

From: [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#)
To: [Bendoly, Elliot](#)
Cc: [Bitters, Todd](#); [Roup, Christina](#); [Fink, Steven](#)
Subject: New First-Year Seminar - Managing Global Responsibility & Engaged Transformation
Date: Thursday, February 21, 2019 1:47:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Elliot,

On Friday, February 15, the Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee considered a proposal for a new first-year seminar, "Managing Global Responsibility & Engaged Transformation."

The Panel did not vote on the proposal as they would like the following points addressed first:

- First-year seminars should offer an introduction to frontier areas of scholarly pursuit, allowing freshmen a glimpse of current topics of research and study, introduce students to unfamiliar academic areas, and provide insight into how faculty conduct scholarship in their disciplines. The Panel would like to see a clear explanation of the pedagogical content of the seminar. What happens during class?
- Likewise, provide some idea of the readings so that the Panel can better understand the proposed seminar.
- The proposed seminar is based on the four themes included in the OAA proposal to revise the GE: "Building a Just & Diverse World" (incorrectly labeled as "Building a Just and Diverse & Just World on p. 1 of the syllabus and in the proposed schedule), "Sustainability & Resilience," "Health & Well-Being," and "Humans in Their Environments." However, ASC is currently not working under the assumption that the last three themes will be readily adopted. In fact, ASC faculty have stated the need to come up with better themes. The current working model in ASC simply states Theme 1, Theme 2, and Theme 3.
- Page 2 of the syllabus includes the following sentence, "Each of the quizzes will focus on one of the five General Education Theme modules of the course, and will require students to demonstrate the connection between content discussed, career goals and the value of developing a multi-disciplinary perspective (as embodied by the GE program at OSU)." The reference to "5" modules should be corrected to "4." Furthermore, incoming first-year students would find this confusing since they would take the first-year seminar while completing the current GE. It might be best to remove the references to the GE theme modules.
- P. 3 of syllabus: Late submission policy comes across as quite strict.

Should you have any questions about this feedback, do not hesitate to contact Christina Roup (faculty Chair of the SBS Panel; cc'd here), or me.

Please feel free to send a revised syllabus to me, and I will then submit it to the SBS Panel for approval.

My best,
Bernadette



Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.

Program Director, Curriculum and Assessment

College of Arts and Sciences

154D Denney Hall, 164 Annie & John Glenn Ave.

Columbus, OH 43210

Phone: 614-688-5679 / Fax: 614-292-6303

<http://ascas.osu.edu>