ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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 18 January 2009

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: School of Government, Politics and Global Studies

2. COURSE PROPOSED: SGS 484 Natural Catastrophe and Urban Response-Italy 3 (prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Thomas J Puleo, PhD Phone: 480-727-0790
   Mail Code: 5102 E-Mail: tpuleo@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 covers the deployment and development of baroque architecture, planning and philosophy in the aftermath of the natural disasters that destroyed Catania, Sicily in 1693.

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

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

Chair/Director (Print or Type) ____________________ Chair/Director (Signature) ____________________

Date: ____________________

Rev. 1/94, 4/95, 7/98, 4/00, 1/02, 10/08
TEMPE  SGS 394  **Special Topics**
Covers topics of immediate or special interest to a faculty member and students.

**Academic Group & Organization:** Liberal Arts & Sciences - School of Government, Politics and Global Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allow multiple enrollments: Yes</th>
<th>Primary course component: Lecture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repeatable for credit: Yes</td>
<td>Grading method: Student Option</td>
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The course covers the deployment and development of baroque architecture, planning and philosophy in the aftermath of the natural disasters that destroyed Catania, Sicily in 1693.
Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for

HUMANITIES, FINE 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 fine 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 fine 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, Fine 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, Fine 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, Fine Arts and Design core area enables students to broaden and deepen their consideration of the variety of human experience.

Revised October 2008
Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Identify Documentation Submitted</th>
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**ASU - [HU] CRITERIA**

**HUMANITIES, FINE 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.

1. Emphasize the study of values, of the development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems, and/or aesthetic experience.

2. Concerns the comprehension and interpretation/analysis of written, aural, or visual texts, and/or the historical development of textual traditions.

3. Concerns the comprehension and interpretation/analysis of material objects, images and spaces, and/or their historical development.

4. In addition, to qualify for the Humanities, Fine Arts and Design designation a course must meet one or more of the following requirements:
   a. Concerns the development of human thought, including emphasis on the analysis of philosophical and/or religious systems of thought.
   b. Concerns aesthetic systems and values, literary and visual arts.
   c. Emphasizes aesthetic experience in the visual and performing arts, including music, dance, theater, and in the applied arts, including architecture and design.
   d. Deepens awareness of the analysis of literature and the development of literary traditions.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE:**

- Courses devoted primarily to developing a skill in the creative or performing arts, including courses that are primarily studio classes in the Herberger College of the Arts and in the College of Design.

- Courses devoted primarily to developing skill in the use of a language — **However, language courses that emphasize cultural study and the study of literature can be allowed.**

- Courses which emphasize the acquisition of quantitative or experimental methods.

- Courses devoted primarily to teaching skills.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Prefix</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Designation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SGS</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>Natural Catastrophe and Urban Response: Baroque architecture in Catania, Sicily</td>
<td>Humanities, Fine Arts and Design</td>
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</tbody>
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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 checksheet)</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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Course engages the comprehension, interpretation and analysis of objects, images and spaces and their historical development.</td>
<td>Natural disasters ignited deep contemplation and fervent discourse on nature/culture relations, and spurred a renaissance of these areas as they ushered in the use and transformation of Baroque architecture and planning in their reconstruction.</td>
<td>All daily lesson plans that engage the criterion bear an &quot;HU&quot;. The following lesson plans are particularly relevant: June 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 18.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4c Course engages the aesthetic experience of applied arts, architecture and design.</td>
<td>The course examines the role of aesthetic experience involved in the deployment of the baroque architectural and design elements in the reconstruction of Catania and Lisbon after they were destroyed by their respective natural disasters.</td>
<td>All daily lesson plans that engage the criterion bear an &quot;HU&quot;. The following lesson plans are particularly relevant: June 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 19.</td>
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SGS 394: Natural Catastrophe and Urban Response-Italy
Baroque architecture and planning in Catania and Val di Noto

Catania, Sicily
31 May - 20 June
ASU Summer Study Abroad 2009
M-F 9:00-12:00

Thomas J. Puleo, PhD
School of Government, Politics and Global Studies
tpuleo@asu.edu
3 units

**Topic:** In 1693, Catania, Sicily suffered a very strong earthquake that largely destroyed it and its surrounding region. This disaster ignited deep contemplation and fervent discourse on the relationship between humans and nature locally and abroad. Yet this destructive event also spurred a renaissance of this area, most notably as it ushered in the use and transformation of baroque architecture and planning in its reconstruction. The catastrophe and the subsequent reconstruction projects continue to have a profound effect on the economic activities and cultural identities of Catania and Val di Noto.

**Goals:** To investigate the process of natural and social place destruction and creation using various methods so as to develop: a historical awareness of the transformation of the two cities and regions because of the disasters, an understanding of the role of the humanities, fine arts and design in this transformation, and literacy and critical inquiry skills in multiple and varied engagements with the topic.

**Catania and Val di Noto, Sicily (31 May 2009 – 21 June 2009)**

**Event:** Before and during the earthquake of 1693 (31 May -7 June 2009)
31 May: Students arrive in Catania
1: Natural and social place making and destruction (Johns 1999, Puleo 2007) [Welcome dinner!]
2: Pre-1693 baroque architecture and planning in Sicily (Mack Smith 1968b, Blunt 1968 1) H, HU
3: Baroque architecture and planning in Europe (Mumford 1961, Benevolo 1993) H, HU
4: Geomorphology of quake and ensuing topographic destruction (Pietanisi and Tinti 1998) H
5: Field trip: Etna (Bonajutus 1694)
6: OFF
7: OFF

**Response: Causes and Meanings (8-14 June 2009)**
8: Moral and philosophical understandings and expressions of the event (Mack Smith 1968a 1) HU, H
9: Political-economic context: Spain, Church, Nobility (Mack Smith 1968a 2, Tobriner 1999) H
10: View of and from Italy (Giuffrè 2007, Neil 1998, Blunt 1988 1) HU, H
12: Field trip: Siracusa, Noto and Palazzolo Acireide (Blunt 1968 2, Vittorini 2000 1) HU, H
13: OFF
14: OFF

**Reconstruction: Birth of the Sicilian baroque (15-21 June 2009)**
15: Sicilian Baroque architecture/planning: forms, methods (Tringali et al. 2003, Tobriner 1982) HU, H
16: Parasite logic: analyze, paralyze, catalyze (Brown 2002, Sciascia 1994) HU
17: Design as social representation: (Blunt 1988 2, Deleuze 1993, De Benedictis 2003) HU, H
18: Local-global perspective on Val di Noto and Sicilian baroque (Tingali 2003, Puleo 2009) HU, H
19: Field trip: Caltagirone, Ragusa, Modica and Scicli (Blunt 1968 3, Vittorini 2000 2) HU, H
20: OFF
21: Flight: Catania–Lisbon! (Details shall be forthcoming)

**Assessment** Your will receive a grade based upon your performance on daily response papers for critical thinking (35%), weekly field reports for analysis (35%), and class discussions for oral literacy (30%). Performance will be evaluated for how clear, complete, comprehensive, connected and convincing it is.
Attendance You must attend every class. If you are ill or have an emergency that causes you to miss class, you must bring documentation of the illness or emergency.

Plagiarism It is essential that you be graded only on your own work. ASU takes charges of cheating and plagiarism very seriously, and either can result in your dismissal. Cheating is taking advantage of the work of others. Plagiarism is representing the work of others as your own, without giving appropriate credit. Also, although interaction and the sharing of ideas are strongly encouraged both inside and outside of the classroom, each student is responsible for turning in his or her own written material with the appropriate references to materials used (such as books, papers and web resources), as appropriate. Plagiarism entails serious consequences, including failing grades on the specific assignment and possibly the course. Everyone should be familiar with ASU’s standards of academic honesty which is available at: www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/usu/usui04-01.html.

Readings: All required readings will be posted on the course website for you to download, or will be handed out in hard copy when a digital copy is unavailable. Specific assignments appear in parentheses following each daily assignment. Please see reading list for details.

Reading list


