

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
To: [Mughan, Anthony](#)
Cc: [Lam, Pok-Sang](#)
Subject: FW: International Studies 4804 & 4805
Date: Monday, November 24, 2014 8:36:00 AM

Dear Tony,

Pok-sang Lam, Chair of the SBS Panel, has looked over the revisions for International Studies 4804. He noticed that the contingencies have been addressed, though in the latest revision there are now inconsistencies between the final grade provided in the Overview section and the information in the Requirements and Grading section. Specifically, there are three issues:

- (a) In the Overview section, on page 1 of the syllabus, it is stated that “The VSP is worth 25% of the final grade.” In the Requirements and Grading section, on page 3 of the syllabus, Volunteer Support Portfolio counts 30%. Which is it? 25% or 30%?
- (b) The six grading components in the Requirement and Grading section add up to 105%. They should add up to 100%.
- (c) In the Overview section, on page 2 of the syllabus, it is stated that “Your report will be worth 25% of the final grade.” In the Requirements and Grading section, SMO report counts 20%. Which is it? 25% or 20%?

Could you please inform the faculty member about the discrepancies above so that they can be addressed before the course is taught?

That said, on our end, the course is fully approved now by Pok-sang Lam and we will advance it to the Office of Academic Affairs.

My best,
Bernadette

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From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 11:32 AM
To: Mughan, Anthony
Cc: Haddad, Deborah; Lam, Pok-Sang
Subject: International Studies 4804 & 4805

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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