

General Studies Request Form

Please see the [General Studies Request Overview and FAQ](#) for information and quick answers.

New permanent numbered courses must be submitted to the workflow in [Kuali CM](#) before a General Studies request is submitted here. The General Studies Council will not review requests ahead of a new course proposal being reviewed by the Senate.

Proposal Contact Information

Submitter Name	Submitter Email	Submitter Phone Number
Sirrena Ault	smault1@asu.edu	4809650157

College/School	Department/School
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts (CHI)	School of Music, Dance and Theatre (CMUSIC)

Submission Information

Type of submission:

Mandatory Review (Course or topic currently holds this designation and is undergoing 5-year review)

What is Mandatory Review?

Courses and topics previously approved for General Studies must be reviewed every five years by the General Studies Council to verify requirements are still met.

ASU Request

Is this request for a permanent course or a topic?

Permanent Course

Subject Code	Course Number	Units/Credit Hours
THE	406	3

Course Information

Courses approved for General Studies require mandatory review every five years.

Course Title

American Multicultural Film

Course Catalog Description

Examines Native, African, Asian, and Latina and Latino American films and film artists in cinema history and production.

Is this a crosslisted course?

No

Is this course offered by another academic unit?

No

General Studies

Requested Designation

HU - Humanities, Arts and Design

HU: Humanities, Arts and Design

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 artwork 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 artwork 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 March 2021]

Note: The following types of courses are **excluded** from the "HU" designation, even though they might give some consideration to the humanities, arts and design:

1. Courses devoted primarily to developing skill in the use of a language.
2. Courses devoted primarily to the acquisition of quantitative or experimental methods.
3. Courses devoted primarily to teaching skills.

"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.

Select which "HU" criteria this course meets.

2. Concerns the interpretation, critical analysis, or creation of written, aural, or visual texts; and/or the critical analysis (not summary or memorization) of historical development of textual traditions.

"HU" Criteria 2

Concerns the interpretation, **critical analysis**, or creation of written, aural, or visual texts; and/or the **critical analysis (not summary or memorization)** of historical development of textual traditions.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

A. Class syllabus B. Sample of lecture notes (Chaplin, The Immigrant) C. Sample of student final project

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

The course consists of critical and poetic exegeses of 10-12 films from different historical periods, different languages and by different filmmakers. Each film is viewed and compared/contrasted with a relevant text (poetry, play, essay, short story, novel) or with its original source material. As central project to the course, students are expected to write a critical essay or creative work (10-12 pages) on an approved film of their choice.

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

See sample of Instructor's Lecture Notes. It details a brief introduction to Chaplin's The Immigrants, which sets the film in its historical context, recounts its contemporary critical reception, and highlights the importance of Chaplin as an essential purveyor of American myths.

B. See Sample Student Project, L. King, The Room, a fresh and extended critical approach to a film defined as a Cult Classic. It was submitted by one student as the final class project (essay).

"HU" Criteria 4

In addition, an "HU" course must meet one or more of the following requirements. Select all that apply.

b. Concerns aesthetic systems and values, especially in literature, arts, and design.

"HU" Criteria 4B Information

Concerns aesthetic systems and values, especially in literature, arts, and design.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

A. Class syllabus B. Sample of lecture notes (Bogart/Sierra Madre) C. Sample of student final project

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

The course presents different genres (westerns, gangster films, films noir, musical comedies), filmic approaches (silent films, black and white, color) and performance theories (Surrealism, Italian Neo-realism, Method Acting) as part of a survey of American film. Susan Sontag's essay On Photography serves as critical background for the decoding of aural and visual imagery.

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

See sample of Instructor's Bogart/Sierra Madre Notes.

It details an analysis of John Huston's The Treasure of Sierra Madre. In the final scenes, Humphrey Bogart's performance combines three heroic traditions—horror film monster, private detective hero and gangster protagonist—into one. (Film selection varies every year.)

B. See Sample Student Project, T. McMurrich, Coraline and its Ties to Grimms'

Hansel and Gretel, a comparative analysis between the classic fairy tale and the animated film Coraline, based on Neil Gaiman's graphic novel of the same name. It was submitted by one student as the final class project (essay).

Attach a sample syllabus for this course or topic, including the list of any required readings.

[AMERICAN MULTICULTURAL FILM SYLLABUS \(FALL 2022\) - Oscar Giner.docx](#)

Attach the table of contents from any required textbook(s).

[Textbooks and Tables of Contents FedEx Scan 2022-12-11_14-43-58 - Oscar Giner.pdf](#)

Attach any other materials that would be relevant or helpful in the review of this request.

[Additional Materials - THE 406 Giner.pdf](#)

Form Submission - Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

Sirrena Ault - January 27, 2023 at 3:19 PM (America/Phoenix)

Department Approval

Approved

Heather Landes

Karen Schupp - January 27, 2023 at 3:27 PM (America/Phoenix)

Provost's Office Review

Approved

April Randall

Joni Lochtefeld - February 13, 2023 at 3:45 PM (America/Phoenix)

Humanities, Arts and Design Mandatory Review

Acknowledgement Requested

Bertha Manninen - February 25, 2023 at 11:09 AM (America/Phoenix)

Revise and resubmit. The course is an HU in terms of its content, but the assignments aren't clear. The student learning outcomes display an emphasis on the critical analysis of film. Students have to "interpret narrative meaning" and "compare formal differences and similarities." This requires comparative analysis. However, there is no explanation of the assignments, and we can't tell from the syllabus alone what the nature of these assignments will be. The professor needs to say more about the nature of the writing assignments. In the Quali form, the say, "See sample of Instructor's Bogart/Sierra Madre Notes" or similar at multiple points. However, we do not see where these notes are provided. We recommend that the professor revise and resubmit the applications with an emphasis on showing how the writing assignments contribute to critical thinking and analysis.

Michelle Saint

Mina Suk

Peter Schmidt

General Studies Council Meeting

Waiting for Approval

April Randall

Joni Lochtefeld

Proposer Notification

Notification

