

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 5112S

Date of Senate Approval 03/15/12

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC DOCUMENT 39: Add new courses to Literature: LIT 327, LIT 334, 335, 364, 369, 440, 492**

**Effective Date: Fall 2012**

**1. Add:** On page 194, new course, **LIT 327, Readings in Poetry:**

**327 Readings in Poetry (4)**

An intensive study of poetry and its historical dimensions with emphasis on meaning and technique as well as research in literature. Prerequisite: LIT 240 or permission of instructor. Fall and Spring.

**Impact:**

We anticipate some challenges to our resources during the transition period as we try to accommodate the needs of our existing majors and those of students declaring under the new curriculum. We hope to minimize impact through careful advising and student updates. We do not anticipate any increase in personnel or resources to accommodate these changes.

**Rationale:**

This new course complements the two other new intermediate genre courses on fiction and drama. The conversion of LIT 241, Introduction to Poetry, into LIT 240, Introduction to Literature, a general survey of genres, creates the opportunity for an intermediate course devoted to poetry. This course is intended to serve as information literacy intensive.

**2. Add:** On page 194, new course, **LIT 334:**

**334 Western Literature: Ancient to Renaissance (4)**

Major Western literary works through the Renaissance period studied against their literary, historical and cultural background. No credit given to students who have credit for LIT 321 or 322. Prerequisite: LIT 240 or permission of the instructor. Fall and Spring.

**Impact:**

There should be no lasting impact on the resources and staffing of the Literature and Language Department. Because we are moving from a 3-course (9 hour) requirement to a 2-course (8 hour) requirement, the demand for coverage may be reduced. We anticipate some challenges to our resources during the transition period as we try to accommodate the needs of our existing majors

and those of students declaring under the new curriculum. We hope to minimize impact through careful advising and student updates, and don't anticipate needing additional resources or staffing to accommodate these changes.

**Rationale:**

This course is part of our general curriculum revision which responds to changing best practices and priorities. The current three course series of historical surveys (LIT 321, 322, 323) are now modified and consolidated into two, 4-hour courses which allow an opportunity for students to encounter major, canonical texts and cultural/historical trends with a focus on the western literary tradition. This reduction in courses and hours opens more space in the curriculum for required courses focused on cultural literacies and non-western literatures.

3. **Add:** On page 194, new course, **LIT 335:**

**335 Western Literature: Enlightenment to Modern (4)**

Major Western literary works from the Enlightenment to the modern period, studied against their literary, historical and cultural background. No credit given to students who have credit for LIT 322 or 323. Prerequisite: LIT 240 or permission of the instructor. Fall and Spring.

**Impact:**

There should be no lasting impact on the resources and staffing of the Literature and Language Department. Because we are moving from a 3-course (9 hour) requirement to a 2-course (8 hour) requirement, the demand for coverage may be reduced. We anticipate some challenges to our resources during the transition period as we try to accommodate the needs of our existing majors and those of students declaring under the new curriculum. We hope to minimize impact through careful advising and student updates, and don't anticipate needing additional resources or staffing to accommodate these changes.

**Rationale:**

This course is part of our general curriculum revision which responds to changing best practices and priorities. The former three course series of historical surveys (LIT 321, 322, 323) are now modified and consolidated into two 4 hour courses which allow an opportunity for students to encounter major, canonical texts and cultural/historical trends with a focus on the western literary tradition. This reduction in courses and hours opens more space in the curriculum for required courses focused on cultural literacies and non-western literatures.

4. **Add:** On page 195, new course, **LIT 364:**

**364 Postcolonial Literature (3)**

World literatures with a focus on the historical and continuing effects of colonization. Topics will vary, but may include African, South Asian, Pacific Rim, and Caribbean literatures with attention to themes of race, language, nationalism, empire, education, and the intersections of cultural identities. May be repeated as content varies for a total of 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: LANG 120. See department chair.

**Impact:**

There should be no impact on the resources and staffing of this course. This course has been taught as LIT 349, Studies in Contemporary Literature, by several faculty over the past 10 years.

**Rationale:**

Increased interest in the subgenre warrants the addition of a course devoted to the postcolonial. Postcolonial Literature is a one of the more dynamic subgenres that has developed over the past several years in the fields of literature and English studies. This change in catalog offers a better representation of our current practices in the department and brings us into line with best practices in the field. The course is intended to be offered as diversity intensive and also helps us to fulfill our commitment to cultural literacy and international breadth in our curriculum.

**5. Add:** On page 195, new course, **LIT 369:****369 World Literatures (3)**

Varying topics in world literatures with a focus on non-western literature in pre-colonial and ancient contexts. May be repeated as content varies for a total of 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: LANG 120. See department chair.

**Impact:**

There should be minimal impact on the resources and staffing of this course. As with all proposed changes, we expect challenges for coverage during the transitional period, but we do not anticipate requesting further resources or staffing to accommodate the change.

**Rationale:**

This course helps to ensure our coverage of non-western literatures in pre-colonial and ancient contexts, and helps us to fulfill our commitment to teaching cultural literacies and international breadth.

**6. Add:** On page 195, new course, **LIT 440:****440 Literary Theory and Criticism (3)**

Explores a variety of critical approaches to literature with attention to the intellectual foundations of critical methods and their implications for interpretive, critical, and creative practices. May be repeated as content varies for a total of 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: 6 hours of literature courses or permission of instructor. See department chair.

**Impact:**

There should be no impact on the resources and staffing of this course. This course has been taught in the past by two current faculty as LIT 349 or LIT 373.

**Rationale:**

Faculty have been teaching courses on theory and criticism as special topics or as contemporary literature. Formalizing this course brings us in line with standard practices in the field and allows the catalog to better reflect our current course offerings.

7. **Add:** On page 196, new course **LIT 492:**

**492 Scholarly Presentation (1)**

Students will work closely with a faculty mentor to develop their senior research project for public presentation at a conference venue, either on campus as part of undergraduate research, or in a regional conference. Satisfies the oral competency requirement. Corequisite: LIT 491. (Grading is S/U). Fall and Spring.

**Impact:**

We have piloted this change on an informal basis for the past two years and anticipate no impact on the resources and staffing of the Literature and Language Department. The rotating, one-hour course may increase flexibility in scheduling.

**Rationale:**

The addition of a 1-hour corequisite course on academic presentations for our capstone requirement reflects our commitment to communication skills, oral competency and undergraduate research. We will recommend majors enroll in LIT 499 in the semester prior to taking LIT 491/2.