

**From:** [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#)  
**To:** [Thompson, Daniel J.](#)  
**Cc:** [Horn, David](#); [Bitters, Todd](#); [Haddad, Deborah](#); [Vaessin, Harald](#); [lafont.1@osu.edu](mailto:lafont.1@osu.edu)  
**Subject:** RE: New First-Year Seminar--"Mathematics of Voting and Social Choice"  
**Date:** Friday, April 3, 2020 4:36:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Dan,

This note to let you know that Harald Vaessin has reviewed the revised syllabus and approved all the changes. Your first-year seminar can be offered in Autumn 2020.

I am cc'ing Todd Bitters, who administers the First-Year Seminar program. He will be in touch with you for all the practical arrangements related to teaching the course in the Fall.

Congratulations on your new first-year seminar.

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  
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**From:** Thompson, Daniel J. <[thompson@math.osu.edu](mailto:thompson@math.osu.edu)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2020 3:53 PM  
**To:** Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <[vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu](mailto:vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: New First-Year Seminar--"Mathematics of Voting and Social Choice"

Dear Bernadette,

Here is my revised syllabus. I tried to follow the suggestions. I hope it's what the panel had in mind. I wasn't planning the assessment to be arduous since there is a big overlap between the homework problems and what goes in the dossier. I've explained this in more detail now. I hope this looks OK. Happy to make any more changes.

I increased the font size also.

Best wishes,

Dan

Daniel J. Thompson  
Associate Professor, Mathematics  
The Ohio State University  
<https://people.math.osu.edu/thompson.2455/>

On Mar 26, 2020, at 11:50 AM, Vankeerbergen, Bernadette  
<[vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu](mailto:vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu)> wrote:

Dear Professor Thompson,

Recently, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed your proposal for a new first-year seminar, "Mathematics of Voting and Social Choice."

The Panel members unanimously approved the proposal with one contingency and two recommendations:

Contingency: In the syllabus, use latest approved Disability Statement with correct location. This is a seminar for first-year students and they will need this information. Also recommend 16 point font.

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Recommendations: For a 1-credit, S/U class, the out-of-class work--with homework and a dossier--seems heavy. Students will get feedback at the midpoint of the semester, but much of the work will be in the second half of the course, so the feedback may not be as useful as intended. There also needs to be some allowance for absence in the "mandatory" policy, where an "S grade will be awarded based on attendance..."

A contingency needs to be addressed before a course can be fully approved. The recommendations are just that—for you to consider before teaching the actual seminar in the Fall.

Please feel free to send me a revised syllabus that addresses the contingency, and I will then submit it for final approval.

Should you have any questions about this feedback, do not hesitate to contact Harald Vaessin (faculty Chair of the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel, cc'd here), or me.

Best,  
Bernadette

<image001.png>

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