

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
To: [Hawkins, Julia N.](#)
Cc: [Nolen, Dawn](#); [Bitters, Todd](#); [Fink, Steven](#); [Daly, Marymegan](#); [Heysel, Garrett](#); [Acosta-Hughes, Benjamin](#)
Bcc: [Krissek, Lawrence](#)
Subject: New Freshman Seminar "Plato's Cave: The History of Waking up to the World"
Date: Monday, May 23, 2016 3:18:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Julia,

We have received faculty feedback on your proposal for a new freshman seminar, and I am happy to let you know that it has been approved with the following suggestions/recommendations:

- Students will be non-Honors, first-year students, so they may not be prepared for appropriate levels or styles of participation right-out-of-the-gate. Likewise, the students will likely need guidance about the expectations for the midterm thought paper and the end-of-term paper.
- If this seminar is fully enrolled, each student will only have ~7 minutes for her/his final presentation; is that sufficient for what the instructor expects from those presentations? The workload may be high in the last few weeks, with preparation of the end-of-term paper + the presentation.
- Final version of the syllabus should specify that the meetings will be 55 minutes every week.
- This is a letter graded course (since it is submitted as a 1137.xx) so a grading scale will need to be included when the class is taught.

Don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions about this feedback.

I am cc'ing Todd Bitters and Dawn Nolen, who both administer the Freshman Seminar program. One of them will be in touch with you for the practical arrangements related to teaching the course.

Congratulations on your new freshman seminar.

My best,

Bernadette



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