Course Inventory Change Request

New Course Proposal

Date Submitted: 02/12/15 1:17 pm

Viewing: PHIL 3200: Philosophy in Literature: Historical Perspectives

Last edit: 02/12/15 1:17 pm

Changes proposed by: flarger

Course Prefix: PHIL  
Course Number: 3200

Effective Semester: Fall 2015

Department:  
Humanities (HUM)

School:  
School of Humanities

Course Title: Philosophy in Literature: Historical Perspectives

Short Course Title: Philosophy in Literature

Credits: 3

Workload Factors: 3

Primary Grade Type: Standard Letter

Secondary Grade Type: No

In Workflow

1. HUM Chair
2. HUM Admin
3. HUM Dean
4. University Curriculum Committee Chair
5. Banner

Approval Path

1. 02/12/15 2:33 pm
   Melanie Hinton
   (melanie.hinton): Approved for HUM Chair

2. 02/13/15 1:11 pm
   Lory Mattucci
   (mattucci): Approved for HUM Admin

3. 02/19/15 11:23 am
   Addison Everett
   (everet_a): Approved for HUM Dean
Permission Required: No
Repeatable for Credit: No
Schedule Type: Lecture
Hrs/Wk: 3
Catalog Prerequisites? No
Corequisites? No
Course/Lab Fee? No
Instruction Index Code: SOC208
GE Status Requested: No

Catalog Description
A critical study of philosophical material found in works of literature. Or, to put it another way, philosophy presented through the medium of novels, poems, plays, and graphic novels. Authors likely to be studied include Plato, Nietzsche, Dostoyevsky, Sartre, Iris Murdoch, and Voltaire, as well as other contemporary authors.

Course Rotation:
Fall (even)

Justification for course/change:
With the continued development of DSU’s identity as a university, we need to continue to develop courses that are comparable to universities in the state and region. Philosophy of Literature is a course offering found in at least three nearby universities, and is a staple in many philosophy programs. Philosophy in Literature course intersects well with pre-existing courses in Humanities and English, and will hopefully dialogue with both. This course also will be used in the development of the Humanities emphasis (and eventually minor).

Library Resources Adequate: Yes
Tech Resources Adequate: Yes

Comparable Courses:
(use USHE course first)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Prefix/Number</th>
<th>Credit(s)</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Utah</td>
<td>PHIL 2850</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Philosophy in Literature</td>
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Course Learning
Outcomes:
After completing the course, students should be able to:
1. Demonstrate an enriched appreciation of literature through the distinctive tools of philosophic inquiry, analysis, and argumentation.
2. Engage major philosophical issues (definition/question of personal identity, author/reader interplay, possibility of objective knowledge) often found in works of literature.
3. Utilize the critical thinking, analytic, and writing skills that were developed through a semester long paper project.

How do your Course Learning Outcomes align to your Program Learning Outcomes?
As stated the two general student learning objectives are as follows:
1. Students will study the ways others have asked “big questions” in creative ways and how they answered those questions.

2. Students will study the enduring creative expressions of humans that reflect our experiences, as well as our feelings and ideas about ourselves, other humans, the past, and the universe

All three objectives address the program outcomes. Literature, by its nature, is a creative endeavor. Philosophy, at its core, is the exploration of ‘big question’ issues. Philosophy of Literature hopes to move ‘both directions’ between these disciplines. The first objective attempts to encourage students to view literature through a philosophic lens. The second asks what does the explicit medium of literature contribute to the philosophic process? The paper project allows students to examine, develop and articulate their feelings about themselves, others, the past, and the universe.

Schedule of lesson activities that meet Course Learning Outcomes
The Course will be divided into Units, with each covering a separate question concerning Philosophy in Literature. The readings described below are not intended to be an exhaustive list, but rather examples of what might be found in a course of this type.
1. What is Literature: A philosophical Perspective
Sartre (What is Literature and Other Essays)
Kelly (I Kill Giants)
2. What can philosophy tell us about literature?
Nietzsche (Birth of Tragedy)
Aeschylus (The Orestia)

3. How is literature Philosophical?
Iris Murdoch (The Nice and the Good)

Assessment activities
that provide
evidence of student
learning

Each semester will contain the following:
1. Three exams, each covering a single ‘unit’ of material covered over the semester. These exams will contain both short answer questions and essay questions, which encourage the student not to simply recall information covered in class but to connect that information to different topics and questions covered in the course.
2. Weekly quizzes consisting of short answer questions. Such quizzes allow the instructor to correct and reinforce students’ reading and retention habits.
3. A scholarly and formal research project that focuses on a single question devised by the student that relates to the material covered in the course. This project consists of several writing stages (Initial thoughts paper, annotated bibliography, rough draft, peer edit, final draft) and will span the semester. The end result is a comparative or argument project that engages a question or concern of one of the traditions addressed in the term.
4. Class discussions where a student can express ideas concerning the primary texts she has read.

Course Reviewer
Comments
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Key: 1599