aesthetic concepts and ideas. Design study concerns itself with material objects, images and spaces, their historical development, and their significance in society and culture. Disciplines in the arts and design employ modes of thought and communication that are often nonverbal, which means that courses in these areas tend to focus on objects, images, and structures and/or on the practical techniques and historical development of artistic and design traditions. The past and present accomplishments of artists and designers help form the student’s ability to perceive aesthetic qualities of art work and design.

The Humanities, Arts and Design are an important part of the General Studies Program, for they provide an opportunity for students to study intellectual and imaginative traditions and to observe and/or learn the production of art work and design. The knowledge acquired in courses fulfilling the Humanities, Arts and Design requirement may encourage students to investigate their own personal philosophies or beliefs and to understand better their own social experience. In sum, the Humanities, Arts and Design core area enables students to broaden and deepen their consideration of the variety of human experience.

Revised April 2014
Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

### ASU - [HU] CRITERIA

**HUMANITIES, ARTS AND DESIGN [HU]** courses must meet *either 1, 2 or 3 and at least one of the criteria under 4* in such a way as to make the satisfaction of these criteria a **CENTRAL AND SUBSTANTIAL PORTION** of the course content.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Identify Documentation Submitted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>1. Emphasizes the study of values; the development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems; and/or aesthetic experience. syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>2. Concerns the interpretation, analysis, or creation of written, aural, or visual texts; and/or the historical development of textual traditions. syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>3. Concerns the interpretation, analysis, or engagement with aesthetic practices; and/or the historical development of artistic or design traditions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>4. In addition, to qualify for the Humanities, Arts and Design designation a course must meet one or more of the following requirements: syllabus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>a. Concerns the development of human thought, with emphasis on the analysis of philosophical and/or religious systems of thought. syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>b. Concerns aesthetic systems and values, especially in literature, arts, and design.</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>c. Emphasizes aesthetic experience and creative process in literature, arts, and design.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>d. Concerns the analysis of literature and the development of literary traditions. syllabus</td>
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**THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF COURSES ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE [HU] DESIGNATION EVEN THOUGH THEY MIGHT GIVE SOME CONSIDERATION TO THE HUMANITIES, FINE ARTS AND DESIGN:**

- Courses devoted primarily to developing skill in the use of a language.
- Courses devoted primarily to the acquisition of quantitative or experimental methods.
- Courses devoted primarily to teaching skills.
Explain in detail which student activities correspond to the specific designation criteria. Please use the following organizer to explain how the criteria are being met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria (from check sheet)</th>
<th>How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)</th>
<th>Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The course examines the development of moral thought from the fourth century to contemporary American deployments of the seven deadly sins</td>
<td>Readings in Evagrius Ponticus, Thomas Aquinas, William Langland, Edmund Spenser, Berthold Brecht, Thomas Pynchon, and material on sin presented in 1993 on MTV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The course follows the development and permutations of the seven deadly sins from the fourth century to the present day</td>
<td>Readings in Evagrius Ponticus, Thomas Aquinas, William Langland, Edmund Spenser, Berthold Brecht, Thomas Pynchon, and material on sin presented in 1993 on MTV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4a</td>
<td>The course examines the development of moral thought from the fourth century to contemporary American deployments of the seven deadly sins</td>
<td>Readings in Evagrius Ponticus, Thomas Aquinas, William Langland, Edmund Spenser, Berthold Brecht, Thomas Pynchon, and material on sin presented in 1993 on MTV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4d</td>
<td>The course follows the development and permutations of literary texts dealing with the seven deadly sins from the fourth century to the present day</td>
<td>Readings in Evagrius Ponticus, Thomas Aquinas, William Langland, Edmund Spenser, Berthold Brecht, Thomas Pynchon, and material on sin presented in 1993 on MTV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Medieval Literature in Translation
ENG  Medieval literature (insular and continental) in translation, from Beowulf to Malory (excluding Chaucer), emphasizing cultural and intellectual backgrounds.
Description

A recent TV series on The History Channel, a book series at Oxford University Press, eight articles by contemporary novelists in The New York Times Book Review, an hour-long special on MTV, as well as the feature-length film Se7en – all of these productions were devoted to the seven deadly sins. They demonstrate the lasting impact of this systematization of morality on western thought within both elite and popular culture for the last millennium and a half. This interdisciplinary class will investigate the origins of the idea of a systematized list of chief vices which emerged in the ethical writings of monks in the Egyptian desert in the fourth century; the medieval developments of this idea in literature and the arts in monastic, courtly, and university environments; its transmission in late-medieval popular and vernacular forms, especially in England, and in the literature of the English renaissance; and its adaptations in modern literature, art, and music.

Reading List


On Reserve or Available through the Library Portal or my Web Site:


- Thomas Pynchon, “Nearer, My Couch, to Thee” (June 6, 1993, pp. 3, 57);
- Mary Gordon, “The Fascination Begins in the Mouth” (June 13, 1993, pp. 3, 31);
- John Updike, “Even the Bible is Soft on Sex” (June 20, 1993, pp. 3, 29);
- William Trevor, “Remembering Mr. Pinkerton” (June 27, 1993, pp. 3, 25);
- Gore Vidal, “The Most Unnerving Sin” (July 4, 1993, p. 3);
- Richard Howard, “Avarice, 1849: A Distraction” (July 11, 1993, p. 3);
- A. S. Byatt, “The Sin of Families and Nations” (July 18, 1993, pp. 3, 25-26);


Requirements:

Students will be responsible for the content not only of the reading assignments, but also of our discussions in class. Regular attendance and participation in the discussions of all texts (not just the text[s] that you are researching for the semester) are prerequisites for passing the course. The door to the classroom will remain open for five minutes after the scheduled time for the class to begin; after that point the door will be closed. If you are late and see that the door has been closed, you have already been marked absent for that day – do not come into the classroom. Two unexcused absences are permissible without any effect on your grade, but three unexcused absences or more will adversely affect the final grade for the course. Absences due to a medical condition must be excused by a statement signed by the physician in charge of the treatment (not a nurse). You may also expect brief quizzes on all reading assignments. Do not use electronic equipment in the classroom to take notes or record the discussion. The final grades for the course will be composed of individual performance in six areas:
1) A Topic Description. All Topic Descriptions (1 page; typewritten; double-spaced; with 1-inch margins, and your name the top of the page; and carefully proofread), which will either be assigned to you or which you will choose yourself after consultation with me, are due on Thursday, September 11. You must meet with me during my office hours (or make an appointment) to discuss your topic. The grade on the Topic Description will account for about 10 percent of your final grade. Two or three students may wish to work together on a series of oral presentations of related topics or literary texts and/or intellectual documents to be held at successive class meetings. To see an example of a well done Topic Description, click on the following link: Sample 1.

2) An oral presentation (ca. 10-15 minutes) representing the fruits of your initial research on a topic. The presentation should be open-ended and should encourage questions from the rest of the class. The grade on the presentation will account for about 15 percent of the final grade.

3) A brief critical book report (1-2 pages; typed or printed in no larger than size 12 font; double-spaced; with 1-inch margins, page numbers, and your name on every page; and carefully proofread) of one or two major studies of the topic or text on which your report is based, due on the date of the oral report. Include the bibliography of the book(s) or article(s) you are reviewing at the end of your review. The grade on the critical book report will account for about 10 percent of the final grade. To see an example of a well done review, click on the following link: Sample 1.

4) Quizzes on each work to be read for the semester. The average of all the quizzes will account for about 20 percent of the final grade.

5) A short paper (5 pages, excluding bibliography; typed or printed in no larger than size 12 font; double-spaced; with 1-inch margins, page numbers, and your name on every page; and carefully proofread) to be handed in one week before the oral presentation. The paper will include an annotated bibliography of 3-5 items which you will have read in preparation for giving the report and writing the paper (for all questions of documentation and references, follow the guidelines available at: http://www.public.asu.edu/~dedalus/guidetostyle/index.html). The short paper for all reports to be held on or after October 23 will be due on Thursday, October 16. The short paper will serve as the basis for your term paper. The grade on the short paper will account for about 20 percent of the final grade. To see examples of all that is required for a good paper, click on the following links: Sample 1, Sample 2.

6) A term paper (12-15 pages including bibliography; typed or printed in no larger than size 12 font; double-spaced; with 1-inch margins, page numbers, and your name on every page; and carefully proofread) in which all of your research on the topic, and all of your own brilliance, are formulated carefully and in the scope which the subject demands. Term papers must be turned in to me – together with the copy of the short paper you handed in to me and which I returned to you with my comments – at the latest on the last day of class. I will not be able to complete your grade for the course (you will receive an Incomplete) unless I receive both papers at the end of the semester. The grade on the term paper will account for about 25 percent of the final grade.
Syllabus

1. Th 8/21 – Introduction: The syllabus, documentation and style, academic integrity

2. T 8/26 – What is Sin? [read for today: from Kleinberg, 7 Deadly Sins, pp. 10-31]


4. T 9/2 – The Sins on MTV-2; Practical Ethics: Decision Making

5. Th 9/4 – Origins: Monastic Culture [read for today: from Evagrius, The Praktikos, pp. 16-26 (the eight evil thoughts)]

6. T 9/9 – Accidia (Sloth) [read for today: from Kleinberg, 7 Deadly Sins, pp. 32-43]

7. Th 9/11 – Sin and Social Change [read for today: Little, “Pride Goes before Avarice”]; All Topic Descriptions Due Today

8. T 9/16 – Aristocratic Society [read for today: from Prudentius, Psychomachia, pp. 290-301 (pride v. humility)]; Student report _______________; Student report _______________

9. Th 9/18 – Superbia (Pride); [read for today: from Kleinberg, 7 Deadly Sins, pp. 132-49]; Student report _______________; Student report _______________

10. T 9/23 – Medieval and Classical Cultures [read for today: Martin of Braga, De ira]; Student report _______________; Student report _______________

11. Th 9/25 – No class: Rosh haShanah

12. T 9/30 – Ira (Wrath); [read for today: from Kleinberg, 7 Deadly Sins, pp. 113-31]; Student report _______________; Student report _______________

13. Th 10/2 – Academic Culture; Systems of Vices and Virtues; Student report _______________; Student report _______________
14. T 10/7 – Invidia (Envy); [read for today: from Kleinberg, *7 Deadly Sins*, pp. 44-61]; Student report ________________; Student report ________________


(10/11 – 10/14, No class: Fall Break)


17. T 10/21 – Accidia (Sloth); Student report ________________; Student report ________________


20. Th 10/30 – Avaritia (Greed); [read for today: Poggio Bracciolini, *On Avarice*; from Kleinberg, *7 Deadly Sins*, pp. 97-112]; Student report ________________; Student report ________________


22. Th 11/6 – Gula (Gluttony); [read for today: from Kleinberg, *7 Deadly Sins*, pp. 81-96]; Student report ________________; Student report ________________
(T 11/11: No class: Veterans Day)

23. Th 11/13 – Vices as Virtues [read for today: Brecht and Weill, *The Seven Deadly Sins*];
   Student report _____________________; Student report _____________________

24. T 11/18 – Luxuria (Lust); [read for today: from Kleinberg, *7 Deadly Sins*, pp. 62-80]; Student
   report _____________________; Student report _____________________

25. Th 11/20 – Rethinking Sin I [read for today: Pynchon et al., *Deadly Sins*, essays by Pynchon,
   Gordon, Updike, and Trevor]; Student report _____________________; Student report
   _____________________

26. T 11/25 – Rethinking Sin II [read for today: Pynchon et al., *Deadly Sins*, essays by Vidal,
   Howard, Byatt, and Oates]; Student report _____________________; Student report
   _____________________

(11/27 – 11/28: No class: Thanksgiving Break)

27. T 12/2 – New Sins?; [read for today: from Kleinberg, *7 Deadly Sins*, pp. 150-65]; Student
   report _____________________; Student report _____________________

28. Th 12/4 – Epilogue; Final Paper due today (with the copy of the short paper you handed in to
   me earlier in the semester)

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY!**

Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, laboratory work,
academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to,
appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course
failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of
registration privileges, disqualification and dismissal. For more information, see:
http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity.
Plagiarism is generally defined as using another’s words, ideas, materials or work without acknowledging the source. You are responsible for knowing how to use someone else’s work how to acknowledge that source properly.

You might want to read an article about plagiarism at US universities that appeared in *The New York Times* in 2010:

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/02/education/02cheat.html?pagewanted=1&_r=1&hp
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