

From: [Oldroyd, Shelby Q.](#)
To: [Farmer, Alan](#)
Cc: [Savage, Shari](#); [Bitters, Todd](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Heysel, Garrett](#); [Fink, Steven](#); [Warhol, Robyn](#)
Subject: New First-Year Seminar - King Lear: Royal Families and Divine Justice
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 2:57:00 PM

Dear Professor Farmer,

On Friday, March 8, the Arts and Humanities 1 Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed your proposal for a new first-year seminar, "King Lear: Royal Families and Divine Justice."

The Panel unanimously approved the proposed seminar with four recommendations:

- Panel recommends fixing the inconsistencies about course grading.
 - 1137 is the course number for a first-year seminar graded A-E. 1138 is for a course graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory.
 - The course number on the syllabus is 1137.
 - The "Attendance and Lateness" policy mentions a final grade of "unsatisfactory."
 - The grading formula on page 3 mentions "Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory" and "a final grade of an E."
- The committee is concerned that this is well beyond the work for one a one credit seminar. The quizzes, essays, and heavy reading load may be too much for a first-year seminar. The website for first-year seminars (<https://firstyourseminars.osu.edu/faculty-info/questions>) says that "First-Year Seminars are intended to give students a taste of your areas of research and interests. Therefore, they must be academic. The general rule of thumb is to expect two hours of work outside of class for every hour in class. Most faculty assign readings, response papers, presentations, etc." The panel recommends reducing the readings to meet the guideline of two hours of work outside class for every hour in class.
- The committee felt there should be more differentiation between excused and unexcused absences.
- Panel recommends outlining course goals.

Should you have any questions about this feedback, do not hesitate to contact Shari Savage (faculty Chair of the Arts and Humanities 1; cc'd here), or me.

Todd Bitters, who administers the First-Year Seminar program, will be in touch with you for all the practical arrangements related to teaching the course in Autumn.

Congratulations on your new first-year seminar.

Best,
Shelby

Shelby Oldroyd
Curriculum and Assessment Assistant
College of Arts and Sciences
154E Denney Hall, 164 Annie & John Glenn Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: 614-292-6248
<http://ascas.osu.edu>