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UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

PHIL
2310

Title of Proposal - Must begin with Department Abbreviation: Phil 2xxx Existentialism #1 have requested a number from the registrar at the 2000 level

Check One: Full Proposal or Information Item

Effective Date for Curricular Offering: Fall 2014

FROM: Talia Welsh, Philosophy Religion Hall 232, x4318
(proposal originator: include spokesperson's name, department, office number, telephone, e-mail)

Does this require new resources from the originating department or other department? No Talia-Welsh@utz.edu
Please include an explanation if yes.

Faculty of the originating department approved this proposal on _____ (date),
by a vote of 5 aye votes; _____ nay votes; _____ abstentions; _____ eligible voting members absent.

The following have examined this proposal:

Dept Head/Director: John Phillips John Phillips ✓
Printed name Signature, date Approve Neutral Disapprove*

College Curriculum Committee Date: 2/26/14 Vote: Aye 10 Signature of Chair: Walter J. Kemp
Nay 0
Abst 0

Spokespersons for Affected Departments:
Printed Name, Department Signature, Date Approve Neutral Disapprove*

Dean/Director: Joe Wilfong Joe Wilfong 2/26/14 ✓

University Registrar: Linda Orth Linda Orth 3.4.14
Printed name Signature, date Comments

Provost/Representative: _____
Printed name Signature, date Approve Neutral Disapprove*

Lab/studio fee requested:
Provost: Phil Oldham _____
Printed name Signature, date Approve Disapprove*

*Those who disapprove may attach an explanation

ACTIONS on this proposal:	Curriculum Committee	Faculty Senate
Date the proposal was considered	_____	_____
Vote of the body:	_____	_____
Accepted as Information Item (Indicate date)	_____	_____
Approved as submitted (Indicate date)	_____	_____
Approved with amendments (amendments indicated and transmitted to all signatories above, date):	_____	_____
Signature of Chair:	_____	_____

14-058

To: Curriculum Committee

From: Talia Welsh

Re: Proposal of new course—Existentialism Phil 2310

*Standard letter
lecture*

Contained below as required by the curriculum committee:

- a. Catalog description
- b. Pedagogical objectives
- c. Model syllabus
- d. Model of methods by which students are to be evaluated
- e. Rationale for the course
- f. Analysis of economic and pedagogical consequences
- g. Analysis of how the proposal relates to requirements and resources in other departments or programs

a. Catalog description (proposed)

A survey of existentialist philosophy and literature. Extensive reading and writing. Offered yearly. This course satisfies the Thought, Values & Beliefs general education requirement OR the Literature general education requirement.

b. Pedagogical objectives

The objectives of this course are:

1. To provide students with an introduction to the philosophical and literary tradition of existentialism.
2. To develop the ability of students to analyze arguments presented in existentialist philosophy.
3. To aid students in understanding existentialist literary style.

After this course, students should be able to:

1. Clearly articulate in writing the major thinker's arguments.
2. Clearly articulate in writing obvious counter-arguments to the major trends in existentialist thought.
3. Develop their own ideas surrounding existentialist themes.
4. Clearly articulate various literary styles, themes, and innovations seen in existentialist literature and theater.

c. Model syllabus (see below)

d. Rationale for the course

Existentialism is a literary and philosophical movement that captures the common experience of college students facing a life of independence. What should I do? How do I know what to do? What is meaningful in life? Is there a "right" and a "wrong" or is everything a matter of

perspective? Not only would such a general education course provide students with access into a rich tradition in philosophy and literature, it would also connect to their lives and provide them with a critical means to question their choices. I have chosen more accessible texts in the existentialist tradition given that this course is designed for the 2000-level student.

f. Analysis of economic and pedagogical consequences

This course will not require any additional costs for the university in terms of supplies or equipment. The course will not affect other courses being taught. I have found that existentialism is the one area of philosophy most likely to intrigue and infuriate young students so given the connection between engagement and retention; it would likely keep them interested in university. This course is about developing critical and expansive thinking regarding the human condition. As part of our mission to develop critical thinking, it fits well.

g. Analysis of how the proposal relates to requirements and resources in other departments or programs

This course will not require any resources from other departments. This course would provide a good grounding for students interested in pursuing education in a variety of fields that take up the 19th and 20th century European literary and philosophical experience, such as students in English, Foreign Languages, History, Philosophy & Religion.

EXISTENTIALISM

TERM: Fall 2010
 COURSE: Phil 2310
 TITLE: Existentialism
 SCHEDULE: XXX
 CREDIT: 3
 FACULTY: Dr. T.L. Welsh
 Office: Holt 232
 Office Hours: XXX
 E-mail: Talia-Welsh@utc.edu
 Phone: 423-425-4318



ADA STATEMENT

Attention: If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) and think that you might need special assistance or a special accommodation in this class or any other class, call the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 425-4006 or come by the office, 102 Frist Hall <http://www.utc.edu/disability-resource-center/> .

If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438 or <http://www.utc.edu/counseling-personal-development-center/index.php> .

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of existentialist philosophy and literature. Extensive reading and writing. Offered yearly. This course satisfies the Thought, Values & Beliefs general education requirement OR the Literature general education requirement.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Existentialism is a vast movement in philosophical and literary texts, plays, and films that focuses on the human condition. It emphasizes how difficult it is to make universal claims about truth, how we appear to be free but do not have solid rational guidelines to know we are choosing the “right” choice. In this course, we will explore historical figures in existentialist thought—Kafka, Dostoyevsky, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche as well as the canonical later existentialists Camus, Sartre, and Beauvoir. We will discuss the existence of God, the nature of human beings, and the anxiety of freedom in literary as well as philosophical works. We will discuss the connection between literature and philosophy and ask why one is chosen over another. Students will be expected to understand the arguments, themes, and descriptions in the texts and will be required to demonstrate critical analysis of the texts and understanding of literary style demonstrated in the texts.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is 10% of your grade. I tally the days absent and divide by the total class days. You will not be counted as present if you are late. There are no excuses for not attending. There is a policy below for making up work (but not the absence itself) if you have a documented excuse.

MAKE-UP POLICY

If you can document a medical reason or a family emergency why you could not be present, you will be able to make-up any work missed in the course that day.

REQUIRED TEXTS (in UTC bookstore. Please make every effort to obtain these editions and translations as we will be reading in class.) Photocopies will be available on blackboard.

1. Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Notes from the Underground*, Dover Thrift, ISBN 0-486-27053-X
2. Franz Kafka, *The Metamorphosis and Other Stories*, Dover Thrift Editions: ISBN: 0486290301
3. Albert Camus, *The Stranger*, Vintage, ISBN: 0679720200
4. Camus-*The Myth of Sisyphus* (photocopy)
5. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morals*, Dover Thrift, ISBN: 0486426912
6. Nietzsche-selections from *The Joyful Wisdom* and *Beyond Good and Evil*. (photocopy)
7. Kierkegaard-*Fear and Trembling* selections (photocopy)
8. Simone de Beauvoir-*The Ethics of Ambiguity*. Citadel: 2000.
9. Sartre-*Existentialism is a Humanism* and *Bad Faith* (photocopies)
10. Jean-Paul Sartre, *No Exit and Three Other Plays*, Random, ISBN: 9780679725169

COURSE EVALUATION

- A. Two essay exams (20% each; 40% total)
- B. Two short papers (20% each; 40% total)
- C. In-Class Presentation (10%)
- D. Attendance (10%)

Course grades will be percentages out of 100. The grades will be according to the following scale:

90-100% =A

80-89%=B

70-79%=C

60-69%=D

59% and below=F

Unexcused absences from any quiz or writing assignment will result in 0% grade. A letter grade will be dropped for each day a paper is late.

EXPECTATIONS

What you can expect from me:

1. I will provide you with the tools you need—lectures, sources, and discussion—to help you understand existentialism and to work on your own analytical skills. I will be happy to individually help you with difficulties you have with the course if you have fulfilled the expectations of the course.
2. I will check my email each weekday during the semester and provide you with timely replies. I will not necessarily be available during the weekends.
3. I will be available for office hours and will be willing to schedule a different appointment time if you cannot make my office hours.

What I expect from you:

1. You will be prepared and on time each class period.
2. You will ask questions if you do not understand.
3. If you are not in class, you will take responsibility to inform yourself of what you have missed by contacting another student.
4. You will check your UTC email at least twice a week.
5. You will participate meaningfully in group work.

HONOR CODE

I take any form of cheating extremely seriously. All forms of cheating will result in an F for the course. In addition, any student caught cheating will be brought to the honor court. In the past the honor court has suspended some students, as well as dismissing others from the university. Please consult the honor code to understand UTC's policy on cheating.

READING SCHEDULE (TBA)

Santiago, Manuel

From: Welsh, Talia
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 8:40 PM
To: Santiago, Manuel
Subject: RE: Comments on your proposa
Attachments: Curriculum Committee Existentialism Proposal revised 2-25-2014.docx

Hi Manuel,

Thank you so much for all your quick work on this proposal! I'm including my changes to the pedagogical and objectives sections (I altered the pedagogical section to more clearly state objectives and student outcomes). I do not have access to the cover sheet which was given to me as a photocopy. If it is okay with you, it would be great if you could just replace Oldham's name and note that is was indeed 5 (not 45!) professors who voted for the proposal in Philosophy & Religion.

Please let me know if I need to change anything or can provide you with anything else.

Thank you!

All the best, Talia

Dr. T.L. Welsh
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E-mail: Talia-Welsh@utc.edu
<http://www.utc.edu/philosophy-religion/profiles/mbk766.php>

From: Santiago, Manuel
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 4:55 PM
To: Welsh, Talia
Subject: FW: Comments on your proposa

Hello Talia,

The committee approved the proposal with changes in the Pedagogical and Course Objectives sections. These two sections are the same and the committee would like for you to emphasize what the student "should be able to..." do after the completion of the course.

The cover sheet had our previous Provost name (Phil Oldham) but I scratched out; if that is ok with you. Also, it is difficult to tell if 45 or 5 faculty voted on the proposal. I can annotate the number if it is OK with you. Or, you can resubmit another coversheet.

The Dean is not in this afternoon but I will get it to him in the morning if you can get the changes back to me (digitally) so that I can remove the old pages and include the new pages into your proposal for the his signature.

Thanks,
Manuel

mfs