



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.

Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE March 2 2009

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: New College, Social and Behavioral Sciences

2. COURSE PROPOSED: SBS 300 Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Social and Behavioral Sciences 3

(prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: A.Kirby Phone: 3-6122

Mail Code: 3051 E-Mail: andrew.kirby@asu.edu

4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. 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. (Please submit one designation per proposal)

Core Areas

Literacy and Critical Inquiry-L ☐
Mathematical Studies-MA ☐ CS ☐
Humanities, Fine Arts and Design-HU ☐
Social and Behavioral Sciences-SB ☒
Natural Sciences-SQ ☐ SG ☐

Awareness Areas

Global Awareness-G ☐
Historical Awareness-H ☐
Cultural Diversity in the United States-C ☐

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.
(1) Course Description
(2) Course Syllabus
(3) Criteria Checklist for the area
(4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. *In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.*

The course focuses on the social and behavioral sciences, exploring the contributions of the different disciplines to the academy and the policy process. Students examine the concerns and concepts that distinguish anthropology, economics, geography, sociology, political science and psychology via published research. Emphasis is placed upon interdisciplinary integration rather than underlining the theoretical and empirical differences between them. Students are required to find, read, summarize and analyze journal articles from a range of social and behavioral science journals.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: ☒ No ☐ Yes; Please identify courses: _____

Is this amultisection course?: ☒ No ☐ Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus? _____



Dr. T.Keil

T. Keil

Chair/Director (Print or Type)

Chair/Director (Signature)

Date: 3/4/09

Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES [SB]

Rationale and Objectives

The importance of the social and behavioral sciences is evident in both the increasing number of scientific inquiries into human behavior and the amount of attention paid to those inquiries. In both private and public sectors people rely on social scientific findings to assess the social consequences of large-scale economic, technological, scientific, and cultural changes.

Social scientists' observations about human behavior and their unique perspectives on human events make an important contribution to civic dialogue. Today, those insights are particularly crucial due to the growing economic and political interdependence among nations.

Courses proposed for General Studies designation in the Social and Behavioral Sciences area must demonstrate emphases on: (1) social scientific theories and principles, (2) the methods used to acquire knowledge about cultural or social events and processes, and (3) the impact of social scientific understanding on the world.

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

ASU--[SB] CRITERIA			
A SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE [SB] course should meet all of the following criteria. If not, a rationale for exclusion should be provided.			
YES	NO		Identify Documentation Submitted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Course is designed to advance basic understanding and knowledge about human interaction.	syllabus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Course content emphasizes the study of social behavior such as that found in: • ANTHROPOLOGY • ECONOMICS • CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY • HISTORY	see below
		political science; sociology, urban studies	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Course emphasizes: a. the distinct knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences (e.g., sociological anthropological). OR b. the distinct methods of inquiry of the social and behavioral sciences (e.g., ethnography, historical analysis).	syllabus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Course illustrates use of social and behavioral science perspectives and data.	syllabus
		THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF COURSES ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE [SB] AREA EVEN THOUGH THEY MIGHT GIVE SOME CONSIDERATION TO SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE CONCERNS:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses with primarily fine arts, humanities, literary, or philosophical content. 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses with primarily natural or physical science content. 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses with predominantly applied orientation for professional skills or training purposes. 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses emphasizing primarily oral, quantitative, or written skills. 	

Course Prefix	Number	Title	Designation
SBS	300	Interdisciplinary approaches to the Social & Behavioral Sciences	SB

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.

Criteria (from checksheet)	How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)	Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)
distinct knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences	a brief historical overview of the origins of the social and behavioral sciences	Introductory weeks of course
use of social and behavioral science data	presentation of multiple case studies from social and behavioral standpoint	modules 1-5 in course schedule
human interaction and social behavior	woven throughout course modules: e.g. case study of media and personal violence	last module discussed in the syllabus

SBS 300

January 2009

SYLLABUS

SYLLABUS

This course meets twice weekly but employs a group format so that your attendance and participation is expected. A significant part of your grade depends on the work done in the classroom. It is your responsibility to come to class prepared and to hand in assignments in a timely manner, as indicated below.

Please note the following:

- a. if you stop coming to class, you will be contacted. We will make every effort to keep you in the course; nonetheless, if you stop doing the work, you will receive a failing grade and it remains your responsibility to drop the course.
- b. it is university policy that you can only drop a class that you are passing;
- c. incompletes are only given in situations of genuine hardship and then a full semester withdrawal is recommended;
- d. prolonged absences must be based on medical need (or similar) and the instructor and/or your advisor should be notified that you are facing an emergency. You may be required to document the latter. Note that employment obligations do not constitute an emergency—you are expected to integrate your obligations and not pursue one at the expense of the other.

Summary Information

This course is an introduction to the SBS major.

Our TA is Melissa Wilson,
[Melissa.A.Wilson@asu.edu].

The course meets M/W from
5.00–6.15p .m. in Sands 206.

The instructor is Dr. Andrew
Kirby: room UCB 201.

Phone 602-543-6122; e-mail
andrew.kirby@asu.edu

Office Hours: appointments at
any mutually convenient time.

Academic Responsibility

In this course, you will be required to produce written answers. There are established codes for producing such papers. It is your responsibility to show what documents you have read, and to differentiate your words from the intellectual property of others. Ideas, diagrams, maps or images taken from published sources must be clearly marked as such. Failure to follow these established codes will result in a failing grade for the assignment in question. Any indication that a deliberate attempt to deceive was made will be treated as plagiarism and I have failed students for this; it can also be marked permanently on your transcript.

Assignments should be typed, 1.5 spaced *and spellchecked*. Poor

presentation detracts from the overall argument and will result in lower grades. Make sure that the paper has your name and a current e-mail address on it. Assignments should use an in-text citation system (e.g. Kirby, 2005, p.333) and contain a list of materials at the end: e.g.

References

Lecter H. 1995 "The application of social theory to eating disorders" *Journal of Dialectic Film Studies*, 1, 17-99.

Date	Activities
January 21	Overview of syllabus,
January 26	Blackboard
January 28	Introduction: active learning
February 2	Goals & Methods;
February 4	Interdisciplinarity & scale
February 9	First Case Study: globalization
February 11	First Case Study: globalization
February 16	First Case Study: globalization
February 18	Globalization wrap up
February 23	Second Case Study: the global environment;
February 25	the global environment;
March 2-4;	Second Case Study: the global environment;
March 9-11	<i>Spring Break;</i>
March 16-18	Third Case Study: drug war
March 23-25;	drug war
March 30	Fourth Case Study: weight
April 1	Weight
April 6	Weight
April 8	overweight & health
April 13-15	Fifth Case Study: violence
April 20-22;	Violence
April 27-29	Interdisciplinarity
May 4	Final assignments;

Readings

- One of the goals of this course is to introduce you to the breadth of materials available on topics within the social and behavioral sciences. For that reason, we will not use a conventional text book. A useful resource is the International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral sciences, edited by Neil Smelser and published electronically by Elsevier [2001, [H41 .J58 2001](#)].
- We will also spend a good deal of time discussing other resources—including scholarly journals—and Internet sources.

Assignments and Assessment

- The final grade for the class is made up of eight components, each of which is worth 25 points.
- The 1st assignment covers digital data base access; and is due February 2;
- For the five main case study assignments, you are required to write an annotated overview and bibliography of the topic under discussion in each module. Details will be provided as we proceed, but no more than 4 pages, 1.5 spacing. The usual rules of citation will apply. Credit will be given for the incorporation of relevant material, data, and additional sources. Each is due on the start of the subsequent case study.
- The 7th assignment is a take home final, due May 4.
- The remaining 25 points are allocated to participation and in-class activities. So there are no misunderstandings, attendance will be recorded.
- All assignments will receive a letter grade and each assignment will be graded on the +/- system. C or C+ is a passing grade for an answer with minimal new information; B-/B/B+ indicates thoughtful analysis and provides evidence of detailed work outside of class; A-/A indicates a good deal of thought, effort, and evidence of original research. Assignments receiving grades of B- and below can be turned back in for consideration for a higher grade; they may only be turned in with a subsequent assignment and must include the original for comparison.
- The final class grade will also be +/-.