

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
To: [Mughan, Anthony](#)
Cc: [Haddad, Deborah](#); [Lam, Pok-Sang](#)
Subject: International Studies 4804 & 4805
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 11:31:00 AM

Dear Tony,

On Thursday, October 16, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel reviewed proposals for two new International Studies courses: 4804 & 4805.

International Studies 4804 was approved with four contingencies, namely:

- Please provide distribution of meeting times on syllabus.
- P. 3: Explain what the following assignments/requirements entail: peer assessment, Socratic, and instructor assessment.
- P. 4: Attendance: Participation statement re: 5% is confusing: "Students with two *or more* unexcused absences will lose 5% of their participation grade, and 5% for each absence thereafter." If two *or more* absences lead to a deduction of 5%, how can each additional absence after that lead to more grade reductions in 5% increments? The statement is furthermore confusing because there does not seem to be a participation grade for this course.
- P. 4: Provide meaning of "precursor for this course." Panel does not know what this refers to and likely students will not either.

The Panel did not take a vote on 4805 but would like the following points to be addressed first;

- Provide distribution of meeting times on syllabus.
- P. 1: Phase 3: A plan in real time against a potentially hostile opposition. Explain what that entails. What is the nature of the confrontation? If this phase entails a dangerous/confrontational activity in the community, how would faculty member safeguard the students? Furthermore, is there research involved and, if so, does that necessitate an IRB?
- P. 2: Explain what the following assignments/requirements entail: Volunteer Support Portfolio, After Action Report, peer assessment, and instructor assessment.
- P. 3: Attendance: Participation statement re: 5% is confusing: "Students with two *or more* unexcused absences will lose 5% of their participation grade, and 5% for each absence thereafter." If two *or more* absences lead to a deduction of 5%, how can each additional absence after that lead to more grade reductions in 5% increments? The statement is furthermore confusing because there does not seem to be a participation grade for this course.
- Could 4804 and 4805 be combined into one course with a lab part?

I will return both courses via curriculum.osu.edu in a minute so that the points above can be addressed.

If you have any questions about this feedback, please feel free to contact Pok-sang Lam (Chair of the SBS Panel; here cc'd), or me.

My best,
Bernadette

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