

From: [Okpalaoka, Chinwe](mailto:Okpalaoka.Chinwe)
To: hanson.94@osu.edu; noyes.10@osu.edu
Cc: [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](mailto:Vankeerbergen.Bernadette)
Subject: Feedback on Freshman seminar proposal
Date: Monday, March 01, 2010 10:49:43 AM

Good morning Drs. Hanson and Noyes,

- The CCI subcommittee on Interdisciplinary Initiatives met on 2/25/10 and reviewed your freshman seminar proposal- "Scuttlebutt, Hooah, and Yellow Ribbons: The Folklore of War and Wartime" They concluded that the content of this course seems interesting and appropriate. The seminar was approved with some contingencies. The committee would like clarification on the following:
- **What about the research component of the grade? No explanation is provided as to what it entails. What is the expectation? Recommendation: research should be explained & intermediate steps should be provided for the students (These should be set deadlines for when students meet with faculty about research topic, etc. It also provides ways for professor to check in with students). There is no indication of when students will be presenting the research they have done. Will these be group or individual presentations?**
- **Similar comment about reading responses. Freshman students usually do not understand what a reading response entails. Provide a couple of prompting questions for each week's reading response.**
- **What is "preparation and participation"? Be specific as to how this is assessed.**
- **Each component above (research, reading response, preparation and participation) should have sub-header describing what it entails and, if appropriate, when it's due.**
- **No time on meeting schedule is set aside for student presentations. This might be necessary to fulfill the discussion component of a freshman seminar.**
- **Syllabus should use the standard disability statement, so that professor is not making judgments about student's disability.**
- **Syllabus needs to specify the course number (ASC 137)-since ASC 137 is letter graded.**
- **How about final grade? Let students have more information on how final grade will be determined. Encourage true grading scale: i.e., a grading scale that includes percentages. For example, 90-95% = A- etc.**
- **Attendance policy: "For each absence beyond the first one, your final grade will be lowered by one half-letter." Actually, this is not a "half-letter"; it should be "one third of a letter."**

Please send your responses to me so I can have them forwarded to the committee in time for the next review. Thanks,

Chinwe

Chinwe Okpalaoka, Ph.D

Director, Special Programs

ASC Advising and Academic Services

The Ohio State University

154G Denney Hall
164 W. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-4661
ascdiversityservices.osu.edu

"We cannot put off living until we are ready. The most salient characteristic of life is its urgency, 'here and now' without any possible postponement. Life is fired at us point-blank." - Jose Ortega y Gasset