Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit: Philosophy
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Phone: x2310

Check all appropriate lines and complete information as requested. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and for each program proposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)</th>
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<td>✓ New Course</td>
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<td>___ Course Deletion</td>
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<td>___ Catalog Description Change</td>
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Current Course prefix, number and full title: PHIL 480 Honors Seminar in Phil
Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing: PHIL 480 Honors Seminar in Phil

2. Additional Course Designations: check if appropriate
   ___ This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course.
   ___ This course is also proposed as an Honors College Course.
   ___ Other: (e.g., Women's Studies, Pan-African)

3. Program Proposals
   ___ Catalog Description Change
   ___ Program Revision
   ___ New Degree Program
   ___ Program Title Change
   ___ New Minor Program
   ___ Other
   ___ New Track

Current program name: PHIL 480 Honors Seminar in Phil
Proposed program name, if changing: PHIL 480 Honors Seminar in Phil

4. Approvals

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<th>Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)</th>
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<tr>
<th>College Curriculum Committee Chair</th>
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<td>Charles R. Chang</td>
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<th>College Dean</th>
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<th>UWUCC Co-Chairs</th>
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<td>Gail Schmidt</td>
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* where applicable

[Stamp: RECEIVED NOV 12 2002]
[Stamp: OCT 22 2002]
New Course Proposal: HONORS SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY

I. Catalog Description

PHIL 480 Honors Seminar in Philosophy            3 class hours
                                                                  0 lab hours
Prerequisites: Philosophy Honors students or instructor permission.   3 semester hours
                                                                  (3c-0l-3sh)

Provides an advanced forum for detailed exploration of a single topic or single author, subject to
instructor’s choice. Enrollment limited to students designated as candidates for Honors, to
members of the Honors College who satisfy any additional prerequisites set by instructor, and
other Philosophy majors by invitation or permission.

II. Course Objectives

Students will:

A. Explore in depth a particular philosopher or philosophical issue.

B. Analyze difficult concepts in a careful, sustained manner.

C. Write clear, precise prose in a lengthy essay assignment that reflects norms of the discipline.

D. Strengthen analytical and synthesis techniques.

III. Detailed Course Outline

This seminar course will be based on an announced topic or theme that will vary from semester
to semester depending on the expertise of the faculty member teaching the course. Although the
topics will vary, the course will emphasize reading, discussion, and writing. Lecture may be
used occasionally as a means of providing background, introducing difficult concepts, and
assisting with difficult textual interpretations, but will not be the sole form of instruction.
Students will be expected to take an active part in discussions.

As would be the case with seminars or other similar courses with varying topics, an all-purpose
detailed course outline cannot be supplied. We have provided below, however, a sample
syllabus, as an example of what the course might look like in a given semester.

*   *

PHIL 480 Honors Seminar in Philosophy
Topic: Metaphysical Themes from Wittgenstein’s Tractatus
While famous for its semantic and logical theses, Wittgenstein’s Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus contains an interesting and important metaphysics. In this course we will explore in detail the underlying metaphysics of this difficult text. Our goal will be to gain an in-depth understanding of Wittgenstein’s position on these topics, while additionally using his view as a starting point for discussions of some of the issues themselves.

Texts (with abbreviations used in syllabus):
Wittgenstein, Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus (TLP)
Wittgenstein, On Colour
Kant, Critique of Pure Reason (CPR)
Loux, Metaphysics: A Contemporary Introduction (LM)
Fogelin, Wittgenstein (F)
Cassam, Self and World

Week 1-2: The Tractatus: Background and Overview
TLP, § 4.002; 4.0031; 4.011
Fregi, “On Concept and Object” (Handout)
Russell, “Descriptions” (Handout)
TLP: 2.1-2.225; 3-3.263; 4.01-4.02
LM, pp. 155-163
F: pp. 18-38

Week 3-4: Substance and Simples in TLP and Beyond
TLP: 1-2.063
Leibniz: Monadology §1-9 (Handout)
Ryle, “Logical Atomism in Plato’s Theaetetus” (Handout)
Plato, “Theaetetus”, 201c-206a (Handout)
CPR, “First Analogy”
LM, pp. 92-117

Week 5-7: Logic and Logical Atomism
TLP: 1.21; 2.06-2.0626.124; 6.13; 6.37-6.3751
LM, pp. 166-187
F: pp. 86-92
Hume, Treatise, p.18; 233-6 (Handout)
Bradley, Appearance and Reality, pp.17-29 (Handout)
Moore, “External and Internal Relations” (Handout)
Ramsey, “Review of Tractatus”, (Handout)
Wittgenstein, Philosophical Remarks, pp.105-112 (Handout)
Wittgenstein, Remarks on Colour, I§ 22-24; §66; II§ 1-20; III§ 215-222

Week 8-12: Wittgenstein and the Self
TLP: 5.6-5.641
Hume, Treatise, pp. 251-253  (Handout)
CPR, B130-140; A362-366
Cassam, Self and World, chpt.1

Week 13-14:  Death and Meaning of Life
TLP:  6.4- 7
F: pp. 96-103

*  *  *

IV. Evaluation Methods

Evaluation methods may vary. A sample Evaluation Methods follows for the syllabus above:

25% Weekly Writing Assignments (1-2 pages)
25% Two Short Papers (3-4 pages)
50% Final Paper (15-17 pages)

V. Example Grading Scale

90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 59% or less F.

VI. Undergraduate Course Attendance Policy

It is expected that students will attend every scheduled class. Particulars for penalizing missed classes will be left to individual instructors.

VII. Required Textbooks, Supplemental Books and Readings.

Required texts will vary by semester according to announced topic or theme. For the benefit of the UWUCC, a sample list follows for the topic detailed above.


VIII. Special Resource Requirements

None.

IX. Bibliography

No single bibliography is applicable because of variable content course. As requested, a bibliography is provided for the sample topic described.


**COURSE ANALYSIS QUESTIONNAIRE**

**A. Details of the Course.**

A1. The course will be open to students designated as candidates for Honors, to members of the Honors College who satisfy any additional prerequisites set by instructor, and other Philosophy majors by invitation or permission. We expect to attract Honors College Philosophy majors and other Honors College students who are strongly interested in Philosophy and/or the announced topic. Non-Honors College Philosophy majors who are admitted with instructor permission must have demonstrated comparable abilities. Majors may count the course toward their required hours in Philosophy; honors students may count the course toward their total of honors hours.

A2. This course does not require changes or revisions in any existing Philosophy department courses.

A3. This course has not been offered on a trial basis, though individual instructors may have offered classes similar under the 481 rubric.

A4. This is not a dual-level course.

A5. This course may not be taken for variable credit.

A6. Topical Honors seminars or readings courses are the staple of American graduate programs.

A7. This specific course is not required by the American Philosophical Association.
B. Interdisciplinary Implications.

B1. This course will be taught by one instructor.

B2. This course does not duplicate or affect courses offered by other departments. It does increase opportunities for Honors College students, and the Philosophy department has been encouraged by Dean Brenda Carter to develop this course, and an Honors program in general.

B3. This course will not be cross-listed.

B4. This course is not appropriate to Continuing Education students.

C. Implementation.

C1. The department can work this course into its rotation of upper-level and special topics courses.

C2. No additional space, equipment, or supplies are needed.

C3. None of the resources for this course are based on a grant.

C4-5. We expect to offer one section every third semester.

C6. Twenty students is the maximum established by the Senate’s Honors College guidelines.

C7. The American Philosophical Association does not recommend maximum enrollments for this type of course.

C8. This course is not a distance education course.

D. Miscellaneous.

No additional information is being supplied.