Proposal for a New Course

NOTE: (1) All gray text boxes must be completed (even if you just put N/A into them), otherwise the committee must consider the form incomplete.
NOTE: (2) If the new course is to be accepted as fulfilling General Education requirements, a separate approval must be done through the General Education Committee.

Contact person Myra Seaman  Email address seamann@cofc.edu  Phone 953-5760

1. Department: English

2. Course number and title: ENGL 364: Studies in Difference and Literary Tradition
   Number of Credits: 3     Total hrs/week: 3
   Lecture: ☑  Lab: ☐  Recitation: ☐  Seminar: ☐
   For Independent study courses:
   Research: ☑  Field experience: ☐
   Clinical Practice: ☐  Internship: ☐
   Practicum: ☐  Independent Course Work: ☐

3. Semester and year when course will first be offered:
   Fall 2011

4. Catalog Description (please limit to 50 words):
   A detailed study of difference and literary tradition, focused on a special topic to be determined by instructor.

5. CIP Code: 23.1402 (This code must be determined for new courses. The codes can be found at http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/. If you are not sure what code to use, please consult with the Institutional Research).

6. Check if appropriate: ☐
   This course will be cross listed with:
   Rationale for cross listing:
   Please attach letters of support from the chairs of each department indicating that the department has discussed the proposal and supports it.

7. a) Could another department or program also be a logical originator of this course (i.e. History of American Education could originate in both the Teacher Education and the History departments)? If yes, what department/program? Please contact the department chair/program director and request a note or email that they are aware of the proposed new course and include that note with the proposal.
   no

   b) Please explain overlap with any existing courses.
   N/A

This form was approved by FCC on 8/17/2010 and replaces all others.
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8. Prerequisites (or other restrictions):
   ENGL 110 or equivalent

9. Rationale/justification for course (consider the following issues):
   a) What are the goals and objectives of the course?
      The course provides students the opportunity to study literary
      traditions formed largely by writers' particular identities and social
      experiences. This course allows them to take a specific approach as determined
      by the instructor for which there is currently no suitable course in the catalog.
   b) How does the course support the mission statement of the department and the organizing
      principles of the major?
      The course is one of a number of courses that may fulfill a requirement for all
      majors, a course in Difference and Literary Tradition or Film and Cultural Studies.

10. a) For courses in the major, how does the course enhance the beginning, middle, or end of
      the major?
      This course is part of the end of the major, offering students the opportunity to
      pursue in depth with an instructor a special topic not regularly offered but fulfilling
      the requirements for Difference and Literary Tradition or Film and Cultural
      Studies.
   b) For courses used by non-majors, how does the course support the liberal arts tradition
      including linkages with other disciplines:
      N/A

11. Method of teaching:
    lecture, discussion

12. a) Address potential enrollment pattern shifts in the department or college-wide related to
      the offering of this course:
      N/A
   b) Address potential shifts in staffing of the department as it relates to the offering of this
      course:
      The course will be offered as staffing is available, on a rotating basis.
   c) Frequency of offering:
      each fall: ☐  each spring: ☐
      every two years: ☐  every three years: ☐
      other ☒ (Explain): It will be offered when an instructor chooses to offer it;
      the course is not required for the major, though it may fulfill a major requirement.
Proposal for a New Course

13. Requirements for additional resources made necessary by this course:

   a) Staff:
      N/A
   
   b) Budget:
      N/A
   
   c) Library:
      N/A

14. Is this course to be added to the Degree Requirements of a Major, Minor, Concentration or List of Approved Electives?
   a) ☐ yes ☒ no

   b) If yes, complete the Change Degree Requirements form(s) and list the name(s) of the major, minor, concentration and/or list of approved electives here:

15. Paste syllabus, reading lists, or any additional documentation that can help the committee evaluate this proposal (a syllabus is mandatory).
Proposal for a New Course

16. Signature of Department Chair or Program Director:

______________________________________________________________

Date: ________________________

17. Signature of Dean of School:

______________________________________________________________

Date: ________________________

18. Signature of Provost:

______________________________________________________________

Date: ________________________

19. Signature of Curriculum Committee Chair

______________________________________________________________

Date: ________________________

20. Signature of Faculty Senate Secretary:

______________________________________________________________

Date Approved by Senate: ________________________

Completed form should be sent by the Faculty Senate Secretary to the Registrar. After implementation, information concerning the passed course and program changes will be provided by the Registrar to all faculty and staff on campus.
ENGL 395: Black Women Writers
Professor Conseula Francis

Fall 2010 • MWF 10:00-10:50 • MYBK 208
Office: 22B Glebe #202 • Office Hours: MWF 9:00-10:00 and by appt.
Email: francisc@cofc.edu • phone: 843-953-7738 • Website: http://blogs.cofc.edu/francisc

Before We Begin
Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, iPods, mp3 players, hyperdrive engines, communicators, time machines, etc. before you come to class. You can survive an hour without them.

While you may use a laptop to take notes in class, you may use it only to take notes. Those people checking email, playing games, attempting to hack the Matrix, or otherwise slacking in my class will be asked to leave.

Course Materials
- The Coupling Convention, Ann duCille
- Contending Forces, Pauline Hopkins
- Plum Bun, Jessie Fauset
- Passing, Nella Larsen
- Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston
- Sula, Toni Morrison
- Dawn, Octavia Butler
- Loving Her, Ann Shockley
- Captured, Beverly Jenkins

Course Description
This course explores major works of African American women's literature. While we will cover a great deal of time in this course (the earliest novel was published in 1900 and the latest novel was published in 2009), this is not a historical survey. Instead we will use Ann duCille's critical work The Coupling Convention to frame our discussion of eight novels. We will also conduct research of our own in an effort to explore how these authors render black female characters in ways that perpetuate, contest, and/or subvert stereotypical images of black women; expand limited constructions of black womanhood; and challenge or destabilize prevailing definitions of “woman” and “normativity” in American society.

Note: Because this is a seminar, students will contribute a significant share of the course content and discussion.

Course Goals
- Encounter a variety of challenging texts representing key 20th century African American women authors;
- Research and evaluate secondary critical sources about primary texts;
- Learn and practice strategies for reading carefully, closely, and critically;
- Learn and practice strategies for crafting compelling written analysis;
- Raise questions confidently and offer informed opinions about African American women's literature.
Assignments and Projects
Reading Responses 70 points (7 10-point responses)
Annotated Bibliography 25 points
Research Paper Proposal 25 points
Research Essay 100 points
Final 100 points

Grading Scale
The grading scale for the class is as follows:
100-96 (A); 95-92 (A-); 91-88 (B+); 87-84 (B); 83-80 (B-); 79-77 (C+); 76-73 (C); 72-70 (C-); 69-67 (D+); 66-63 (D); 62-60 (D-); 59 and below (F)

Attendance and Participation
Come to class everyday.
Come to class on time.
Come to class prepared.

You are allowed three absences (excused or unexcused). Use them wisely. After the third absence, I will deduct 2 points from your final grade for each class missed.

Late and Missing Work
Missing class is not an excuse for missing work. It is your responsibility to get things in on time. I will deduct two points for every day or fraction of a day that an assignment is late. You cannot make up in class writing or quizzes.

I do not accept papers over e-mail and a paper slipped under my door doesn’t count.

If you are having problems with a paper (or any assignment), please come and see me before the problem gets out of hand.

Academic Dishonesty
The College of Charleston enforces a strict policy of academic honesty, as detailed in The College of Charleston Student Handbook: A Guide to Civil and Honorable Conduct, available online at <http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html>. Any student who incorporates the words or ideas of others in an essay without proper acknowledgment, or who commits any other form of academic dishonesty, will be turned in to the College Honor Board. If the Honor Board finds a student responsible for academic dishonesty, that student will receive a grade of XF for the course (for more information, see <http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/honor_system/>). If you are unsure about whether you are using proper documentation, refer to a MLA style manual or see me about your questions.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply at the Center for Disability Services located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying their instructor as soon as possible and for contacting their instructor one week before accommodation is needed. Should you have questions about disability services at the College of Charleston, please contact the Center for Disability Services at 953-1431 or visit their website at <http://www.cofc.edu/~cds/>.