

HENDRIX

PROPOSED COURSE ADDITION OR REVISION

Deadline for Area approval:

Proposer: Kristi McKim

Date: September 2011

Department/Program: English/Film Studies

Area: Humanities

Check appropriate boxes:

New permanent course

New temporary course

Replaces existing course:

Change to temporary course

Change to existing course:

Elimination of a course

Proposal – one sentence summary:

This course adds an historical corollary to the 300-level Film Theory class, thereby expanding the ENGF curriculum with another permanent advanced class.

Proposed subject code(s) (indicate both if cross-listing): ENGF

Proposed course # or level: ~~3XX~~ 370

Proposed course title: Film History

Proposed course catalog copy:

This course features canonical films of world cinema, including national cinemas such as Soviet Montage, German Expressionism, Italian Neo-realism, Hollywood/American Independent, and additional world films of historical significance. In addition to studying significant films, people, and movements of film history, this course also considers how and why certain films merit this canonical status. In this class, studying the history of cinema involves studying the history of questions about aesthetics, culture, and politics that inform and are created by film.

Prerequisites/co-requisites and/or recommended prior courses, as listed in catalog copy:

ENGF 269 or ENGL 223

How will the proposed revision affect any catalog lists of options for majors or minors?

Film History will become an additional course that Film Studies minors can count towards their six courses.

Rationale for course within departmental and collegiate context and based on assessment results:

In Spring 2011, Christian Keathley (Middlebury College) evaluated our Film Studies Program and recommended “that a course in the survey of Film History be added to the curriculum.” Though he suggests that this course “could serve as an alternative gateway course, along with Introduction to Film Studies,” I’m instead proposing the Film History course at the 300-level, such that students would *already* have taken Introduction to Film and thus have a better understanding of cinematic style before delving into its history. Though Introduction to Film includes some history, to be sure, an entire semester of Film History allows for this methodological approach to be the course’s central focus; Film History at the 300-level—even though this vast subject could justify a two-semester sequence—presupposes that students already have experience with the study of film.

Proposed general education code(s) (check all that apply):

EA HP XX LS NS NS-L SB VA QS W1 FL [Curriculum Committee]

CW [CW Committee]

W2 [Writing Across the Curriculum Committee]

Proposed Odyssey code(s) (check all that apply):

AC GA PL SW UR SP [CEL Committee/Curriculum Committee]

For each of the checked general education or Odyssey codes, describe how the course fulfills the published criteria (see the Catalog, pages 18-23 or the Odyssey Program Guide, pages 10-16):

LS: Film History, as with all other ENGF courses, involves the careful study of film as a *text* that warrants critical attention. As with literature courses and other ENGF that merit the LS designation, Film History expects that a) students attend to the formal nuances of aesthetic detail, and b) students learn to describe and analyse these details within sound written and oral arguments.

Justification for cross-listing:

How often will the course be offered? Every other year

Who will teach the course? McKim and/or other film faculty

Equipment, supply, and bibliographic requirements (items and cost): None.

Will the above items be covered by a present budget? Yes No

Approval Chain (type name and date of approval)

Department chair: Carol West 10/07/11

Area chair:  10-11-11