

Date: March 4, 2021

To: General Studies Council

From: *Humanities, Arts and Design Subcommittee:*

Aaron Hess

Bertha Manninen

Peter Schmidt

Re: Recommendations for Course Proposals for HU designation

Approve for HU designation:

From ASU:

SLC 351: Tales of Troy

IDS 470: Liberal Studies Seminar

From MCCC:

ENH 277AG: Out there: Science Fiction Narrative

From ASU:

Revise & Resubmit HU designation:

EDS 301: Sustainable Community Designs and Practices

The assignments seem to lack any clear critical component. There is no explanation of what the in-class quizzes are supposed to be about. There are reading notes where the directions say that the students have to summarize the readings and also include the student's "reflection" on the reading, but that strikes us as too vague. It's not clear whether that includes critical analysis. The Green New Deal Exhibition doesn't appear have any critical analysis, nor does it clearly illustrate whether there is any focus on aesthetics or visual arts. The one exception is the "board" aspect of the project, which may contain some aesthetical content (as photographic art is required) but that doesn't appear to be enough to classify the whole class as an HU.

In order to qualify for the HU, the professor should show clearly how the assignments in the class incorporate critical analysis of text or philosophies, and also make the aesthetic components of the class more prevalent throughout the course. We would also like to encourage the professor to revise and follow points 3 and 4c to help make their case.