



**DATE:** May 4, 2015

**TO:** ASC Executive Deans Office  
All ASC Department Chairs & Directors  
All ASC Faculty

**FROM:** David Manderscheid, Executive Dean and Vice Provost

**SUBJECT:** Team-Teaching Proposals

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I am pleased to issue again a call for proposals for new, interdisciplinary undergraduate team-taught courses in the College of Arts and Sciences. As the College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Plan states, “We will promote a spirit of collaboration and cooperation that embraces the diversity of scholarship in the College while at the same time recognizing the importance of maintaining our traditional areas of strength.”

Team-taught courses, utilizing professors from different disciplines, programs or departments, provide innovative teaching and learning opportunities, promote the goal of interdisciplinarity in teaching, and encourage interdisciplinary research. These courses provide students with the broadest understanding of a liberal arts education by conveying within a single classroom the breadth of perspectives and interconnectivity that is inherent in academia and the world.

### **Definition**

For the purposes of this plan, a team-taught course is defined as collaborative teaching: Teaching partners are expected to collaborate on defining the objectives for the course, putting together the course materials, conducting the formal instruction of students, and evaluating student performance. Note that courses in which one faculty member of record convenes the course and invites one or more guest speakers to take part in the class are not considered to be team-taught courses. (Team-taught courses may, however, utilize outside speakers when appropriate in addition to the primary faculty members of record.) Moreover, for the purposes of this plan, *interdisciplinary* will mean that participating faculty instructors must be from demonstrably different disciplines, programs, or departments. Minimum enrollment levels for the initial offering will be governed by the offering instructors’ TIUs, in compliance with Faculty Rule 3335-8-16(A).

### **Application Process and Course Review**

Proposed courses should be undergraduate (2000-4000-level) or dual career (5000-level) courses. The courses will be cross-listed and fully accredited within both instructors' departments. The courses should first be submitted via curriculum.osu.edu and approved (as any other new courses) by the appropriate Panel(s) of the ASC Curriculum Committee. Interested faculty should work with their departmental curricular contacts to submit the course proposals via curriculum.osu.edu with all the usual appropriate documents necessary for the request at hand. (Departmental curricular contacts are familiar with the instructions in the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Operations Manual [https://ascas.osu.edu/files/ASC\\_CurrAssess\\_Operations\\_Manual.pdf](https://ascas.osu.edu/files/ASC_CurrAssess_Operations_Manual.pdf) and whenever necessary can always contact Bernadette Vankeerbergen, the Director of the Curriculum and Assessment Services, for guidance -- [vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu](mailto:vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu).)

In addition, the application for Arts and Sciences team-teaching grant must include a rationale for and description of the course that highlights the following components:

1. its interdisciplinary nature;
2. an explanation of how the course will benefit students, how it will advance the participating departments' academic goals, and how it will fit into each department's curriculum map;
3. an explanation of the added value that team teaching brings to the course;
4. an explanation of the form that team teaching in the course will take.

The application should be accompanied by letters of support from the chairs of participating departments describing how the course enhances their departments or programs. Please also notify Steve Fink, Associate Executive Dean for Curriculum and Student Engagement, via e-mail that the application for team-teaching grant has been submitted ([fink.5@osu.edu](mailto:fink.5@osu.edu)).

### **Grant Selection Process**

Once the curriculum review of the team-teaching course proposals is completed by the Panels of the ASC Curriculum Committee, I will charge the full ASC Curriculum Committee with reviewing the submitted interdisciplinary team-teaching course proposals for possible team-teaching grants. Up to 10 courses may be selected, ideally from a variety of disciplines to be funded for the initial year of instruction, after which time the expectation is that the course will become a regular part of each department's offerings, and should be offered at regular intervals of no longer than every two years. Faculty whose courses are selected will each receive one full-course teaching credit for their participation in the initial year of the team-taught course, and departments offering these courses will be compensated at the lecturer rate during the initial year to offset the cost of covering the departmental course that would otherwise have been taught by the team-teaching instructor. Please note the important distinction between curriculum approval of the courses by the Panels and approval of the team-teaching grants by the full ASC Curriculum Committee. Approval as a curriculum item does not necessarily imply approval for a team-teaching grant. Hypothetically, some courses might be approved to be taught as team-teaching courses but not be deemed compelling enough to earn a team-teaching grant.

### **Timeline**

Completed course proposals, including all of the required supplementary materials, **must have reached the ASCCAO (ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services) queue in [www.curriculum.osu.edu](http://www.curriculum.osu.edu) by September 1, 2015**, with the expectation that approved courses will be first offered during the 2016-17 academic year. Questions can be directed to Associate Executive Dean Steve Fink ([fink.5@osu.edu](mailto:fink.5@osu.edu)).