Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit PHIL
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Check all appropriate lines and complete all information. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and/or program proposal.

1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)
   _____ New Course
   _____ Course Prefix Change
   _____ Course Deletion
   _____ Course Revision
   x Course Number and/or Title Change
   _____ Catalog Description Change

   Current course prefix, number and full title: PHIL 101 Informal Logic: Methods of Critical Thinking

   Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing: PHIL 101 Critical Thinking

2. Liberal Studies Course Designations, as appropriate
   x This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course (please mark the appropriate categories below)
   _____ Learning Skills
   x Knowledge Area
   _____ Global and Multicultural Awareness
   _____ Writing Intensive (include W cover sheet)
   _____ Liberal Studies Elective (please mark the designation(s) that applies – must meet at least one)
   _____ Global Citizenship
   _____ Information Literacy
   _____ Oral Communication
   _____ Quantitative Reasoning
   _____ Scientific Literacy
   _____ Technological Literacy

3. Other Designations, as appropriate
   _____ Honors College Course
   _____ Other: (e.g. Women's Studies, Pan African)

4. Program Proposals
   _____ Catalog Description Change
   _____ Program Revision
   _____ Program Title Change
   _____ New Track
   _____ New Degree Program
   _____ New Minor Program
   _____ Liberal Studies Requirement Changes
   _____ Other

   Current program name:

   Proposed program name, if changing:

5. Approvals
   Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 4/15/12
   Department Chairperson(s)
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 4/19/12
   College Curriculum Committee Chair
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 5/2/12
   College Dean
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 5/10/12
   Director of Liberal Studies (as needed)
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 10/18/12
   Director of Honors College (as needed)
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 5/18/12
   Provost (as needed)
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 5/23/12
   Additional signature (with title) as appropriate
   Signature: [Signature]
   Date: 10/23/12

UWUCC Co-Chairs

Received
I. New Catalogue Name

PHIL 101 Critical Thinking 3 class hours, 0 lab hours, 3 credits
(3c-0l-3cr)

Prerequisites: None

An introduction to basic principles of informal logic and critical thinking. Emphasis on different kinds of arguments, methods of argument evaluation, and the analysis of arguments as they arise in various contexts, such as political debate, advertising, science, law, and ethics.

II. Proposed Changes

Old Number/Title: PHIL 101 Informal Logic: Methods of Critical Thinking

The name of this course is being changed.

III. Rationale

"Informal Logic" is a term that has fallen somewhat out of favor among various philosophers these days as the preferred name for this type of course. "Formal Logic", as studied in our PHIL 221 Symbolic Logic does make sense as description of the content, as there is a formalized system that is used and analyzed. The term "informal logic", though, still has enough resonance and common usage to convey some information to students. Yet because the course is really devoted to critical thinking it seemed best to highlight that fact with the name change. Additionally, some 'formal logic' is also covered in this course, which is another reason to not use "Informal Logic" in the official title, as that would be confusing or misleading at best. So, to give students a better sense of what we have always covered (the content of which is not being changed) we thought it better to go for a less cumbersome, more accurate title.